

Grace Lutheran Church

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March 31, 2019
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Still Far Off

“While he was still far off . . .” (Luke 15:20). In one brief phrase a wrenching, shifting, and twisting story involving a wild cast of characters hangs in uneasy suspense.

“While he was still far off . . .” In those few words from a noble parable, we catch—or lose—our own uneasy breath because we know, at times more painfully than anything else, what it is to be “still far off.” We know the angst of uncertainty, the misery of guilt, the loneliness of distance, and the injury of shame. Wherever “far off” is—that distant country where shadows of disgrace and shards of reputation languish; where hope withers—it is not home.

Jesus doesn’t toss this parable carelessly to the wind. He carefully states each confounding sentence, unfolds every calibrated detail for a grumbling group offended by “this fellow” who welcomes sinners. With grace that stings, Jesus means the parable for the church, for us. Jesus messes with the tidy assumptions of each of us who turn our face from the “other,” from those “still far off.” When the church opens doors to some and closes them to others, when it sets the table for the likes of these and denies it to the likes of those, when it embraces the well-behaved but abandons the wrongdoers, it forgets that all of us—*all of us*—are “still far off,” longing for home.

The parable concludes, stunning, as any drama ever written, the dancers and singers, the hired hands, a household and neighborhood, a brother and father. The older brother is far off, left trying to figure it out. Chances are he never will, and neither will we. Grace is not to be figured out; it is to be received. It comes down a dirty road, where it opens healing arms to embrace us.

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BEFORE WORSHIP

Please fill out our Participation Card and place it in the offering plate every Sunday. This card helps the ministry of both the Congregational Care and Community Outreach Committees. Sometimes there are additional questions on the back of the card, so don’t forget to check both sides of the card.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 31, 2019

Lent is a season of contrition and renewal. The color purple has become a symbol of penitence. The music of the season reflects our need for repentance and renewal, which is our effort to turn, again, towards God.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Pre- Service Music

Welcome/Worship Instructions

Arise in body or spirit and face the baptismal font

Confession and Forgiveness

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new.

Amen

☞ In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

☞ God at the margins,

☛ **We have wandered far from your home; again and again, we lose our way. We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen**

☞ Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the sake of ☩ Christ, leading you from death into life. **Amen**

Gathering Hymn

What Wondrous Love This Is

ELW 666 (red book)

Greeting

☞ Behold, now is the acceptable time;

☛ **now is the day of salvation.**

☞ The grace and mercy of God, who in Christ bears our burdens and saves us from sin through the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

☛ **And also with you.**



Otče nebeský, Svoritel' u sveta, Bo - že, zmi - luj sa nad na - mi.

- 1 O God, Father in heav - en, have mer - cy up - on us.
- 2 O Son of God, redeemer of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
- 3 O God, Holy Spir - it, have mer - cy up - on us.



*Vie - me to, Pa - ne Bo - že náš, že sa na
Your heart, O God, is grieved, we know, by ev - 'ry
Your arms ex - tend, O Christ, to save from sting - of
O lav - ish Giv - er, come to aid the chil - dren*



*nás hrieš - nych hne - váš, sved - či o tom smrt'
e - vil, ev - 'ry woe; up - on your cross - for -
death and grasp of grave; your scars be - fore the
that your word has made. Now make us grow and*



*ne - vin - ná Tvoj - ho je - di - né - ho Sy - na.
sak - en Son our death is laid, and peace is won.
Fa - ther move his heart to mer - cy at such love.
help us pray; bring joy and com - fort, come to stay.*

Prayer of the Day

- A** Let us pray ... God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy.
- G** By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

First Reading

Joshua 5:9-12

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

☐ A reading from **1 Corinthians**:

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Arise in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

Speak, O Lord

1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re - ceive the food
2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence,
3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; help us grasp the heights
of your ho - ly Word. Take your truth, plant it
true hu - mil - i - ty. Test our thoughts and our
of your plans for us. Truths un - changed from the
deep in us; shape and fash - ion us in your like - ness—
at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance of your pur - i - ty.
dawn of time that will ech - o down through e - ter - ni - ty.
that the light of Christ might be seen to - day in our
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see your ma -
And by grace we'll stand on your prom - is - es, and by

acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful-
jes - tic love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of power that can
faith we'll walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your

fill in us all your pur - pos - es for your
nev - er fail; let their truth pre - vail o - ver
church is built, and the earth is filled with your

glo - ry.
un - be - lief.
glo - ry.

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believed it was his obedience that earned his place in the father's home.

▣ The Holy Gospel, according to **Luke**.

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So, he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’”

And they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

Children’s Time

All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children’s sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children’s message. There may be a time of dance and celebration that is offered.

Message

Silence for reflection

Arise in body or spirit

Song of the Day

Just As I Am, without One Plea

ELW 592

Kneel or sit as able.

Prayers

☞ Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation.

A brief silence.

☞ God of abundant grace, guide your church to look upon people as you look upon them, with compassion and as deserving of mercy. Shape us to be worthy ambassadors of Christ.

Empower our leaders, including *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants Chrysanne, David and Roseanne*; our synod companion churches, *Zion Lutheran Church of Cadillac, Zion Lutheran Church of Woodland*; *Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.*

☞ Lord in your mercy,

☞ **(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I’ll run after You.**

Ⓐ Bestow dignity on migrant and seasonal farm and factory workers. When the time comes for them to leave jobs, provide new ways for them to make a livelihood.

Ⓐ Lord in your mercy,

☞ **(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Ⓐ Inspire musicians and poets (*like John Donne, whom we commemorate today*) to point to your unfathomable beauty and creativity. Enhance our vision of your holiness through their works. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, including: *Zack Green (Mikolajczyks), Parker Stancil (Freedlunds), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Alexis and Dylan Kelmer, Austin and Aaron Endsley (Burdicks), Brady Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula – nephew), and Kayla and Lance Champaco (Pohls).*

Ⓐ Lord in your mercy,

☞ **(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Ⓐ Protect and preserve all people who look to you to be their hiding place (*especially*). Be their respite from trouble, and give them hope Comfort those in need, *including Vern Allarding, Justin, Newell, Wes Gillons, Opal Gillons, Valeria Poholski, Jack Poholski, Gary Edwards, Betty Lydy, Steve Lydy, Jennifer Anderson, Jamie Coplin, Cherie Clements, Charlene Swank, Vivian, Dee DeFields, Matthew Downing, Karl Golnek, Nikki Haddix, Delmer Hansen, Mary Jane Hayner, Doug Hensley, Jack Lameffer family, Elsie Mellow, Kim Ogden, Kathy Ploude, Pearl Stutz family, Kallie Triick, Gale Morway, family of Chris and Dana, Darlene Martino, Sandy Spears, Barlow family, Dustin H., Rob Pohl, Kathy Bahek, Bill Ehredt, and George Ulrich Jr.*

Ⓐ Lord in your mercy,

☞ **(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Ⓐ Erase the pain of trauma and the shame and stigma of social contempt. Change the hearts of those who bully or mistreat others, and heal broken relationships.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Ⓐ Lord in your mercy,

☞ **(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Ⓐ Invite your whole company of saints into eternal, joyful feasting. When we question your abundant mercy, soften our hearts to receive the gifts of faith and love.

Ⓐ Lord in your mercy,

☞ **(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Ⓟ Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

☞ **Amen.**

Sit

Offering of Gifts and Music

Everyone at worship is encouraged to fill out a Participation card and place it in the offering plate every Sunday morning

Arise in body or spirit

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un-to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Create in Me a Clean Heart". It consists of four staves of music in a treble clef, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats, and a common time signature. The notes are: C4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6, D6, E6, F6, G6, A6, Bb6, C7, D7, E7, F7, G7, A7, Bb7, C8, D8, E8, F8, G8, A8, Bb8, C9, D9, E9, F9, G9, A9, Bb9, C10, D10, E10, F10, G10, A10, Bb10, C11, D11, E11, F11, G11, A11, Bb11, C12, D12, E12, F12, G12, A12, Bb12, C13, D13, E13, F13, G13, A13, Bb13, C14, D14, E14, F14, G14, A14, Bb14, C15, D15, E15, F15, G15, A15, Bb15, C16, D16, E16, F16, G16, A16, Bb16, C17, D17, E17, F17, G17, A17, Bb17, C18, D18, E18, F18, G18, A18, Bb18, C19, D19, E19, F19, G19, A19, Bb19, C20, D20, E20, F20, G20, A20, Bb20, C21, D21, E21, F21, G21, A21, Bb21, C22, D22, E22, F22, G22, A22, Bb22, C23, D23, E23, F23, G23, A23, Bb23, C24, D24, E24, F24, G24, A24, Bb24, C25, D25, E25, F25, G25, A25, Bb25, C26, D26, E26, F26, G26, A26, Bb26, C27, D27, E27, F27, G27, A27, Bb27, C28, D28, E28, F28, G28, A28, Bb28, C29, D29, E29, F29, G29, A29, Bb29, C30, D30, E30, F30, G30, A30, Bb30, C31, D31, E31, F31, G31, A31, Bb31, C32, D32, E32, F32, G32, A32, Bb32, C33, D33, E33, F33, G33, A33, Bb33, C34, D34, E34, F34, G34, A34, Bb34, C35, D35, E35, F35, G35, A35, Bb35, C36, D36, E36, F36, G36, A36, Bb36, C37, D37, E37, F37, G37, A37, Bb37, C38, D38, E38, F38, G38, A38, Bb38, C39, D39, E39, F39, G39, A39, Bb39, C40, D40, E40, F40, G40, A40, Bb40, C41, D41, E41, F41, G41, A41, Bb41, C42, D42, E42, F42, G42, A42, Bb42, C43, D43, E43, F43, G43, A43, Bb43, C44, D44, E44, F44, G44, A44, Bb44, C45, D45, E45, F45, G45, A45, Bb45, C46, D46, E46, F46, G46, A46, Bb46, C47, D47, E47, F47, G47, A47, Bb47, C48, D48, E48, F48, G48, A48, Bb48, C49, D49, E49, F49, G49, A49, Bb49, C50, D50, E50, F50, G50, A50, Bb50, C51, D51, E51, F51, G51, A51, Bb51, C52, D52, E52, F52, G52, A52, Bb52, C53, D53, E53, F53, G53, A53, Bb53, C54, D54, E54, F54, G54, A54, Bb54, C55, D55, E55, F55, G55, A55, Bb55, C56, D56, E56, F56, G56, A56, Bb56, C57, D57, E57, F57, G57, A57, Bb57, C58, D58, E58, F58, G58, A58, Bb58, C59, D59, E59, F59, G59, A59, Bb59, C60, D60, E60, F60, G60, A60, Bb60, C61, D61, E61, F61, G61, A61, Bb61, C62, D62, E62, F62, G62, A62, Bb62, C63, D63, E63, F63, G63, A63, Bb63, C64, D64, E64, F64, G64, A64, Bb64, C65, D65, E65, F65, G65, A65, Bb65, C66, D66, E66, F66, G66, A66, Bb66, C67, D67, E67, F67, G67, A67, Bb67, C68, D68, E68, F68, G68, A68, Bb68, C69, D69, E69, F69, G69, A69, Bb69, C70, D70, E70, F70, G70, A70, Bb70, C71, D71, E71, F71, G71, A71, Bb71, C72, D72, E72, F72, G72, A72, Bb72, C73, D73, E73, F73, G73, A73, Bb73, C74, D74, E74, F74, G74, A74, Bb74, C75, D75, E75, F75, G75, A75, Bb75, C76, D76, E76, F76, G76, A76, Bb76, C77, D77, E77, F77, G77, A77, Bb77, C78, D78, E78, F78, G78, A78, Bb78, C79, D79, E79, F79, G79, A79, Bb79, C80, D80, E80, F80, G80, A80, Bb80, C81, D81, E81, F81, G81, A81, Bb81, C82, D82, E82, F82, G82, A82, Bb82, C83, D83, E83, F83, G83, A83, Bb83, C84, D84, E84, F84, G84, A84, Bb84, C85, D85, E85, F85, G85, A85, Bb85, C86, D86, E86, F86, G86, A86, Bb86, C87, D87, E87, F87, G87, A87, Bb87, C88, D88, E88, F88, G88, A88, Bb88, C89, D89, E89, F89, G89, A89, Bb89, C90, D90, E90, F90, G90, A90, Bb90, C91, D91, E91, F91, G91, A91, Bb91, C92, D92, E92, F92, G92, A92, Bb92, C93, D93, E93, F93, G93, A93, Bb93, C94, D94, E94, F94, G94, A94, Bb94, C95, D95, E95, F95, G95, A95, Bb95, C96, D96, E96, F96, G96, A96, Bb96, C97, D97, E97, F97, G97, A97, Bb97, C98, D98, E98, F98, G98, A98, Bb98, C99, D99, E99, F99, G99, A99, Bb99, C100, D100, E100, F100, G100, A100, Bb100, C101, D101, E101, F101, G101, A101, Bb101, C102, D102, E102, F102, G102, A102, Bb102, C103, D103, E103, F103, G103, A103, Bb103, C104, D104, E104, F104, G104, A104, Bb104, C105, D105, E105, F105, G105, A105, Bb105, C106, D106, E106, F106, G106, A106, Bb106, C107, D107, E107, F107, G107, A107, Bb107, C108, D108, E108, F108, G108, A108, Bb108, C109, D109, E109, F109, G109, A109, Bb109, C110, D110, E110, F110, G110, A110, Bb110, C111, D111, E111, F111, G111, A111, Bb111, C112, D112, E112, F112, G112, A112, Bb112, C113, D113, E113, 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Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Eucharistic Prayer

P Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide

C Together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.

P You led your people Israel through the desert and provided them water from the rock.

C We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

☐ In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection,

☑ **we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.**

☐ Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:

☑ **wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.**

☐ Through Christ all glory and honor is yours, Almighty God, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

☑ **Amen**

Lord's Prayer

☐ Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

☑ **Our Father in heaven, holy 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.**

Invitation to Communion

☐ All who are hungry, come and eat the bread of life. All who are thirsty, come and drink the cup of salvation.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Sit

Communion at Grace

All who are present are invited to receive Holy Communion. This sacrament is a gift to all who come with open hands and open hearts to the presence of Jesus.

✠ **Bread** is served by the Pastor. **Wine** is served from a *common cup* by the Assisting Minister.

✠ If you need **gluten free bread**, please let the Pastor know when you come forward.

✠ If you prefer wine from the *pouring chalice* in an **individual cup**, take an empty cup from the tray and have it filled by the Worship Assistant. Return the individual chalice/cup to the basket provided.

✠ **Grape Juice** is provided in the pre-filled cups in the center of the serving tray.

✠ A **Verbal Blessing** may be given by the Pastor, if you do not wish to commune.

✠ If you wish **communion brought to you** in the pew, please notify the usher.



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
 2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
 3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
 scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
 brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
 rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)
Lead Me, Guide Me
Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling

(Insert)
ELW 768
ELW 608

Sending of Communion Minister

A Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *homebound*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

- Ⓐ Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy.
- ☒ **Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Congregational Mission Minutes

Arise in body or spirit

Blessing

- Ⓐ God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, ✠ bless you and bring you to life everlasting.
- ☒ **Amen.**

All children and youth, as well as the young at heart and playful spirits, are invited to come forward to make music and dance during the Sending Hymn. Please choose one instrument to play or one scarf to use for waving and dancing.

Sending Song

Christ, Be Our Light

ELW 715

Dismissal

- Ⓐ Reconciled to God through Christ, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- ☒ **Thanks be to God.**

Week at a Glance

Sunday, March 31	Worship Services at 8 am & 10:45 am New Member Class 9:30 am Family Promise Pot Luck 9:30 am
Tuesday, April 2	Executive Mtg 6 pm
Wednesday, April 3	Wednesday Lenten Dinner – 6 pm Worship Service – 7 pm

Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:45 am
Assisting Minister	Randy Teegardin	Mark Anton
Cantor	Jack Vos	Mark Anton
Lector	Carl Schoessel	Joe Longcor
Communion Server	Brenda Teegardin	Volunteer
Acolyte/Crucifer	Volunteer	Lance Ogden
Usher	Mark & Jana Bishop	Gary Golnek
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Mark & Jana Bishop	Laura Scheck / Kim Domke
Children's Church	~	Laura Scheck
Table Guild	Laura Scheck	
Bread Maker	Deborah Wilke	

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, April 7, 2019

	8:00 am	10:45 am
Assisting Minister	Hope Peck	Traci Wales
Cantor	Mark Anton	Vickey Argo
Lector	Emma Peck	Kristi Winick
Communion Server	Jan Schreiner	Diane Neeb
Acolyte/Crucifer	Mark Anton	Mark Anton
Usher	Tom and Cheryl Drumm	Doug and Diane Neeb
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Tom and Cheryl Drumm	Eve Wright and Jeanette Markwart
Children's Church	~	Kate Watson
Table Guild	Laura Scheck	
Bread Maker	Jeanette Markwart	

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 76 Weekly Giving: \$ 3,471.00 Budget Amount: \$4,576.53

New Member Class continues April 7th. This will be the final class to attend during the hour between services.

Wednesday Lenten dinner and service will be held on April 3rd – dinner at 6 pm and worship service at 7 pm. The Signs of Lent theme for this Wednesday is *Dead End*. If you cannot join us in the evening, please come to Hastings Emmanuel Episcopal at 12 noon.

Easter Flowers are available for you to order. There are still a few Hyacinth plants available to order. Sign-up sheet is available on a table. Proceeds from the sale will go toward the HVAC project.

Family Promise Brunch – today at 9:30 am between services.

Praising God with Puppets. If you are interested in renewing our puppet ministry, please contact Chris Bush.

Boxes can be picked up at the display table for ELCA WORLD HUNGER. If you desire to support this ministry, please turn it in by Easter. The box is designed to hold 40 quarters. There are also devotional books available to pick up at the table. ** If you are giving in the form of a check, please make it out to Grace Lutheran Church so that we can combine funds for ELCA.

Social Activities: Please "save the date" for a *Progressive Dinner* on Saturday, May 18th; more information to follow in upcoming bulletins.

Easter Candy Donations. Please bring candy that is prewrapped, which fits in plastic eggs. Thank you for your partnership in bringing some fun to our young people.

Mutual Ministry: If there is a ministry concern, please contact Kristi Winick. Kristi is our member of the Mutual Ministry Committee that is highlighted this week and can be reached by a phone call or a text message at 269.953.6638.

Nominating Committee is meeting tomorrow night. If you are interested in bringing names before the committee for Congregation Council, please contact the following members: Mark Anton, Carrie Duits, Tom Peck, Derrick Rosenberger, Jane Secor, Kate Watson and Margaret Wood. If you would like to submit in writing, please put the name in Margaret Wood's mail box here at church. The committee meets tomorrow.