

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026



10 a.m. Worship
Augustana Lutheran Church
Pastor Amy Kelly
Accompanist Anne Hintz

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. (*stand if able)

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*OPENING HYMN "Shepherd Me, O God"

ELW # 780

All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from

death in - to life. life.

Leader or All

1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I
 2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
 3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I

rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
 lead me by path-ways of righ - teous-ness and truth, my
 fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain

walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
 spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
 rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Cont. on next page

Leader or All

4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All

5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;

I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23
Music: SHEPHERD ME, Marty Haugen
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*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

“Change My Heart, O God”

ELW #801

Refrain

Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you. *End*

You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray. *Refrain*

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953
Music: Eddie Espinosa
Text and music © 1987 Muses/Vanguard Publishing, a Division of Music-Sales, Inc.

CHANGE MY HEART
P. 10

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:
Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:
Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

C: Amen.

*KYRIE

Leader sings vs. 1 & 4; All Refrain

Refrain

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the
2 That we may live out your im -
3 For peace in our hearts, for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you

health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;
passioned re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;
peace in our homes, for friends and fam - i - ly;
cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;

for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,
that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,
for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,
that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bo - dy and blood,

Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 WORD

WORD *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 23

- ¹The LORD is my shepherd;
 I shall not be in want.
- ²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
 and leads me beside still waters.
- ³You restore my soul, O LORD,
 and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
- ⁴Though 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.
- ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
 you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
 and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Open Our Eyes Lord"

W&P #113

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is accompanied by guitar chords indicated above the staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

O - pen our eyes, Lord; we want to see
Je - sus, to reach out and touch
him, and say that we love him.
O - pen our ears, Lord, and help us to
lis - ten. O - pen our eyes,
Lord, we want to see Je - sus.

Chords: D, G², G, Em⁷/A, A⁷, G/D, D, A/C#, Bm, D/A, GM⁹, Em, A⁷, G/D, D², D, DM⁷, A/G, G, Em⁷, A⁷, G/D, D, A, Bm⁷, D/A, GM⁹, Em⁷, A⁷, D.

Text and music: © 1987 Pentecostal Music, Inc., Columbia, Missouri.
Text and music: Pope CMI

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

John 9:1-41

¹ As he 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.

P: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Amy Kelly

HYMN OF THE DAY “Amazing Grace”

ELW #779



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



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



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 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

***APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Each petition will end with the words, "Hear us O God"
The congregation responds, "**Your mercy is great**"

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.
C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING

***OFFERTORY** “*Create in Me a Clean Heart*”

ELW # 186



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 to me the joy of



your sal - va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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***OFFERING PRAYER**

P: O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: People of God, people of life. We gather as a holy communion, for a meal that has been shared countless times, in countless places, and in countless ways.

The first times this meal was shared, Jesus was gathered around a table with a ragged collection of people – outcasts, betrayers, the power-hungry, the fragile, lonely, lost.

The first time this meal was celebrated, Jesus promised that it was for all time, that whenever the bread was broken and the wine was poured, wherever the story was told around a table, he would be there.

Today we remember the story as it's been told a thousand times over; we eat the bread, we drink the wine, and we affirm that we belong at this table and that Jesus is here.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: When Jesus ate with his friends, he took bread and after blessing it he broke it and gave it to them saying: Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this to remember me.

Then he took the cup, and said take and drink, this cup is poured out for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin, whenever you drink it, remember me.

We remember Jesus' death and resurrection, our hope and our life. We break the bread and share the cup. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.**

DISTRIBUTION

We commune together following the Lord's Prayer.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

***BLESSING**

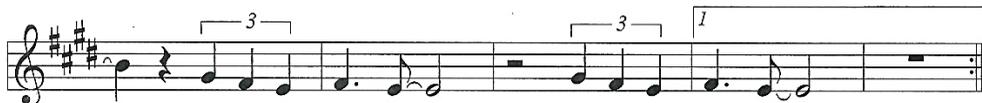
P: May the triune God, who is with you always and loves you through it all † bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN** *“Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord”*



O-pen the eyes of my heart, Lord. O-pen the eyes of my heart.



I want to see you, I want to see you.



see you. To see you high and lift - ed up,



shin - ing in the light of your glo - ry;



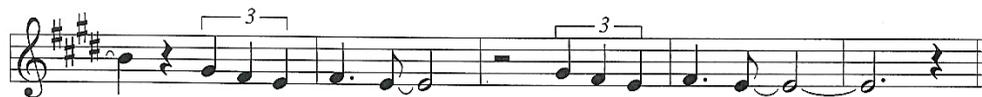
pour out your pow'r and love as we sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho -



ly." - ly."



O-pen the eyes of my heart, Lord. O-pen the eyes of my heart.



I want to see you, I want to see you.

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

AUGUSTANA'S CALENDAR

Sun	3/15	9:15 a.m. 10 a.m.	Coffee fellowship Worship; Coffee Fellowship following worship
Wed	3/18	6:30 p.m.	Lenten Worship @ Zion
Thu	3/19	9 a.m. 12 p.m.	Piecemakers Quilting Bible Study
Sun	3/22	9:15 a.m. 10 a.m.	Coffee fellowship Worship; March birthday celebration following worship <i>*Easter flower orders due*</i>

ONLINE GIVING - The QR Code below can be scanned with your smartphone to give to Augustana online.



Lenten Series

5:30 Meal; 6:30 Worship

- February 25, Hope
- March 4, Hope
- March 11, Augustana
- March 18, Zion
- March 25, Zion