

WELCOME
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
SAT. MARCH 21 / SUN. MARCH 22, 2026



“Jesus Is the Resurrection and the Life”

AS WE GATHER

In the Reading from Ezekiel 37, we see the power of the Word that transforms dry bones into living flesh with the breath of the Spirit. This same Spirit lives in us and will raise us at the Last Day, which is exactly what we hear from Paul in the Reading from Romans 8. The Spirit who raised Christ will also give life to us.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN “Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good”
LSB 819

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 130:1-4*

Pastor: Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD!

People: **O Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

Pastor: If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.**

Silent reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: **I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT

Pastor: Precious in the sight of the LORD

People: **is the death of His saints.**

Pastor: **I love the LORD, because He has heard**

People: **my voice and my pleas for mercy.**

Pastor: Because He inclined His ear to me,

People: **therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.**

Pastor: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

People: **I suffered distress and anguish.**

Pastor: Then I called on the name of the LORD:

People: **“O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”**

Pastor: For You have delivered my soul from death,

People: **my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: Precious in the sight of the LORD

People: **is the death of His saints.**

KYRIE



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

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, who rules over and preserves us to life everlasting; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 37:1–14

37 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ² And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³ And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴ Then he said to me, “Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded

does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE

LSB 157

**Return to the Lord, your God,
for He is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 11:1–45

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

11 Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” ⁴ But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” ⁸ The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?” ⁹ Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰ But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.” ¹¹ After saying these things, he said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.” ¹² The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” ¹³ Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” ¹⁶ So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

²⁸ When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹ And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴ And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” ⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him,

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense”

LSB 741 Sts 1-3, 5

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Timothy Oswald

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB page 195

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He,
Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples saying, *“Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”*

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, *“Drink ye all of*

it; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI “Lamb of God, Pure and Holy” *LSB 434, St. 1*

**Lamb of God, Pure and Holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o’er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!
grant us peace.**

+DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION+

By communing, a person says publicly that they -

- are baptized and confirmed*
- believe Christ's words*
- repent of their sins*
- fully agree with all that the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod teaches.*

How to receive –

- anyone may come to the altar but keep hands folded if not receiving Communion*
- the center of the tray has a cup with just a drop of wine for those who must minimize alcohol*
- smile, exude your joy, but keep a reverent demeanor as others commune*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“I STAND AMAZED”

**1 I stand amazed in the presence
Of Jesus the Nazarene,
And wonder how he could love me,
A sinner, condemned, unclean.**

Refrain:

**How marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be;
How marvelous! How wonderful!
Is my Savior's love for me!**

**2 For me it was in the garden
He prayed, "Not my will, but thine;"
He had no tears for his own griefs,
But sweat drops of blood for mine. [Refrain]**

**4 He took my sins and my sorrows,
He made them his very own;
He bore the burden to Calv'ry,
And suffered and died alone. [Refrain]**

**5 When with the ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see,
'Twill be my joy through the ages
To sing of His love for me. [Refrain]**

Charles H. Gabriel

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POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

"On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

LSB 422

**On my heart imprint Your image,
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation!**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious”

LSB 548

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

**“Dedicated to knowing Christ and making Christ
know to others”**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 1.

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- **LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICE - Join us in the fellowship hall for supper at 6pm then worship 7pm.**

- **Today after Sunday School - Stuffing Egg-Hunt Eggs with Candy,**
Please help if you can!! Thank you!
- **TASTY FELLOWSHIP: We would appreciate additional help in providing treats after Sunday services. If you are interested or would like more information, please see Tami Voigt.**
- **ATTENTION ALL HOPE KIDS!**
Hope Lutheran will be hosting an Easter Egg hunt event for the Twin Lakes and surrounding area on Saturday, March 28 from 11am-1pm. The event will include an egg hunt, prizes, games, a craft, and **FREE LUNCH!** There will be a "Journey to Easter" walk down our hallway, telling the account of Easter in the Bible as we go. Last but not least, we will have **LIVE BUNNIES** with an opportunity to hold them and take pictures. Mark your calendars and invite your friends! This is an amazing opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus with our community.
- **VOLUNTEERS AND CANDY NEEDED FOR OUR EGG HUNT.**
We are collecting candy to fill our eggs for the egg hunt. Please bring any donations and place in the box in the Narthex of the church. You can direct any questions to MaryBeth Fragassi. We also need several volunteers to help make our event a success. Please contact Tabra Gomski or Dawn Oswald if you would like to help in any way. **THANK YOU!**
- **HOPE'S TWIN LAKES FOOD PANTRY DONATION LOCATION-The donation location is moving from under**

the coat rack to the wire baskets at the top of the stairway to the lower level. Signs on the baskets identify which baskets are for Twin Lakes Food Pantry and which are for the Sharing Center. Thank you for your support of these ministries.

- There are sign up sheets in the narthex for the Easter Breakfast
- **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES AS FOLLOWS:**

April 2 - Maundy Thursday:	7:00 pm
April 3 - Good Friday:	7:00 pm
April 4 - Saturday:	9:30 am
April 5- Easter Sunrise:	7:00 am
Easter Breakfast:	8:00am
Easter Worship:	9:30am

THIS WEEK

Reader:	Rev. Maurice Lind
Communion:	Mike Gomski
Ushers:	Phyllis Klen & Kim Zembal
Fellowship:	Mary Beth Fragassi
Altar Guild:	John & Peggy Tueting

NEXT WEEK

Reader:	Erna Wishnew
Communion:	Mike Gomski
Ushers:	Joeseph & Trina Metz
Fellowship:	
Altar Guild:	John & Peggy Tueting

BIRTHDAYS

3/23 Arlene Meyer

Calendar of Events This Week

3/23/26–03/29/26

Wednesday:	6:00pm	Lenten Soup Supper
	7:00pm	Lenten Service
Thursday:	6:00pm	AA Meeting
Saturday:	9:30am	Worship Service
Sunday:	8:15am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:00am	Worship Service
	10:20am	Bible Study &
		Children's Sunday School
	7:00pm	AA Meeting

