

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Service time: 9:30am

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00am-2:00pm

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 8, 2026

3rd Sunday in Lent

9:30 am

Setting - Now the Feast and Celebration by Marty Haugen

INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

PRELUDE

Announcements are on pages 13-14.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A very warm welcome to all who worship here this morning, we thank God for sending you to Tabor.

Please stand if you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt
and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign,
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,
and for disdainning the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin,
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.
Through faith, the free gift of God,
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead
dwells in you,
pours God's love into your hearts,
and gives you life and peace.

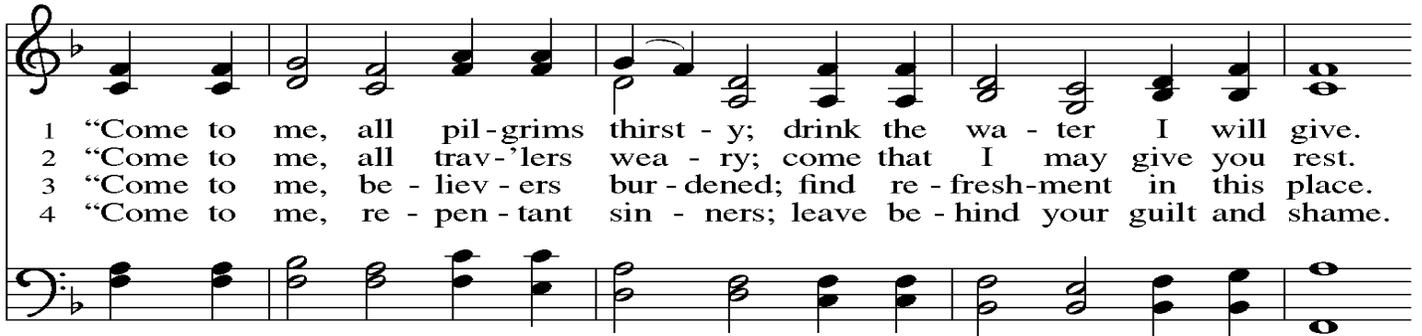
Amen.

GATHERING

GATHERING SONG

ELW 777

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty



1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
2 "Come to me, all trav - 'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
3 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh - ment in this place.
4 "Come to me, re - pen - tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain



Je - sus, ev - er - flow - ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer,
come, your open hands extend." *Refrain*

6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer,
let me make in you my home." *Refrain*

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985

Text © 1992, 1996 Sisters of St. Benedict, 104 Chapel Lane, St. Joseph, MN 56374.

Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

The children are invited to come forward.

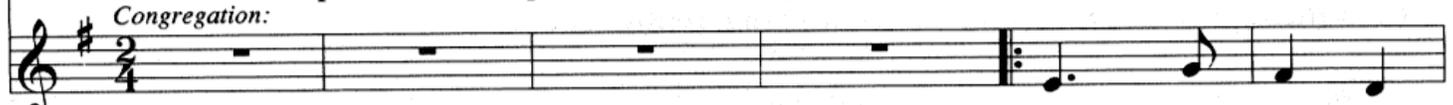
KYRIE

Assistant:



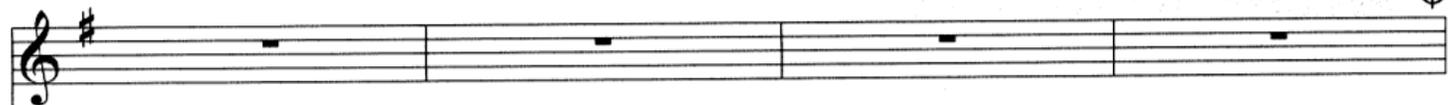
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



Lord, have mer - cy.

3rd time to Coda ⊕

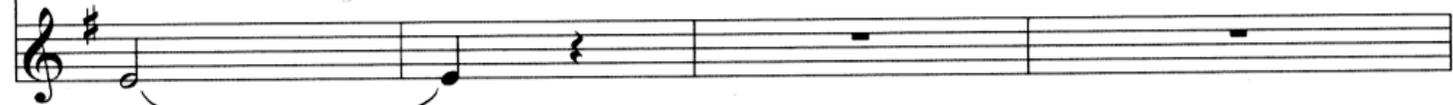


Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer -

Assistant:



For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the
For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you



cy.



world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

continued on page 5

⊕ Coda

Help, save, and de - fend us, O

cy.

God.

A - men.

* Ending for Kyrie

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” ⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵ The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in

front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm: 95

Read responsively

¹ Come, let us sing ¹ to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of ¹ our salvation.

² **Let us come before God’s presence ¹ with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the ¹ LORD with psalms.**

³ For you, LORD, ¹ are a great God,
and a great ruler a- ¹bove all gods.

⁴ **In your hand are the caverns ¹ of the earth;
the heights of the hills are ¹ also yours.**

⁵ The sea is yours, ¹ for you made it,
and your hands have molded ¹ the dry land.

⁶ **Come, let us worship ¹ and bow down,
let us kneel before the ¹ LORD our maker.**

⁷ For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture and the sheep ¹ of
God’s hand.

Oh, that today you would ¹ hear God’s voice!

⁸ **“Harden ¹ not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah ¹ in the desert.**

⁹ There your ancestors ¹ tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had ¹ seen my works.

¹⁰ **Forty years I loathed that gener- ¹ ation, saying,
‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not ¹ know my ways.’**

¹¹ Indeed I swore ¹ in my anger,
‘They shall never come ¹ to my rest.’ ”

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11

¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Please stand if you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:



Re - turn to God with all your heart, the Source of grace and



mer - cy; Come, seek the ten - der faith - ful - ness of God.

The Holy gospel according to John, the 4th Chapter.
Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you O Christ.

Please be seated

REFLECTION

Adam Bowens

A brief silence for reflection

Please stand if you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 611

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence

Each petition ends:

Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.

Prayers conclude with:

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say:
Peace be with you.*

Please be seated.

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND MUSIC

Special Piano Music

Please stand if you are able.

OFFERTORY

ELW 188

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of music features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The piano accompaniment consists of block chords and simple rhythmic patterns.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The piano part includes some longer note values and rests, providing a steady harmonic foundation.

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third system shows the continuation of the offering song. The piano accompaniment features some more complex chordal textures and longer note values.

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The fourth system continues the musical setting. The piano part includes some longer note values and rests, providing a steady harmonic foundation.

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The fifth and final system concludes the offering song. The piano accompaniment features some longer note values and rests, providing a steady harmonic foundation.

OFFERING PRAYER

O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
✠ bless you now and always.
Amen.

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
 2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
 3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
 4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our

life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
 feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
 chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
 mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -

parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
 head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
 turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
 way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt.
 Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

<u>Disciples Serving:</u>	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Presider/Supply	Adam Bowens	Riley Dunton
Assisting Minister:	Ryan Kessinger	Gwen Hedding
Pianist:	Dr. J. Michael Beck	Dr. J. Michael Beck
Altar Guild:	Kathy Lambert & Linda Johnson	Kathy Lambert & Linda Johnson
Ushers/Greeters:	Jerry Vargues	Jerry Vargues
Counters/Posters:	Lynn Truxell/Sue Kastelic	Stacie Bowens/Leanne Neu
JAM:	Children's Sermon	Derek Truxell/Emily Briggs

ANNIVERSARIES

March 9 Leanne & Darrell Neu 41 years

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **It's time to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars:** Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until March 31, 2026 to call in to direct any remaining Choice Dollars. Go online or call 1-800-847-4836 and select "Thrivent Choice" to talk to a live person.

- † King of Kings has invited us to join them in their Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship Service. Beginning February 25 - 6:00pm Soup Supper following by worship service at 7:00pm. Detailed information can be found in the Tabor Tidbits or posted on our bulletin boards.

PRAYERS

<u>Members, Friends, Relatives</u>	<u>Added by Members</u>
Matt Anderson	Lynn Truxell
Doris Ask	People of Tabor
Shirley Bass	People of Tabor
Michael Beck	People of Tabor
Robert Bogusch	Nephew of Kathy Lambert
Stacie Bowens	People of Tabor
Family of Emily Briggs	People of Tabor
Pam Cardinal	Sister of Clay Kashner
Devin Caveza	Grandson of Tony Martinet
John Centa	Bowens Family
Fred Cortese	Gwen Hedding
Sandy, Tyler and Tori English	Friends of Emily Briggs
Vicki Granato	Michelle Vargues
Larry Hall	Bowens Family
Brian & Geri Helm	Bowens Family
Nina Jesmain	People of Tabor
Etta Kay Johnson	Sister-in-law of Linda Johnson
Linda Johnson	People of Tabor
Clay Kashner	People of Tabor
Sue Kastelic	People of Tabor
Kathy Lambert	People of Tabor
Kathy Laney & Family	Connie Wisthoff
DJ Nichols	Truxell Family
Will Nichols	Truxell & Vargues Families
Evelyn Omev	Twin sister of Shirley Bass
Andrea Pitre	Friend of Emily Briggs
Kimberly Roberts	Daughter of Gwen Hedding
Pam Salas	People of Tabor
Family of Cheryl Salay	People of Tabor
Starcher Family	Friends of Emily Briggs
Caitlan Thorne & Family	Granddaughter of Kathy Lambert
Justin, Harper & Hazel Tolan	Grandson/Great-granddaughters of Denise Tristano
Marvin Truxell	Truxell & Vargues Families
Charlotte Vargues	People of Tabor
Family of Marvin Wisthoff	People of Tabor
Sandra Zupan	Sister of Ruth Valencia