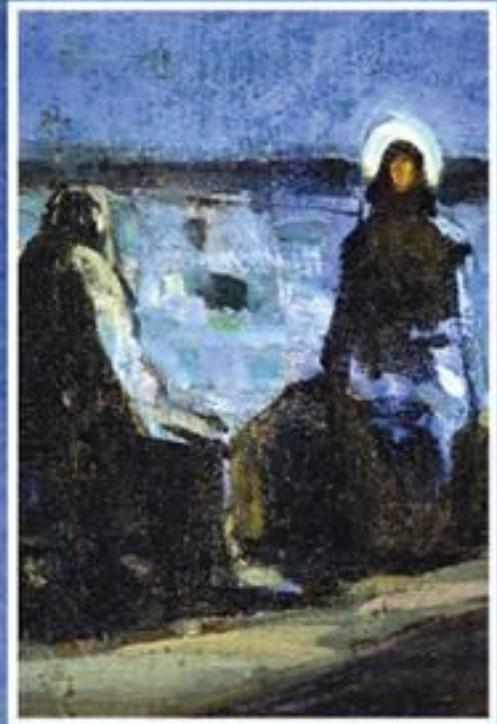


Nicodemus came  
to  
*Jesus*  
BY NIGHT

JOHN 3:2



**March 1, 2026**  
**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**Blended Worship Service**



Zion  
Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church

*Living in Faith,  
Known by Love,  
Serving like Jesus*

**STAFFED CHILD  
CARE**

Available during  
worship service

**WIFI = Zion Guest**  
No password required

[www.zion-nc.com](http://www.zion-nc.com)

Like us on Facebook  
**@zionnorthcanton**

*Congregation responses are in bold*

Guest Minister (PM) - Rev. David Houdeschell

Announcements made prior to the start of our service

Prelude How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Stuart Townend

*Please stand as you are able*

*We welcome Jesus into our presence as we  
turn to follow the cross as it is processed through our worship space*

That Christ be known

133



1 That Christ be known, we share in Word and wa - ter;  
2 To make Christ known, we say the Word in sto - ry;  
3 In hope we serve; we give our-selves in glad - ness;



with ev - 'ry sign of love and grace the faith is shown.  
with ev - 'ry tell - ing of our hope the faith is shown.  
with ev - 'ry sac - ri - fi - cial act the faith is shown.



We break the bread and pass the cup for each and all,  
We speak the gos - pel, free and clear to each and all,  
We use our gifts, em-brace the gifts of each and all,



and in the pres - ence of this love, the Christ is known.  
and in the mes - sage of God's love, the Christ is known.  
and in the liv - ing of our love, the Christ is known.

Text and music: Marty Schaefer  
Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

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

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

PM: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

PM: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

PM: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

PM: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

PM: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

PM: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

PM: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

PM: 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.  
**Amen.**

PM: Let us pray.  
**O God, 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.**

*Please be seated*

The reading concludes with:

Word of God, Word of Life

**Thanks be to God**

**Psalm: Psalm 121**

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

**My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

**the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

113

Open our eyes, Lord

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols are placed above the staff to indicate accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staff.

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.

Text and music: Bob Cull  
Text and music © 1976 Maranatha! Music, admin. The Copyright Company

A reading from Romans:

(Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, Pew Bible,  
New Testament, page 118)

The reading concludes with:  
Word of God, Word of Life  
**Thanks be to God**

*Please stand as you are able*

113 Open our eyes, Lord

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.

Text and music: Bob Cull  
Text and music © 1976 Maranatha! Music, admin. The Copyright Company

The holy gospel according to St. John  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

(John 3:1-17 Pew Bible,  
New Testament, page 71)

The reading concludes with:  
The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ**

*Please be seated*

Please stand as you are able

By grace we have been saved

25



1 By grace we have been saved through faith and  
 2 For all have sinned and fall - en short. God's  
 3 God gave to earth a per - fect love through  
 4 We know the wage of sin is death; thank  
 5 Set free, we now have peace with God. Sal -



not by keep - ing law. God's saints be - lieved by  
 plan, not one o - beyed. Christ has for all ful -  
 Je - sus on the cross. While we were foes, Christ  
 God, we shall re - vive. For just as Je - sus  
 va - tion is se - cured. How beau - ti - ful the



what they heard and not by what they saw.  
 filled the law. Be - lieve, con - fess, be saved.  
 died for us. We gained by God's own loss.  
 rose a - gain, we too are made a - live.  
 feet of those who share this gos - pel word.

Refrain



Oh, how I love Je - sus! Oh, how I love Je - sus!



Oh, how I love Je - sus, be - cause he first loved me!

Text: Rusty Edwards, stanzas; Frederick Whitfield, refrain  
 Music: North American traditional, arr. Rusty Edwards  
 Text © 1997 Selah Publishing Co.; arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

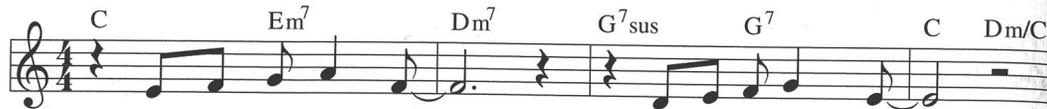
PM: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

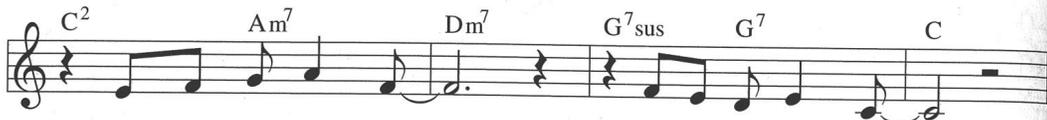
**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

28

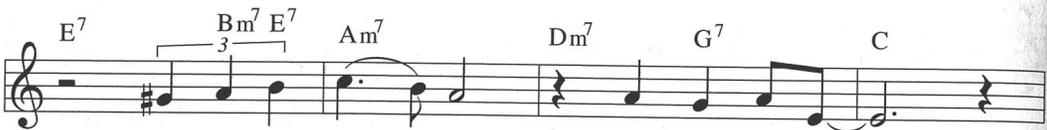
## Change my heart, O God



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



Change my heart, O God. May I be like you.



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



mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

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

*A brief silence.*

AM: Faithful One, you renew us by grace. As you have inspired faith through the work of church artists and hymn writers throughout the ages give your church the means to praise your beauty today. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

AM: Living One, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. Preserve this earth, and protect conservationists, scientists, and all who labor in service to creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

AM: Ruling One, you bless us to be a blessing. Open the hearts of all leaders to seek the flourishing of every person and lend your help to all who wait for justice, deliverance, and peace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

AM: Compassionate One, you send your Son to save. Declare your word of acceptance to any who feel condemned and lift up any brought low by hatred and exclusion. Tend to all who are struggling with illness or loss. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

AM: Guiding One, you watch over our going out and coming in. Bless newcomers and new members in this assembly and accompany those who have recently left this community to journey elsewhere. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

AM: Thank you for the life of our birthday sibling,

**LJ Brown**

AM: Eternal One, you neither slumber nor sleep. Be our keeper in life and in death. Thank you for our beloved who have died, and for your promise which saves this whole world by your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

AM: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**Amen.**

The image shows two lines of musical notation in treble clef, 4/4 time. The first line has the following chords: C<sup>2</sup>, Em<sup>7</sup>, Dm<sup>7</sup>, G<sup>7</sup><sub>sus</sub>, G<sup>7</sup>, C, and Dm/C. The lyrics are: "Change my heart, O God. Make it ev - er true." The second line has the following chords: C<sup>2</sup>, Am<sup>7</sup>, Dm<sup>7</sup>, G<sup>7</sup><sub>sus</sub>, G<sup>7</sup>, and C. The lyrics are: "Change my heart, O God. May I be like you."

Text and music: Eddie Espinosa  
Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing

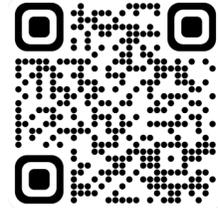
*The Offering of our tithes, gifts and sacrifices is gathered for the mission of Christ's church, including the care of those in need.*

## ELECTRONIC GIVING

PC = <https://onrealm.org/ZionLutheranChurchNC/give/now>

Smartphone = <https://onrealm.org/ZionLutheranChurchNC/give/now>

OR Scan QR code for mobile giving



AM: Let us enthusiastically pray our prayer of stewardship, Holy Lord,  
**I gladly return, for your work, a portion of your abundant provision to me. All that I have is yours alone, entrusted Lord, to my care. Amen.**

PM: The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

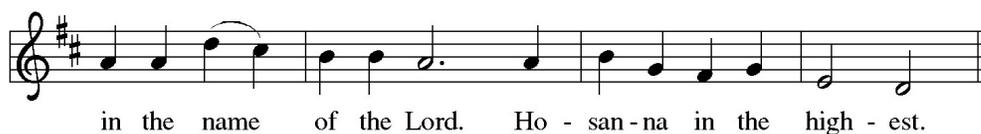
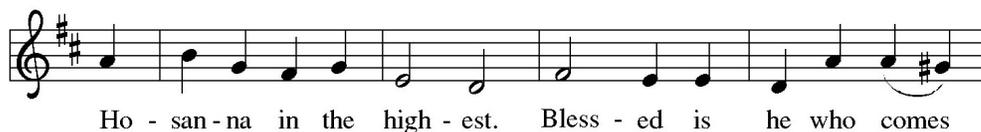
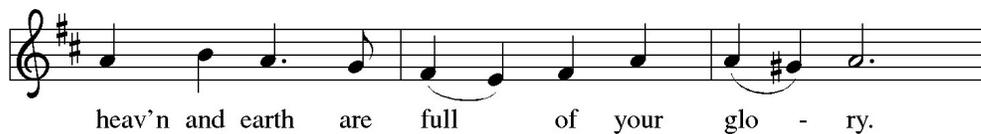
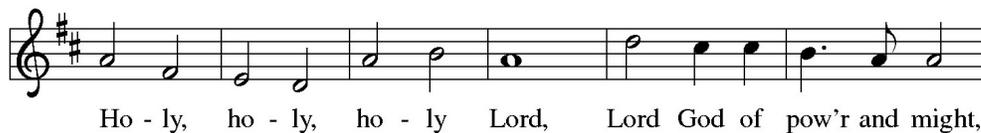
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PM: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



PM: 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.

PM: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. †  
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace to earth.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,  
One God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Let us enthusiastically pray as Jesus taught us,

**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.**

God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

Come to the table.  
Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

*Please be seated*

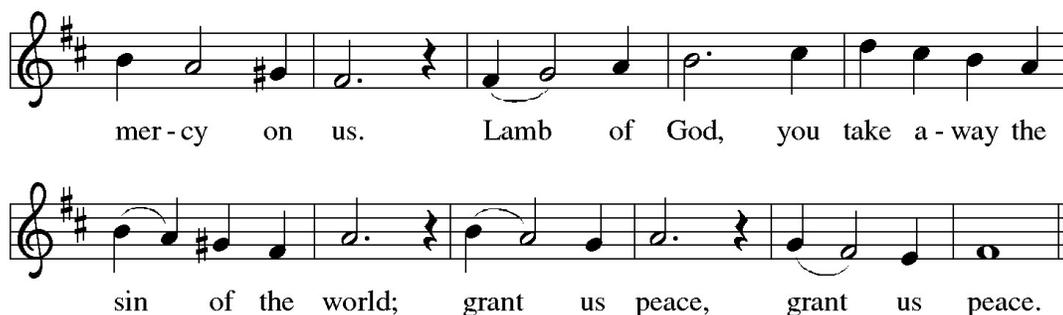


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

Continued on next page



The Lord's Supper (Communion) at this congregation is practiced as an open table – all are welcome. Jesus said this is his body and blood given and shed for you; come receive the loving grace God provides for you.

Those who do not commune may come forward for a blessing, for all are loved by God. Children who commune at their home congregation are encouraged to commune here today too. Gluten free wafers available. Request at time of receiving communion.

Communion Music *We Remember You*

*Kirk Dearman*

*Please stand as you are able*

PM: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

PM: Today, communion will be taken to some of Zion's shut-ins. Our prayers go with those who deliver them, as they not only share Christ's Body and Blood with those who are unable to be present with us this morning, but they also take the blessings of the whole congregation.  
**Amen.**

AM: Let us pray,  
**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.**  
**Amen.**

AM: Let us enthusiastically commit to our mission as we pray,  
**Lord, my hope and strength come from you. Open my eyes and heart to become the person you want me to be; a person who cares for the widows and orphans, feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, frees the oppressed, and visits the sick and imprisoned. Give me and this congregation a vision to make a difference in our community. Enliven me to spread the good news of your Son. I pray this all for Jesus' sake.**  
**Amen.**

PM: 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.

**Amen.**

*Turn to follow the cross as it processes through the Worship Space.  
Then follow it out to join in God's work.*

137

The summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't  
your name? Will you care for cruel and  
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?  
kind and nev - er be the same?  
free and nev - er be the same?  
side and nev - er be the same?  
you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

Continued on next page





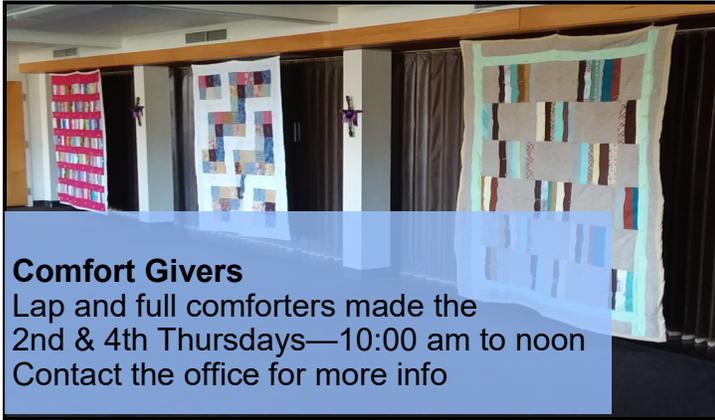
**COME AS YOU ARE**

Casual  
Worship  
Service  
Every  
Wednesday  
7pm



**SATURDAY NIGHT**  
AT THE  
*Lakeside*  
SUPPER  
**CLUB**  
— A NOVEL —  
*J. Ryan*  
**STRADAL**  
Star Trek from bestselling author of  
KITCHENS OF THE GREAT MIDWEST

Book Club  
will meet  
March 6 at  
10:00 am in  
the Sunday  
School Room



**Comfort Givers**  
Lap and full comforters made the  
2nd & 4th Thursdays—10:00 am to noon  
Contact the office for more info



**Food Pantry**

1st & 3rd Tuesdays  
9:00 am—Setup  
12:00 pm—Hot Meal  
1:00 pm—Distribution



**ADULT  
CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION**  
SUNDAYS  
10:15-11:15



**Lenten**  
MEALS

Lenten Dinner  
tonight at  
5:30pm and  
Service at  
6:15pm



**Bible Adventure**

**BIBLE  
ADVENTURE  
EVERY  
SUNDAY  
10:15AM**



This week we pray for Ruth's  
sister & her husband, and all  
those affected by war.

Submit your prayer requests to  
Jayne Schrader at  
Prayer@Zion-NC.com



# Lent Word Search

E N S K F O R G I V E N E S S O O D F G  
 R O A W L Y K E R U S L O R Y I M B A I  
 P I S K R M E N O I X H E N A S H E S K  
 E X O E A Y K A R S S O R C D W A T T R  
 N B L E S A L N I K A L K E Y D E R I O  
 A S H W E D N E S D A Y O D T U D F N S  
 N E M Y O N P S R U M T A P R B E T G E  
 C R O L K U Y I E A S H P G O O D L A T  
 E R A O V S O R K C R U C I F I X I O N  
 D I S H I M K S L E M R E M B I P E R O  
 O S A M F L P A O D F S I L A E R N K I  
 C J E R O A S C G O O D F R I D A Y S T  
 R E Y A R P E R A M R A D E A W S I S C  
 U R S P E D R I L A T Y A J R E T S A E  
 C U S Y L E C F E L S O P E G O E Y C R  
 N S E A K S W I P R E K S S E L B V E R  
 I A R W E E K C R A J E R U H E G O F U  
 S L A Y A R T E B O S D I S C I P L E S  
 H E S A C T M O W S U R H O L P A N K E  
 A M B P E N R E I M E C N A T N E P E R

## Word Bank

ASHES	DESERT	GOOD FRIDAY	PENANCE
ASH WEDNESDAY	DISCIPLES	HOLY THURSDAY	PRAYER
BETRAYAL	EASTER	HOLY WEEK	REPENTANCE
BLESS	FASTING	JERUSALEM	RESURRECTION
CROSS	FORGIVENESS	JESUS	RISEN
CRUCIFIXION	FORTY DAYS	PALM SUNDAY	SACRIFICE

## **2026 Lent Schedule**

**February 18th**

**Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm**

**February 22nd**

**Lent Service at 6:15pm  
(Dinner At 5:30pm)**

**March 1st**

**Lent Service at 6:15pm  
(Dinner At 5:30pm)**

**March 8th**

**Lent Service at 6:15pm  
(Dinner At 5:30pm)**

**March 15th**

**Lent Service at 6:15pm  
(Dinner At 5:30pm)**

**March 22nd**

**Lent Service at 6:15pm  
(Dinner At 5:30pm)**

**March 29th**

**Palm Sunday Service at 9:00am**

**JOIN THE CHOIR!!**

Practice every Monday

6:30pm

Everyone welcome!

No experience needed.

**SHARED GOODS  
GIVEAWAY  
MARCH 3 FROM  
12 TO 2PM**

### **Today's Worship Leaders**

Guest Minister: Rev. David Houdeschell  
Assisting Minister: Beth Heller  
Acolyte: Ben Keith  
Accompanist: Susan Kaschak  
Audio/Visual Technicians: John Rhodes and  
Chris Thompson  
Chancel Guild: Linda Smith & Corlene Coulter  
Reader: Laura Thompson  
Trustees: Randy Elsass & Brian Milek  
Flowers By: George and Marcia Miller in  
memory of Audrey Miller

### **March 8, 2026 Worship Leaders**

Guest Minister: Rev. Bob Sander  
Assisting Minister: Jim Fidler  
Acolyte: Maggie McCormick  
Accompanist: Susan Kaschak  
Audio/Visual Technicians: John Rhodes and  
Chris Thompson  
Chancel Guild: Sally Bunyan and Jayne Schrader  
Reader: Brian Milek  
Trustees: John Long and Brian Milek  
Flowers By: