

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN

March 4, 2026

6:00 p.m.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE *The Day You Gave Us, Lord, Has Ended-arr. J.S. Cool;* Levi LaGregg, flute; Karen Sande, piano

WELCOME

The assembly stands.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus' love is like a jar of perfume broken in a crowded room—
it permeates everything it touches.

We long to love you with the same extravagant abundance
of the woman with the alabaster jar.

Give us eyes to see as you see.

Give us hands to serve as you serve.

Give us arms to hold and feet to journey alongside.

Give us hearts of compassion, just like yours.

SERVICE OF LIGHT

The assembly stands and face the back to welcome the light

PROCESSIONAL *Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world ...*

Holden Evening Prayer page 2

EVENING HYMN *Joyous light of heav'nly glory ...*

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EVENING THANKSGIVING

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The assembly is seated

VESPER PSALM: Psalm 141 *Let my prayer rise up ...*

page 3-6

Group 1: high voices

Group 2: low voices

Silence for meditation

PSALM PRAYER

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

READING Matthew 25:35-40

Word of God.

Word of Life.

Good news God, Speak louder than the news updates.

Speak louder than our mental distractions.

Speak louder than our anger and louder than our fear.

God, speak because we long to hear your good news.

READING Luke 7:36-50

Word of God.

Word of Life.

REFLECTION - Shelly Smart

PRAYER

Embracing God, thank you for surprising us with the greatness of your love. **Amen.**

The assembly stands

LITANY, PRAYERS AND OFFERING

LITANY ... *God of mercy, hold us in love*

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PRAYER

Great and merciful God, Source and Ground of all goodness and life,
give to your people the peace that passes all understanding,
and the will to live your Gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERING

March is Food Share Month – our Lenten midweek offerings will be gathered for the Chum Food Shelf, Damiano, and Union Gospel Mission, local food ministries which we support. For each \$1.00 donated, Chum can purchase \$3.00 worth of food. Thank you for your generosity.

*You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Text “**flduluth**” to 73256. You’ll be sent a text with a link to give. Click on the link and enter your giving information. Children are welcome to place offerings in the Hunger Bowl under the Tree of Life. Thank you for supporting God’s mission through FLC.*

OFFERTORY HYMN: *I Come with My Devotion*

words: the Rev. Sarah Speed; tune: *Devotion* (O Jesus, I Have Promised)

**I come with my devotion to love and serve my God
Whose loving cosmos formed me before I ever sought
The glory of the heavens or praise on earth below
So every gift I have now I lay before the throne.**

**I hear my Savior’s calling to serve the lost and least
The hungry and imprisoned, the broken ones like me
For in each act of kindness it’s Christ for whom we care
All worthy of our love since it’s God’s face we bear.**

**God made us in God’s image each person whom we meet
Extravagantly loving all of humanity
So I return the love which has formed me from the start
Loving my creator, myself, and every heart.**

PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

INVITATION TO THE CROSS

Jesus, in his suffering and death, reveals the very heart of God, a heart of pure unspeakable love, a heart that risks everything for the sake of love, a heart open to the suffering of others and broken by the cruelty of others, a heart alive with love that death could not hold.

Come, to the cross, to the heart of God. Bring your own heart as it is—hardened or opened, empty or full, broken or mended, fearful or overflowing with love, unfaithful or filled with gratitude, God welcomes us as we are and brings to us the healing we need.

You are invited to sing, come forward to light a candle, kneel and pray, as you are moved to do so

Come and Fill Our Hearts

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Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, men.

A

Detailed description: This musical score is for the hymn 'Come and Fill Our Hearts'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first system consists of four measures. The second system starts with a measure number '5' and also consists of four measures. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.' The second system continues with 'Come and fill our hearts with your peace, men.' There is a fermata over the final measure of the second system, with the letter 'A' written below it.

Nothing Can Trouble (sing English text)

Na - da te tur - be, na - da te_es - pan - te.
Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en.

Quien a Dios tie - ne na-da le fal - ta. Na - da te tur - be,
Those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing. Noth - ing can trou - ble,

na - da te_es - pan - te. So - lo Dios bas - ta.
noth - ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us.

Detailed description: This musical score is for the hymn 'Nothing Can Trouble'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The score is divided into three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: 'Na - da te tur - be, na - da te_es - pan - te. Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en.' The second system continues with 'Quien a Dios tie - ne na-da le fal - ta. Na - da te tur - be, Those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing. Noth - ing can trou - ble,'. The third system concludes with 'na - da te_es - pan - te. So - lo Dios bas - ta. noth - ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us.' The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef.

Ubi caritas et amor/Where true charity and love abide (sing English text)

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,

u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est.
God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves. The top two staves are for the vocal line, with the lyrics 'U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,' written below. The bottom two staves are for the piano accompaniment, with the lyrics 'u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est. God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.' written below. The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. There are various musical notations including chords, single notes, and a triplet in the piano part.

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THE LORD'S PRAYER

God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray: **Our Father in heaven . . .**

BLESSING *Let us bless our God . . .*

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Open your hearts to God. **Thanks be to God.**

Ministers All People of First Lutheran Church
Pastor The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman
Associate Pastor The Rev. Andrea Bonneville DeNaples
Program Staff Karen Sande, Director of Music
Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities
Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship
Reader Shirley Wuchter
Musicians Jen Fuchs, cantor; Levi LaGregg, flute
Audio/Video Team Eric Gatten, Shania Krause, Sam Weston

Acknowledgements *Evangelical Lutheran Worship, With One Voice, All Creation Sings* texts and hymns ©2024 Augsburg Fortress. Spoken liturgy adapted by Rev Dianne O. Loufman, inspired by the theme *The good news is* words for worship written by Rev Sarah Speed used by permission ©sanctifiedart.org. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009917, One License #A-729428, CCLI License #1816436, CCS WorshipCast Streaming License #13132.

First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes you into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities, or where they might be on their faith journey. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land. We are committed to the work of racial justice. We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

Lenten Worship is from *A Sanctified Art* and the theme is *The good news is . . .*

Sundays: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services
Wednesdays: 5:00 p.m. supper, 6:00 p.m. service
March 11: ***together, the impossible is possible***
March 18: ***protection & care for the vulnerable***
March 25: ***rooted in justice, mercy & faithfulness***

faithlovecommunity
First Lutheran Church

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