



Fourth Sunday in Lent

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
408 9TH STREET NW
MANDAN, ND 58554**

Building Faith and Transforming Lives in Christ

March 15, 2026

8:30 A.M.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN *“Be Thou My Vision”* ELW #793 or Page 8



ELW page 227

Kolsen Thomas Doll

Son of

Trevor & Hannah Doll

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray....

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PSALM: Psalm 23

You anoint my head with oil. (Ps. 23:5)

¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.

Jesus, Remember Me

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community
Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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The Holy Gospel according to John.

“Glory to you, O Lord.”

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹ Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.”

¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” ¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” ¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” ²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵ He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰ The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out. ³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

The gospel of the Lord.

“Praise to you, O Christ.”

SERMON *Pastor Phil*

HYMN OF THE DAY *“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”*
ELW #779 or Page 9 (v. 1, 3 & 5)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Leader: “Hear us, O God.”

Congregation: “Your mercy is great.”

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;' and 'Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.'

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943
Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema
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PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

OFFERING

Thank you for your financial offerings to First Lutheran. Your generosity enables us to carry out the mission of Christ through our life together here in this congregation and through our loving service to our neighbors beyond our walls. We now have resumed the traditional offering practice of “passing the plates.” For those who contribute to First Lutheran’s ministry in ways other than weekly in-church offerings and would still like to be included in the in-worship gathering of the offering, laminated “Offering Cards” are now included in the pew racks for you to place in the offering plates.

OFFERTORY *“We Are an Offering”* *ELW #692 or Page 10*

OFFERING PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN *“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”* *ELW #324 or Page 11*

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

6 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 7 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 8 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 9 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 10 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

11 now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 12 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 13 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 14 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 15 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

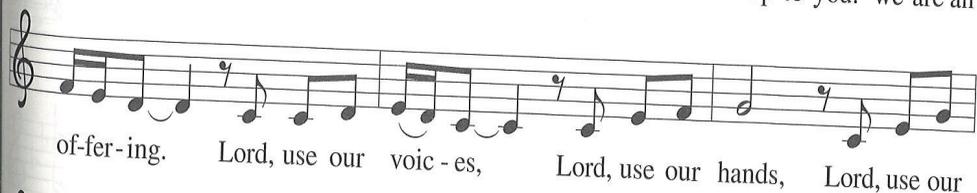
Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

We Are an Offering

692



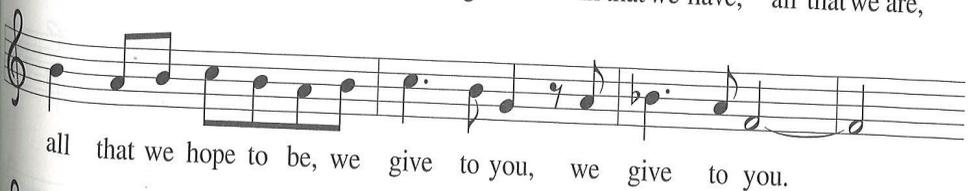
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an



of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our



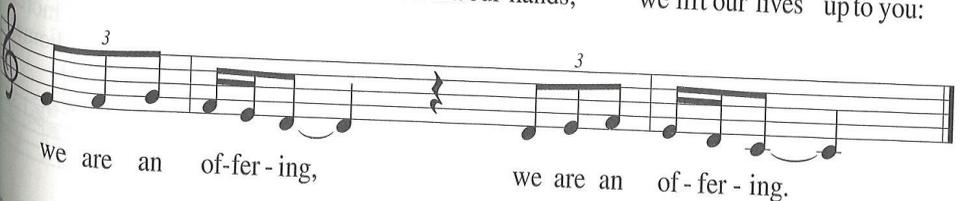
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,



all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.



We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:



we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Lyrics: Dwight Liles, b. 1957
Music: Dwight Liles
Words and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

OFFERING
PM

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872
 Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815-1867

Attendance last Week: Sunday 8:30 - 78 10:45 - 70
Wednesday 6:30 - 117

ON-GOING PRAYER CONCERNS:

Noel Albrecht, Brad Schmidt, Joan Hanson, Debbie Martineson, Hal Lang, Patrick Lang, Jason Bjorgen, Ken Charvat, Dave Thomas, Joann Meyer, Preston Joyce, Susan Voigt, Toby Kienzle, Pam Weng, Lois Smith, Barb Carl, Jeff MacIver, Brady Mattson, Darin Hinsz, Jerome Bauer, Wendel Mongeon, Brenda Hersch, Jared & Jenn Barnhart, Ray Stenmoen, Connor Hertz, Teresa Seeman, Linda Stastny, Sally Wolf, Rachael Hankin, Opal Renken, David Jung, Dina Walker, Kay Link, Tammy Krein, Terry Tanaka, Wanda House, Tom Burau, Judy Walters, Monte Olmsted, Pat Kincaid, Victor Saeman, Lualice Stockert, Katy Anseth, Sarah Weishaar, Howard Moldenhauer, Anna Anderson, Brenna Blankenship, Ted (Theodore) Delfs, Allen Janz, Justin Hankin, Judy Anderson, Rori Messer, Jayar Kindsvogel, Kristen Rasmussen, Jerry Iverson, Jason Klipfel, Lois Helmer, Carrie Hille, Pius Johner, Cori Musolf, Stan Hepper, Eunice Wolf, Adam Walker, Mary Hogan

First Lutheran Church will be updating the prayer list periodically. If a name is not listed and you would like it re-listed please call the church office at 663-3594. We will re-list names for prayers.

PLEASE KEEP THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED TO SERVICE FOR OUR COUNTRY IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Todd Bauer, Alex Dove, Jacob Selzler

If you know of anyone who has ties to our congregation and is called to active duty, please contact the church office.

Pastor Phil Leer's phone number: 701-341-7784
(If you need to reach him please give him a call)

Ushers:

Reader:

Corby Rachel

Communion Servers:

Lori Meyers

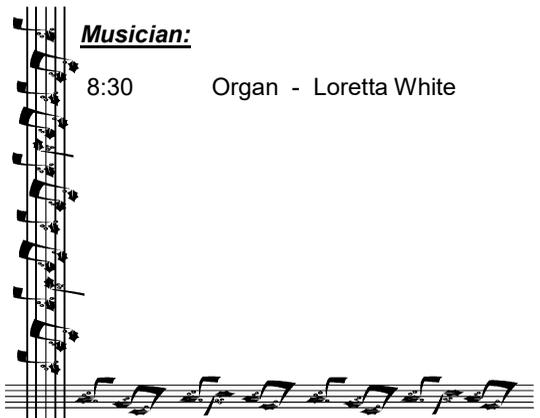
Communion Set-Up:

Corby Rachel

Musician:

8:30

Organ - Loretta White



Mission of the Month - Weekend Meals For Mandan Kids

Items needed are Chap Stick, Canned Tuna, Canned Chicken, Canned Ham, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Fruit Cups, Canned Fruit, Granola Bars, Cereal, Pudding Cups, Applesauce, Chef Boyardee', Mac & Cheese, Soups, Hamburger Helper, Spaghetti Noodles, Spaghetti Sauce, Pop Tarts, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Rice A Roni, Pasta Roni, Pork and Beans, Baked Beans, Pancake Mix-no eggs required such as Krusteaz Brand, Syrup.

NO GLASS JARS PLEASE!

You may put your items in the boxes in the Narthex. Thank you!

The Endowment Committee is once again making two \$500 scholarships available to area seniors. As the committee works toward ensuring a vibrant financial future for the church, it is also working to ensure a vibrant future for the church by encouraging youth in their life of faith. Scholarship applications are available in the Church office or on our webpage and must be submitted by March 31, 2026.

Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism this morning is Kolsen Thomas Doll son of Trevor & Hannah Doll. His sponsors are Mathew Mitskog & Tanner Doll.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Fran Boehm, Shawn Boehm's mother. Her funeral was held here on Thursday, March 12th. Please keep her family in your prayers.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Doug Renken, Sharon Hopkin's brother. His celebration of life was held on Saturday, March 14th. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Palm Sunday Family Activities

Sunday, March 29, 2026

9:45-10:30- Palm Sunday and Easter Activities in fellowship hall (downstairs)

10:45am service- kids can help bring Palm leaves to front of church

We would like to offer a family event on March 29 from 9:45-10:30...all families (Wednesday church school, Sunday church school and Confirmation) are welcome to join us for Palm Sunday/Easter activities prior to Palm Sunday Church service on March 29. Please plan to come as a family as we do not have church school this day...instead we would like to offer a Family Event. We will have stations with Easter activities for families to do together.

Kids can also join Berta upstairs prior to the 10:45am service to help lay the path with Palm Leaves. Kids will join their families right after they are done laying the palm leaves at the front of the church.

Reminder-there is no church school on Sunday, March 29 or Wednesday, April 1 so this would be a great opportunity for families to create Easter projects together. Please make sure to come as a family as we do not have leaders to watch the kids.

Hope to see you March 29.

The Palm Sunday Path

An Ecumenical Processional & Worship

2,000 years ago, Jesus entered into Jerusalem at the beginning of Passover on a donkey, an image reflecting his just, humble leadership and care for those in need.

Christian communities from across our region are invited to gather for a time of communal prayer and public witness at **3:00 p.m. on Palm Sunday, March 29**, for a processional from Trinity Lutheran Church in Bismarck (502 North 4th St.) to the ND State Capitol Steps. An ecumenical worship service uplifting our shared values of feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, and welcoming the stranger will be held on the Capitol Steps at 4:00 p.m.

Please visit wndpalmsundaypath.com for more information.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for ushers, communion servers, readers & communion set up for all worship services. Since we have gone back to passing the offering plate we need at least 2 ushers for every service. If you could help out please sign your name on the sheets provided, by the bulletins, in the narthex.



Dakota Pro Musica presents

MUSIC OF AMERICAN FAITH

A concert of sacred music for choir and organ

The professional choir of Dakota Pro Musica
with guest organist, Christopher Wells

Saturday, March 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm

St. George's Episcopal Memorial Church in Bismarck

\$60/ family, \$25/ adult, \$5/ student at the door

Presale tickets available at a discount before March 18th

DOWNLOAD THE “VANCO MOBILE” APP TODAY!



OR TEXT 8449340609 TO DONATE

If you would like to give electronically, visit our website or contact the church office.

We have to stay financially strong. The ongoing ministry of our church is dependent on the tithes and offerings of our people. Electronic giving is the best way to do this. Many of you are already on our giving platform. If you are not giving electronically, this would be a good time to do that. You can sign up here <https://firstlutheranofmandan.com/>. Simply click on the button on the right hand side that says “Give Online”. If you prefer to make your gifts by check, you can drop it off at the church or mail it to 408 9th St NW Mandan, ND 58554. Staying strong in worship, caring ministries, and finances are important as we work to love and serve hurting people during this tumultuous time.

If you provide your financial offerings to First Lutheran through other ways besides the weekly worship gathering of gifts (e.g.: Vanco, automatic bank withdrawal), you are welcome to place one of the laminated “offering cards” in the pew rack in the offering plate during the Offering.

Notes on Holy Communion:

Practice: *We practice Open Communion, which means if you are here, you are welcome at the table of Christ. If you do not take Communion, or you do not take Communion yet, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing. We can also bring Communion to you in your pew if you are unable to come forward. Please notify one of the ushers.*

Procedure: *You will receive a wafer of bread and a small cup of communion wine (juice and gluten free wafers are also available; please let your server know). Please place the empty cup in the waste basket by the communion assistant as you return to your pew.*

Lynnette Horn the Family Liaison from the Mandan Public Schools has asked if we could take a collection for them again.

There will be a box in the narthex labeled "Mandan Public Schools HYGIENE PRODUCTS" please drop your donations in there or bring them to the office.

They are in need of the following items:

Feminine Hygiene products: tampons & pads – this is their main need right now

Packages of new socks – male & female adult size for middle & high school age students

Packages of new women's underwear – sizes XS through XXL

Small travel sized hand sanitizers – small ones that can be kept in backpacks

Kleenex On-The-Go Facial Tissues (like the travel size 8 packs you can get at Wal-Mart or Target)

Chapstick

Hair ties

Hairbrushes

Please do not keep valuables in your coat pockets if you hang your coat up in the coat room.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

408 9TH Street NW, Mandan, ND Phone: 663-3594
email: jackie@firstlutheranofmandan.org www.firstlutheranofmandan.com

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY 15 7:00 COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNEL 12 OR 612
 8:30 WORSHIP/LIVE STREAM WORSHIP
 9:30 COFFEE
 No SUNDAY SCHOOL
 10:45 WORSHIP
 12:00 HEART RIVER CEMETERY MEETING

MONDAY 16

TUESDAY 17 9:00 STAFF
 1:00 DEBORAH CIRCLE

WEDNESDAY 18 5:15 CHOIR PRACTICE
 No CHURCH SCHOOL
 6:30 WORSHIP
 7:15 BELL CHOIR
 7:30 CONFIRMATION

THURSDAY 19 11:00 LAF ~ HOT DOGS
 6:30 TEAM MEETINGS
 7:00 CHURCH COUNCIL

FRIDAY 20

SATURDAY 21

SUNDAY 22 7:00 COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNEL 12 OR 612
 8:30 WORSHIP/LIVE STREAM WORSHIP
 9:30 COFFEE
 9:45 SUNDAY SCHOOL
 10:45 WORSHIP