



**MARCH 1, 2026, 9:30A.M.**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

*EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR*

\* = Please stand *as you are comfortable*.

**Bold** type indicates congregational responses.

- **Welcome! No matter your background, circumstance, or footing in faith your presence is valued and celebrated as a part of the beloved community of God today.**
- *Your generosity is appreciated and encouraged as it sustains and furthers the work of the congregation in the community and makes a difference in the lives of many. Gifts and offerings may be placed in the plate at the entrance before, during, or after the service. To give electronically, please visit [richfield-lutheran.org/give](http://richfield-lutheran.org/give)*
- *We receive Holy Communion as a part of worship today. Know that you are welcome at Christ's table! Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Children may partake in the meal and/or come forward to receive a blessing as their caregivers choose. Communion is received by intinction today (take the wafer and dip it into the wine or grape juice). If you prefer to receive communion in your pew, let an usher know and servers will come to you. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available upon request to the servers.*

### **As We Gather...**

*There's a pattern when one follows the story of Jesus – a pattern of powerful humility, bold care, offensive love, and surprising servanthood. Today's gospel reading in John 13 presents one of the most striking examples of this routine as Jesus stoops to wash the disciples' feet. What will this story stir up in our hearts? How will it shape our faith? We gather to return to the heart of God.*

## **I. GATHERING**

### **PRELUDE**

*Chorale Prelude on "Light Divine"*

**Healey Willan**

*(The prelude gathers us in the Lord's presence. You are invited to center through it.)*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Genesis 1 & 2 | 2 Corinthians 6 (adapted)

Formed from the dust, to dust we shall return;

**Yet created in God's image, we gather in God's name.**

Today is the day of God's mercy. Now is the time of salvation!

**Restore, redeem, and renew us, O God!**

### **WELCOME**

**\*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 return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Compassionate One,  
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect your heart and faithfulness. We sometimes lack in showing others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We can fall short of welcoming in the grace you grant to all people. We benefit from oppression of others, even while you proclaim freedom. We tend to squander gifts of the creation in selfishness, even while you provide enough for all to share. Turn us again to you, forgive our shortcomings, transform our lives, and guide us again in the way of the cross.**  
**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched wide to welcome wandering ones home. In the name of † Christ your sins are forgiven, you are risen as God's holy and beloved children, and you have a place in God's house now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**\* GATHERING HYMN**

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

**ELW #815**

**\* GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

**\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Holy and almighty God, Jesus washed the disciples' feet as a sign of service and compassion. Make us to live and love in service and follow in compassion, for the sake of all your children, in Jesus name. Amen.**

<b>I. WORD</b>
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**PHILIPPIANS 2:1-8**

*(Quoting an early Christian hymn, the Apostle Paul encourages believers to model the same humility of Jesus.)*

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, though he existed in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be grasped,  
<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
assuming human likeness.  
And being found in appearance as a human,  
<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

**PSALM 51:7-12** (*read responsively*)

<sup>7</sup> Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.  
<sup>8</sup> **Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**  
<sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my iniquities.  
<sup>10</sup> **Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right spirit within me.**  
<sup>11</sup> Do not cast me away from your presence,  
and do not take your holy spirit from me.  
<sup>12</sup> **Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

**\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**ELW p. 203**

**Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.  
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.  
Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.**

**GOSPEL: John 13:1-17**

*(Jesus takes the position of a servant, modeling compassion. He then tells his disciples to do the same.)*

The holy gospel according to John, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**



**\* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*After each petition:*

...Merciful God,  
**Hear our prayer.**

**\* PEACE**

The peace of the Lord 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," or similar words.)*

<b>III. THANKSGIVING AND MEAL</b>
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**\* OFFERTORY**

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

**ELW #678, vs. 1**

**God whose giving knows no ending, from you rich and endless store:  
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door,  
Gifted by you, we turn to you, off'ring up ourselves in praise;  
Thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days**

**\* WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**\* LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**COMMUNION SONG**

**p 154**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION** *(Communion is received by "intinction." Take the wafer in hand and dip it in the chalice of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)*

**DISTRIBUTION ANTHEM**

*Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless*

**arr. A.K. Organ**

**POST- COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

<b>IV. SENDING</b>
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## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \* BLESSING

May God our tender parent, God our crucified friend, God our reconciling and rebirthing Spirit,  
✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### \* SENDING HYMN

*Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land*  
**Pastor Charlie and Praise Jam**

**ELW #333**

### DISMISSAL

Go forth in the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God and rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*We Are Marching in the Light of God*

**arr. John Behnke**

*(The postlude sends us out to be Christ's peace in the world. You are invited to savor it.)*

*(Our service continues with sharing fellowship in Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall, across the hall; and then in the world with other neighbors.)*

### THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Mon, March 2, Psalm 128

Thurs, March 5. Psalm 95

Tues, March 3. Isaiah 65:17-25

Fri, March 6. Ephesians 2:11-22

Wed, March 4. John 7:53—8:11

Sat, March 7. Exodus 16:27-35

### **Next Sunday in Worship...**

*We focus on John 18, hearing of the disciple Judas' betrayal, Jesus' arrest, and the disciple Peter's denial. It is a dark and grim part of the story. It may turn us to wrestle with the grim and dark realities of the world we have seen and experienced. We might also confront aspects of our own heart and life when we have fallen short of what we might have hoped. There is a through-line, however – Jesus' determined, selfless submission to redeem and renew. Tune in next week for a blessed word of life.*

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