



LENT MIDWEEK 5

MARCH 18, 2026

**congregation stands*

AS WE GATHER

When the Israelites seemed trapped, the way out for them was through the middle of the sea. For Christians today, it has been through the waters of Baptism. It is Jesus who is the way, and the truth, and the life. God's Old Testament people survived to continue their escape in the desert. But we follow Christ, in our daily walk, through a resurrection like His, and on to the place He has readied for us. This is all good news for us from Exodus.

OPENING HYMN

ALL WHO BELIEVE AND ARE BAPTIZED

LSB 601

***OPENING SENTENCES**

Psalm 143:1, 5, 10

P Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!
C **In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!**

P I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that You have done;
C **I ponder the work of Your hands.**

P Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God!
C **Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**

***PSALM 121**

Psalm 121

P ¹I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?

C ²**My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**

P ⁴Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

C ⁵**The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.**

P ⁶The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.

C ⁷**The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.**

P ⁸The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 4:5–31

⁵“that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you.” ⁶Again, the LORD said to him, “Put your hand inside your cloak.” And he put his hand inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous like snow. ⁷Then God said, “Put your hand back inside your cloak.” So he put his hand back inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, it was restored like the rest of his flesh. ⁸“If they will not believe you,” God said, “or listen to the first sign, they may believe the latter sign. ⁹If they will not believe even these two signs or listen to your voice, you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water that you shall take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground.”

¹⁰But Moses said to the LORD, “Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue.” ¹¹Then the LORD said to him, “Who has made man’s mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? ¹²Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak.” ¹³But he said, “Oh, my Lord, please send someone else.” ¹⁴Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses and he said, “Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite? I know that he can speak well. Behold, he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. ¹⁵You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you both what to do. ¹⁶He shall speak for you to the people, and he shall be your mouth, and you shall be as God to him. ¹⁷And take in your hand this staff, with which you shall do the signs.”

¹⁸Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, “Please let me go back to my brothers in Egypt to see whether they are still alive.” And Jethro said to Moses, “Go in peace.” ¹⁹And the LORD said to Moses in Midian, “Go back to Egypt, for all the men who were seeking your life are dead.” ²⁰So Moses took his wife and his sons and had them ride on a donkey, and went back to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the staff of God in his hand.

²¹And the LORD said to Moses, “When you go back to Egypt, see that you do before Pharaoh all the miracles that I have put in your power. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go. ²²Then you shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD, Israel is my firstborn son, ²³and I say to you, “Let my son go that he may serve me.” If you refuse to let him go, behold, I will kill your firstborn son.’”

²⁴At a lodging place on the way the LORD met him and sought to put him to death. ²⁵Then Zipporah took a flint and cut off her son’s foreskin and touched Moses’ feet with it and said, “Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me!” ²⁶So he let him alone. It was then that she said, “A bridegroom of blood,” because of the circumcision.

²⁷The LORD said to Aaron, "Go into the wilderness to meet Moses." So he went and met him at the mountain of God and kissed him. ²⁸And Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD with which he had sent him to speak, and all the signs that he had commanded him to do. ²⁹Then Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the people of Israel. ³⁰Aaron spoke all the words that the LORD had spoken to Moses and did the signs in the sight of the people. ³¹And the people believed; and when they heard that the LORD had visited the people of Israel and that he had seen their affliction, they bowed their heads and worshiped.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

Romans 6:3–5

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL READING

John 14:1–6

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

- C **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

¹Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN

WHAT PROMPTED CHRIST, OUR LORD

Tune LSB 543

PASSION READING

Mark 15:12–24

¹²And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³And they cried out again, "Crucify him." ¹⁴And Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." ¹⁵So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

¹⁶And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. ¹⁷And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. ¹⁸And they began to salute him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” ¹⁹And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. ²⁰And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

²¹And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. ²²And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). ²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN CHIEF OF SINNERS THOUGH I BE LSB 611

SERMON THE GOOD NEWS OF A GOD WHO MAKES A WAY FOR US

OFFERING

***OFFERTORY CREATE IN ME LSB 956**

***PRAYERS** – See insert

***LORD’S PRAYER**

***BENEDICTION**

HYMN TO DEPART GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT REDEEMER LSB 918

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House. Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2026 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

		Wed. March 18	Wed. March 25
Meal	5:15pm	Served by: WoW	Call the office if you can bring an item
Musician	6:30pm	Diane Streich	Marsha Workman
Cantor	6:30pm	Andy Koch	Dave Workman
Altar	6:30pm	Linnea and Al Raveling	Linnea and Al Raveling
Elder(s)	6:30pm	Matthew Berg	Kurt Vallin
Reader	6:30pm	Matthew Berg	Kurt Vallin
Usher Team	6:30pm	Andy Olson	Layne Streich
Acolyte	6:30pm	Isaac Koch	Dana Vallin
Projection	6:30pm	Sebastian Ness	Jean Peterson
Live Stream	6:30pm	Jim Nicklas	Jim Nicklas