



## **Our Savior's Lutheran Church – Cleveland, MN**

**Third Sunday of Lent**

March 08, 2026

*We are called to let our light shine as instruments of the Holy Spirit so all may know God's love.*



### **Scarce Abundance**

by Hannah Garrity

Inspired by Mark 6:32-44

18"x18" Paper lace with watercolor

**The Good News is...** *together the impossible is possible!*

*(To view a larger, hi-res image, click [here](#) or on the photo.)*

## Call to Worship

If you need good news,  
**settle into this space. We have good news to share.**

If you need a word of hope,  
**then trust us when we say, there is hope enough to go around.**

If you need a glimmer of joy,  
**then you're in luck! We have resilient joy abounding.**

If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,  
**then know that this is God's house.**

This is the good news of the gospel.

**God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move. Let us worship our with-us God!**

## Confession & Forgiveness

Friends, we are like the disciples.

The day that Jesus fed 5,000, his disciples could not imagine a solution to the crowd's hunger. They told Jesus to send the crowds away.

We often do the same.

Like the disciples, we try to follow Jesus around, but when we run into issues, we often cannot imagine how we could play a part.

That is why we need the Prayer of Confession.

For in this prayer, we remember that we can make a difference.

So friends, join me in this moment of truth telling.

Let us pray:

**Holy God, with you the impossible is possible. 5,000 can be fed. The blind can see. The hopeless can find hope. With you the impossible is possible, but we are quick to forget that. We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done. We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd. We forget that you are always with us. Forgive our small-minded ways. Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come. But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, Amen.**

God's grace is wild and unruly. God's mercy is abundant and surprising.

God's love is expansive and unending. So if you ask, "Holy One, am I forgiven?" the answer is and always will be:

**yes, yes, yes.**

This is the good news of the gospel.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

1. Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there, where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer. Oh, how blessed is this place filled with solace, light, and grace!
2. Gracious God, I come before thee; come thou also unto me; where we find thee and adore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, oh, enter thou, let it be thy temple now!
3. Here thy praise is gladly chanted, here thy seed is duly sown; let my soul, here it is planted, bring forth precious sheaves alone, so that all i hear may be fruitful unto life in me.
4. Thou my faith increase and quicken, let me keep thy gift divine; howsoe'er temptations thicken, may thy word still o'er me shine as my guiding star through life, as my comfort in all strife.
5. Speak, O God, and i will hear thee, let thy will be done indeed; may i undisturbed draw near thee while thou dost thy people feed. Here of life the fountain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

### Greeting

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

### Prayer of the Day

Holy God, we could press our ear to the page, hoping to hear you more clearly. We could silence all the alarms and notifications, hoping to catch a murmur of your voice. We could still our beating hearts, and still we might miss your voice. So today we pray, open up space in our hearts, in our spirits, in our minds, to feel your presence among us. With you, anything is possible. We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.

### First Reading – Ephesians 3:30-21

Response: Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 95 *Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**

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

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

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

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

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!**

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

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

Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, ‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.’

**Indeed I swore in my anger, ‘They shall never come to my rest.’ ”**

**Gospel – Mark 6:32-44** *Feeding of the 5,000*

Before: The holy Gospel according to . . . **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After: The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children’s Message**

**Message**

Pastor Liz Rossing

**Hymn of the Day**

“We All Are One in Mission”

Red #576

1. We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all. A single great commission compels us from above to plan and work together that all may know Christ’s love.
2. We all are called for service, to witness in God’s name. Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same: to touch the lives of others with God’s surprising grace, so every folk and nation may feel God’s warm embrace.
3. Now let us be united, and let our song be heard. Now let us be a vessel for God’s redeeming Word. We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

**Affirmation of Faith**

**I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. It sounds like welcome and feels like home. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table, so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. I have seen it alive in the world.**

**And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage, even when mercy feels out of reach, I remember the one who welcomed the children and led with nonviolence. I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable and inspired those around him. I remember that the good news really is good news, for I have seen it alive in the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

God of love, hear our prayers.

**Offering & Giving Prayer**

God of majesty, **no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed**

us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### 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.**

### Announcements

### Blessing

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 us now and always. **Amen.**

### Closing Hymn

“Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross”

Red #335

1 Jesus, keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain;  
free to all, a healing stream flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

### *Refrain*

In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever;  
till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

2 Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;  
there the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me.

### *Refrain*

3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;  
help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me.

### *Refrain*

4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,  
till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river.

### *Refrain*

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news. **Thanks be to God.**