

Lord, When Did We See You?

February 25

I Was Hungry and You Gave Me Food

March 4

I Was Thirsty and You Gave Me Something to Drink

March 11

I Was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me

March 18

I Was Naked and You Gave Me Clothing

March 25

I Was Sick and You Visited Me

Lent 2026

Wednesday Worship

5:30 p.m.

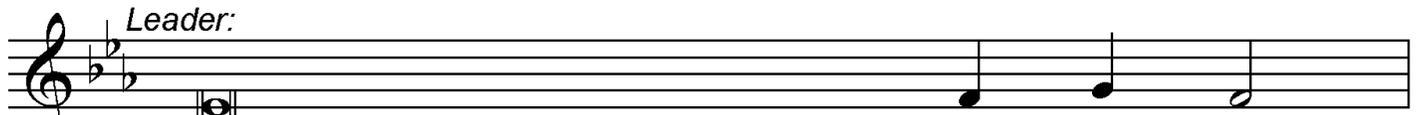
GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

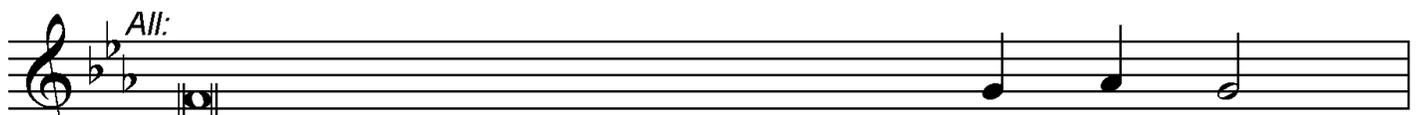
SERVICE OF LIGHT

Leader:



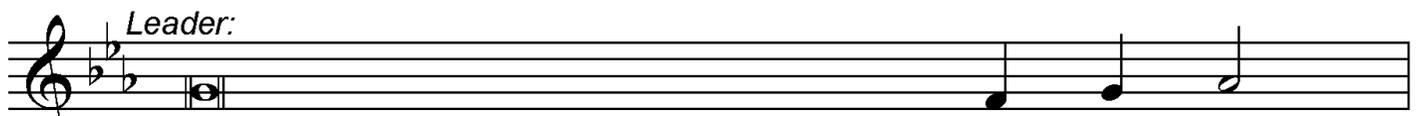
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All:



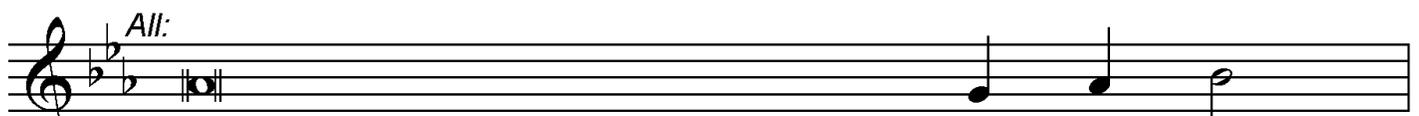
the light no darkness can o - ver come;

Leader:



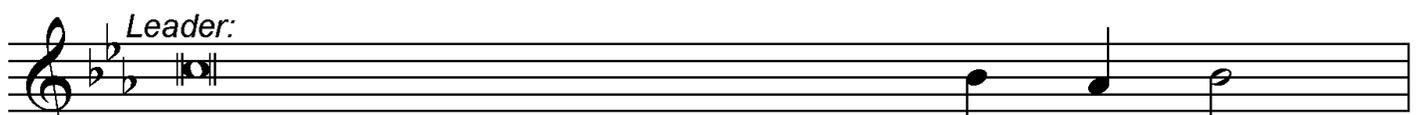
Stay with us now, for it is evening;

All:



and the day is al - most over.

Leader:



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All:

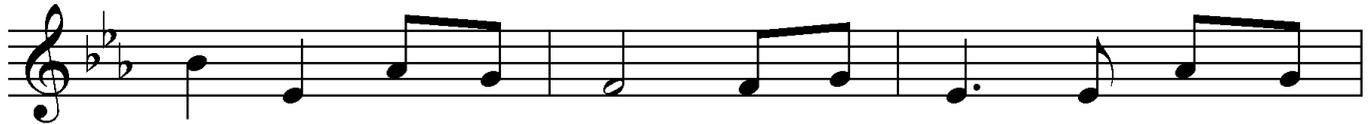


and shine within your people here. _____

EVENING HYMN



All:
 1. Joy - ous light of heav - 'nly glo - ry, lov - ing
 2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the
 3. You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's
 blaz - ing sun of dawn, of the light of peace and
 danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and race. Now as
 wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that
 jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



eve - ning falls a - round us, we shall raise our songs to
 fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry
 God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



you, God of day break, God of shad - ows, come and
 soul, Love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
 way, Lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



light our hearts a - new. _____
 free and make us whole. _____
 on to end - less day. _____

Leader: May God be with you all, *All:* and al - so with you;

Leader: Let us sing our thanks to _____ God,

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

EVENING THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, Creator of the universe—from old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.

All: A - - - - - men

PSALMODY - "ROUND"

Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the

lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you. _____

Left-hand side

O God, I call to you, come to me

Right-hand side

O God, I

now; O hear my voice when I cry to you.

call to you, come to me now; O hear my voice when I

Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the

cry to you. Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -

lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to

Keep watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the light of your

you. Keep watch with - in me, God; deep in my

love be burn - ing bright. _____ Let my prayer rise
heart may the light of your love be burn - ing bright.

up like in-cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an
Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my

of-fer-ing to you. _____ All praise to the God of all- Cre-
hands as an of-fer-ing to you. All

a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love. _____
praise to the God of all- Cre - a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the

— Let my prayer rise up like incense be - fore you, the
Spir-it of love. Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -

lift-ing up of my hands as an offering to you. _____
 fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an offering to you.

May our prayers come before you, O God, as incense, and may your presence surround and fill us, so that in union with all creation, we might sing your praise and your love in our lives.

Amen.

WORD

LORD, WHEN DID WE SEE YOU? -

PLEASE SEE INSERT ON PG 12

The 2026 Lenten Challenge Theme

“Lord, When Did We See You?”

The theme of this year’s challenge derives from Matthew 25:37-40. The passage emphasizes that caring for the poor, sick, and marginalized is an act of service to Christ, and that a person’s treatment of others is a reflection of their relationship with God.

The spiritual practices for the six weeks of Lent will focus on stretching our learning, care and advocacy muscles on behalf of underserved communities. The six weeks will be broken up according to the gospel text, as below, with participants focusing on what we know and think about these siblings in Christ, as well as how we act in support and on behalf of these communities:



Why Lent? Lent is a season of 40 days to reflect, remember our dependence on God and one another, and look forward to the ways God calls us to be. Adding one or more of these spiritual practices to your observation of Lent might help you feel more connected.

ANNUNCIATION AND MAGNIFICAT

An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most high." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."



1.3. My soul pro-claims your great-ness O God, and my
2. You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up-



spi-rit re - joic-es in you. You have looked with love on your
lift-ed the hum-ble of heart. You have filled the hun - gry with



ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won-drous things and left the wealth-y no part.



Great and might-y are you, O Ho - ly One, strong is your kind-ness
Great and might-y are you, O Faith-ful One, strong is your jus-tice,



ev - er - more. How you fa - vor the weak and low-ly one,
strong your love, As you promised to Sar - ah and A-bra-ham,



hum - bling the proud of heart.
kind - ness for - ev - er more.

LITANY AND PRAYERS

Refrain

All

Watch, O Lord, with all those a -
wake this night. Watch, O Lord, with all those who
weep. Give your an - gels and saints
charge ov - er all who sleep

Verses

Assisting Minister

All

Assisting Minister

1 Tend your ail - ing ones: in your love, Lord. Rest your
2 Soothe your suf - fring ones: Heal af -
3 Hold your griev - ing ones: Raise your
4 Guard your lit - tle ones: Guide your

All

Assisting Minister

wea - ry ones: in your love, Lord Bless your
flict - ed ones: Shield your
fall - en ones: Mend your
search - ing ones: Grant us

All

To Refrain

dy - ing ones: in your love, O Lord of all.
joy - ous ones:
bro - ken ones:
all your peace:

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

POSTLUDE

Wednesday March 4, 2026

Week 2 “I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink”

ANTHEM

“I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked by Geoffrey O’Hara”

Connie Manley

READING, EXODUS 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

LENTEN THEME: MATTHEW 25:37-40

Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’

REFLECTION

Deacon Korra Looschen

PRAYER

God of living water, Quench our thirst for justice and compassion. Teach us to protect and share your gifts, That all may live and flourish. Amen.

Worship continues with the Annunciation and Magnificat on p. 8

REFLECTION “TO-GO”

A child at Vacation Bible School once asked why Jesus cared so much about water. “Because people can’t live without it,” a teacher replied. The child nodded and said, “Then water must be holy.”

From the wilderness rock to the Samaritan well, Scripture treats water as both necessity and gift. Jesus honors even a simple cup of water as an act of faithfulness.

The ELCA Social Statement, Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice affirms that clean water is essential for life and that environmental harm disproportionately affects the poor. It teaches that creation is “entrusted to human care for the sake of all.”*2

In Matthew 25, giving drink becomes an act of recognition. In Lent, we are invited to see water not as a commodity, but as a neighborly gift—one that reveals Christ where life is sustained.

SIMPLE ACTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Drink water mindfully this week, giving thanks for access to clean water.

Reduce water waste at home and discuss why conservation is an act of faith.

Support ministries or organizations that work to provide clean water locally or globally.

Footnotes – ELCA Social Statements

2. ELCA, Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice (1993)

The 2026 Lenten Challenge “Lord, When Did We See You?”



Pastor	Garrett Struessel
Deacon	Korra Looschen
Music Leader	Pastor Garrett Struessel
2nd Psalmody Singer	Connie Manley
Usher	Cliff Looschen
Reader	Sally Campbell
Pianist	Gary Elmquist