

HAINESVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH — ELCA



Sunday, March 8th, 2026

Third Sunday in Lent

"The Little Church with a Big Heart"

Presiding Minister: Pastor Mary Lou Plummer

Keyboard: Janet Anderson

Liturgist: Jim Hanstad

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In case of a pastoral emergency contact Pastor Mary Lou Plummer
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WELCOME TO WORSHIP at HAINESVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH.

We're glad you're here. If you are visiting with us, please sign a visitor card and place it in the offering plate. We thank you for joining us in worship and pray that our time together is a blessing to you. And.... please join us for our weekly fellowship brunch after worship. There's always plenty and you are very welcome. If you are looking for a faith community, we would be pleased to have you call HVLC your "church home".

PRELUDE AND RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S CHAT AND NOISY OFFERING

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 For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding
Christ's call to come forth to life: 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.

GATHERING HYMN "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" **HYMN 325**

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.

KYRIE (setting 4 pp 147-148)



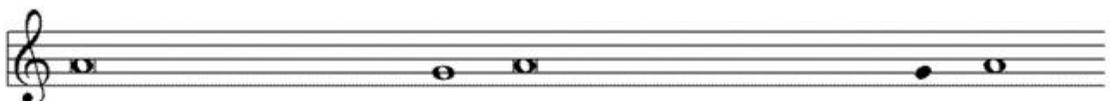
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **B** Lord, have mer - cy.



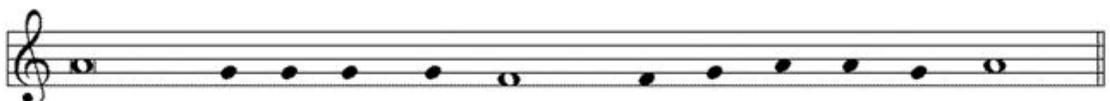
A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



B Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE (*setting 4 pp 149-150*)



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



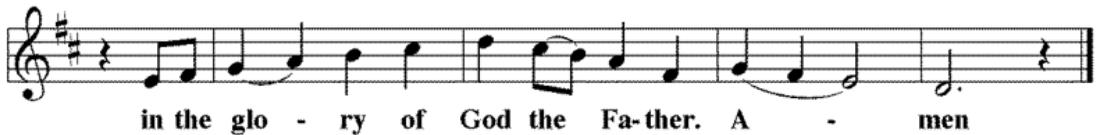
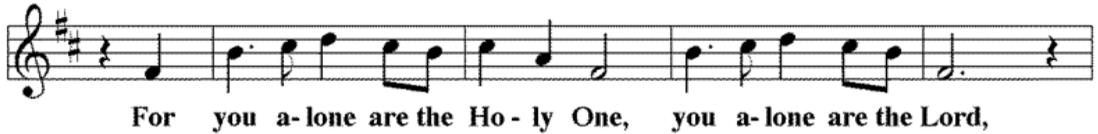
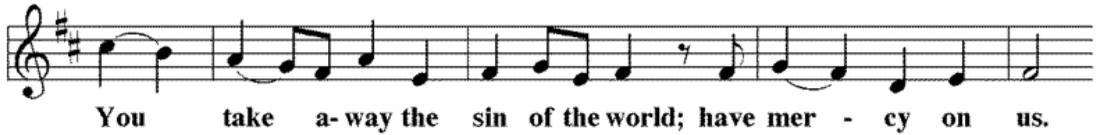
C Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Merciful God,

C **the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

¹ 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. ² 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?" ³ 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?”

⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

R The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

PSALM: Psalm 95 (*read responsively*)

¹ Come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

² **Let us come before God’s presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³ For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴ **In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵ The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶ **Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

⁷ For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture and the
sheep of God’s hand. Oh, that today you would hear God’s voice!

⁸ **“Harden not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

⁹ There your ancestors tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

¹⁰ **Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,**

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 4th chapter

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁵ [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)

¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"

¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming and is now

here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵ The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” ²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” ²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” ³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” ³³ So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” ³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY

Pastor Mary Lou Plummer

HYMN OF THE DAY *"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"*

HYMN 611

APOSTLES CREED *(please stand as you are able)*

P Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.** *(please share Christ's peace with one another)*

OFFERING

(please stand as you are able)

OFFERTORY *"We Give Thee but Thine Own"*

HYMN 686

C **We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

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 the gifts of bread and wine, you drew 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

RESPONSE TO PRAYERS **P** Hear us, O God **C** **your mercy is great**
Sharon (Albert), **Linda** (Anderson), **Tom & Alice** (Angermeier), **Bill & Sue** (Aune), **John** (B), **Elaine** (Caelwaerts), **Mike & Rina** (Clumpner), **Erin** (Culbertson), **Dianne** (D), **Fran** (Ebel), **Dan** (Fenrich), **Pam** (Freiberg), **Alan** (G), **Barbara** (Hughes/Dean), **Dawn** (Jeanquart), **Charlotte** (K), **Patricia** (Kehl), **Cindy** (Knapp), **Keith** (Knapp), **Kenny** (Meyer), **Beth** (Pachniak), **Monika** (Perry), **Matthew** (Rocque), **Todd** (S), **Delores** (Schuyler), **Irene** (Thorson), **Mary** (Zirbel), **Brixanna**, **Marley**, **Carole & Russ**.
C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
C **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**

BLESSING

P Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✠ bless you now and always.
C **Amen.**

TABLE BLESSING

P Let us pray together the table blessing.

C Come Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blessed.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN *“Healer of Our Every Ill”* **HYMN 612**

SENDING FORTH

P Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C Praise be to God! Amen.*

POSTLUDE

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* On the First Sunday in Lent (Feb. 22,) we entered into a communal Lenten discipline that changed our benediction and response for the purpose of keeping our worship focus on God. It has been our practice for many years to end our spoken worship with the words “And We Will” which momentarily switches our focus to us and away from God. As we journey to the cross, let’s be mindful of our walk with the Lord. If you wish to comment on this change, please see one of our council members or Pastor Mary Lou.

TOMORROW continues the weekly Bible Study “He Chose the Nails” by Max Lucado. The book presents us with the gifts offered by God in the crucifixion. This begins at 9:30 and runs all the Mondays in Lent. Please read chapters 7, 8, and 9.

*In the event of weather-related closings at church—
please listen to WDOR or Channel 2 for cancellation notices and check our
Facebook page*