

# HAINESVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH — ELCA



Sunday, March 1st, 2026

Second Sunday in Lent

**"The Little Church with a Big Heart"**

Presiding Minister: Pastor Mary Lou Plummer

Keyboard: Heidi Hintz                      Liturgist: Jim Hanstad

3944 County M    Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235    920-743-9806

web: [www.hainesvillelc.com](http://www.hainesvillelc.com)    Office e-mail: [officehlc12@hainesvillelc.com](mailto:officehlc12@hainesvillelc.com)



In case of a pastoral emergency contact Pastor Mary Lou Plummer  
on her cell phone at (715)451-9992    Email: [hainesvillepastor@hainesvillelc.com](mailto:hainesvillepastor@hainesvillelc.com)

## ***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**

### **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** *"Bless Now, O God, the Journey"* **HYMN 326**

**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)



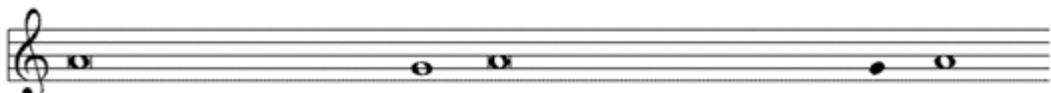
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **B** Lord, have mer - cy.



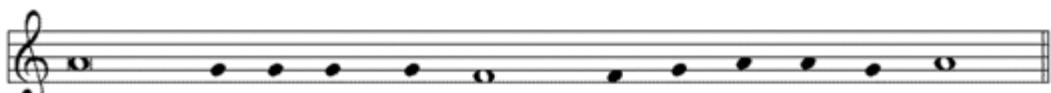
**A** For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**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.



☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



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

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



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



☩ 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:

You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. O God,  
**C** our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

<sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you

I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

R      The word of the Lord      C      **Thanks be to God**

**PSALM: Psalm 121** (*read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup> **My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD will not let your foot be moved

nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup> **Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

<sup>5</sup> the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

<sup>6</sup> **the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

<sup>1</sup> What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup> For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the scripture say?

“Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.”

<sup>4</sup> Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup> But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup> For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup> For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup> For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

<sup>16</sup> For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who

is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup> as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

**R** Word of God, Word of Life      **C**      **Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *(please stand as you are able)*



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### **GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

*A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd chapter

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

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus

said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

<sup>11</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P The Gospel of the Lord  
*(please be seated)*

C **Praise to you O Christ.**

**GOD’S WORD FOR TODAY**

Pastor Mary Lou Plummer

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“*Show Us Your Mercy*”

Family Choir

**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.**

## 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 & Bill** (Albert), **Linda** (Anderson), **Tom & Alice** (Angermeier), **Bill & Sue** (Aune), **John** (B), **Elaine** (Caelwaerts), **Mike & Rina** (Clumpner), **Erin** (Culbertson), **Dianne** (D), **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 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

*"Let the Vineyards"*

**HYMN 184**

C **Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

### 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.

## THE COMMUNION LITURGY



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

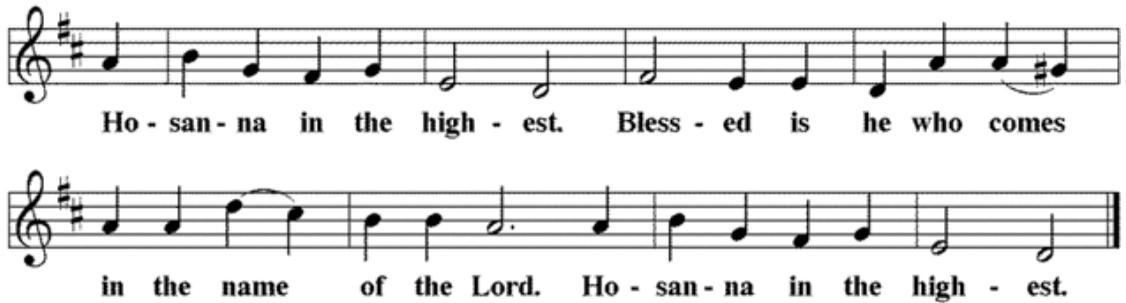
**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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.

## 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**

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION *(you may be seated)*

*We welcome all believers in Christ to share in God's Holy meal. Please come to the front and receive the Body and Blood of Christ. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available on the stand in the center. Children who have not received their first communion instruction are invited to come forward and receive a pastoral blessing.*

COMMUNION HYMN	<i>"Let Us Break Bread Together"</i>	<b>HYMN 471</b>
	<i>"Here Is Bread"</i>	<b>HYMN 483</b>
	<i>"One Bread, One Body"</i>	<b>HYMN 496</b>

## COMMUNION BLESSING *(please stand)*

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

## 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 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      *"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"*      HYMN 324

## 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.



The Monday morning Lenten Bible Study “He Chose the Nails” by Max Lucado continues tomorrow at 9:30. Please read chapters 4, 5, and 6 in preparation for the class.



There is a basket in the fellowship area for receipts from Tadych’s Market Place. We ask that you bring them and place the whole receipt in the basket. They are kind enough to give us a percentage back for our projects. Unfortunately, Pick’n Save no longer has this service so there is no need to bring those receipts at this time. Dianne Eskildsen has generously agreed to tally up the receipts and bring them in. If you have any questions, please ask one of the ladies in WELCA.

On the table by each entrance to the sanctuary you will find several things:

1. The current Christ in Our Home
2. Brick order forms
3. The current directory
4. The current newsletter
5. The Wired Word for that week. These copies will be on the table each week for you to read and contemplate.



Did you know that there are large print bulletins each week for worship? If this would make your enjoyment and participation in the service better, please ask an usher for a copy. **NEW** there are also large print copies of the words for the hymns that we are singing. The ushers have these as well.



Is getting to church on Sunday morning difficult? We are in the process of working on rides for those who would like to attend but for whatever reason aren't able to because of transportation. Please let the church office know if this is a service that would be of help to you or if you are willing to provide a ride. Know someone who would like a ride? Let the church office know please.

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

Serving in worship today (Mar 1<sup>st</sup>)

Presiding minister: Pastor Mary Lou  
Plummer

Liturgist: Jim Hanstad

Reader: Dixner-Young Family

Ushers: Dixner-Young Family

Communion Assist: Ellen Klister

Keyboard: Heidi Hintz

Serving in worship next week (Mar 8<sup>th</sup>)

Presiding minister: Pastor Mary Lou  
Plummer

Reader: Youth

Ushers: Youth

Keyboard: Heidi Hintz

Readings for next week (March 8<sup>th</sup>)

[Exodus 17:1-7](#)

*Water from the rock in the wilderness*

[Psalm 95](#)

[Romans 5:1-11](#)

*Reconciled to God by Christ's death*

[John 4:5-42](#)

*Baptismal image: the woman at the well*

**Stewardship Opportunities Mar 1-8**

Today the fellowship meal today is being provided by the folks whose last name begins A-K. Next week the fellowship meal will be provided by the Church Council.

**Week at a glance Mar 1-8**

**Monday "He Chose the Nails" Lenten Bible Study please read chapters 4, 5, 6**

**Tuesday Book Club at 10:00**

**Wednesday Men's Bible Study at 8**

**Friday 9-12**

Office hours for Lana

*Attendance last week: 30*

**Birthdays in March**

Mar 11th	John Breider Oliver Wilke
Mar 14th	Kim Jacobson
Mar 18th	Deb Grunwald
Mar 26th	Lori Lauscher Mary Ann Leary
Mar 28th	Reese Sund
Mar 29th	Barbara Dunlap

**Wedding Anniversaries in March**

March 20<sup>th</sup> John & Laura Borkovetz

