



# LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Lent Service*  
*March 13, 2025*



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS  
[www.duluth.lutheran.org](http://www.duluth.lutheran.org)

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## Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

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### WELCOME

We are glad that you have chosen to spend time with us in worship. In our worship, we gather, before Jesus, our Good Shepherd, to offer him our love and praise. Our Lord builds us up in faith through his Word and equips us for living now and in eternity. Our prayer is that the good news of Christ's love touches your heart and transforms your life. Whether you're worshipping with us here today or watching online, we are happy you have joined us.

### WORSHIP SERVICE

The goal of our worship is to praise God and enrich your faith through his Word. To make your experience today easier, the worship folder you're holding has the entire order of service. The pieces marked [P] are spoken by the pastor, and the parts marked [C] are to be spoken or sung by the congregation. If you prefer to use a physical hymnal or wish to see the songs in four-part harmony, there are hymnals available in the pew stands.

### FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Our congregation enjoys the "worshiping family." Each service includes a children's message which teaches God's truth to your kids. Parents with small children are an essential part of God's kingdom. That's why children are never considered an inconvenience to our worship. We also want your family to be comfortable. There is a cry room outside the main doors to the right if you need a moment.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Call Meeting Update:** On March 6th we extended a call to Pastor Doug Van Sice from Huntersville, NC. Please keep Pastor Van Sice, his family, and congregation in your prayers as he deliberates where to serve the Lord in His Kingdom.

**Tone Chime Choir:** Both the 3rd-6th grade and 7-12th grade tone chime choirs will be playing during the service this **Sunday, March 16th**. The 7-12th graders are asked to meet in the balcony at **1:30pm** to rehearse, and the 3rd-6th graders at **1:40pm**.

### Women's Book Group Updates:

- **Current Book:** We will meet at church on **Monday, March 31st at 6pm** to share a meal and review the book "Elijah: Faith and Fire" by Priscilla Shirer.
- **Upcoming Book:** Please join us starting **April 7th** as we read Amber Albee Swenson's newest book "Seeking a Gentle and Quiet Spirit in a Harsh and Noisy World", a 12 lesson women's Bible study book based on 1 Peter 3. There will be a book club meeting on **Thursday, July 10th**. You can find the book on Amazon or scan the QR code to learn more about it and order your copy. Please email Kely Dunsmoor ([kjdunsmoor@gmail.com](mailto:kjdunsmoor@gmail.com)) if you plan to join.



**New Hymnal Practice:** If anyone would like to continue practicing the liturgy from the new hymnals, we will continue to meet on Sunday afternoons at 1:00 before service. Please speak with Laura Metcalf if you have any questions.

*For more announcements and event information, visit the church website at [www.dulutheran.org/events](http://www.dulutheran.org/events) or sign up for our weekly email at [www.dulutheran.org/subscribe](http://www.dulutheran.org/subscribe). You can also view the church calendar at [www.dulutheran.org/church-calendar](http://www.dulutheran.org/church-calendar).*

## INVOCATION

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: **Who made heaven and earth.**

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, during the days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God.

The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.

As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle.

## CONFESSION: Before You, God, the Judge of All

CW 655 sts. 1-2



1 Be - fore you, God, the judge of all, with grief and shame I  
2 O Lord, my God, to you I pray: O cast me not in



hum - bly fall. I see my sins a - gainst you, Lord,  
wrath a - way! Let your good Spir - it ne'er de - part,



my sins of thought and deed and word. They press me  
but let him draw to you my heart that tru - ly



sore; to you I flee: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
pen - i - tent I be: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!

## ABSOLUTION

P: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

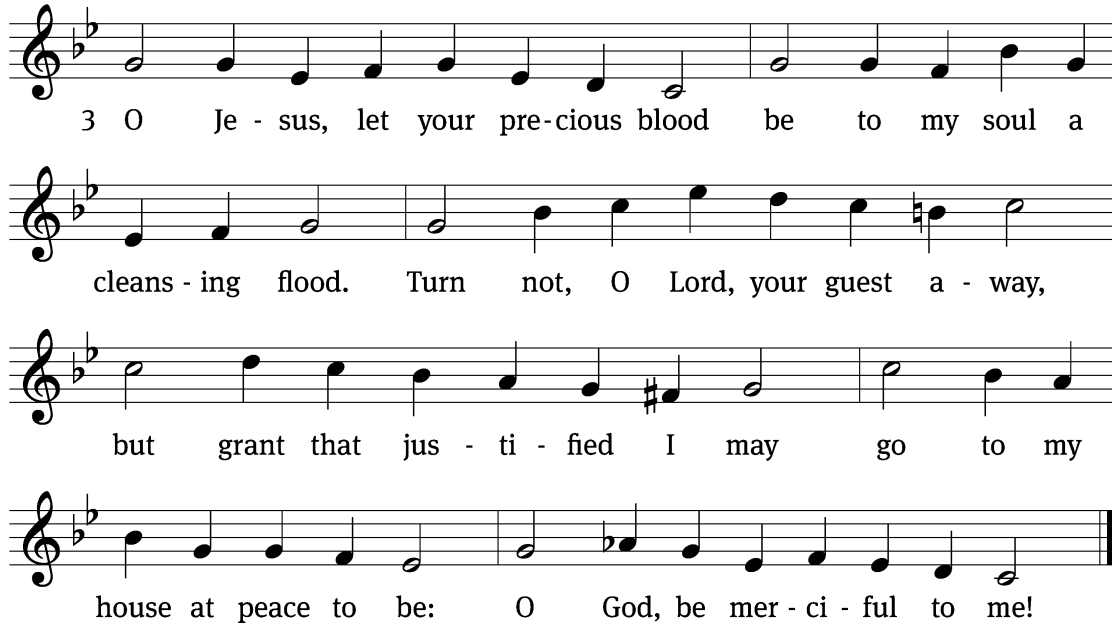
During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## RESPONSE: Before You, God, the Judge of All

CW 655 st. 3



3 O Je - sus, let your pre - cious blood be to my soul a  
cleans - ing flood. Turn not, O Lord, your guest a - way,  
but grant that jus - ti - fied I may go to my  
house at peace to be: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!

## PRAYER

P: Almighty and merciful God, you never despise what you have made and always forgive those who turn to you. Create in us such new and contrite hearts that we may truly repent of our sins and obtain your full and gracious pardon; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Be seated*

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

*from the Small Catechism*

P: The First Commandment: You shall have no other gods.  
*What does this mean?*

C: We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

## ✠ READINGS FROM GOD'S WORD ✠

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## PASSION READING

*Isaiah 44:6–11*

### The LORD Confronts Idols

<sup>6</sup>This is what the LORD, the King of Israel, Israel's Redeemer, the LORD of Armies, says.  
I am the first, and I am the last. Except for me there is no god. <sup>7</sup>For who is like me? Let him declare it.  
Let him recite in order for me the things that took place since the time I established an ancient people.  
Or let them declare what is yet to come, and what is going to take place.

<sup>8</sup>Do not tremble, and do not be frightened. Did I not announce this to you, and declare it already long ago? You are my witnesses. Is there any god except me? There is no other Rock. I am not aware of any other.

<sup>9</sup>All those who form an idol are good for nothing. All the things which delight them provide no benefit. As for their witnesses—they do not see. They know nothing, so they will be ashamed.

<sup>10</sup>Who is this who forms a god or casts a metal image that can provide no profit? <sup>11</sup>Look at him! All his associates will be ashamed. The craftsmen are merely men. Let them all gather themselves and take a stand. They will be terrified and ashamed together.

## HYMN: Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing

CW 400



1 Sweet the mo - ments, rich in bless - ing, which be -  
2 Here we rest in won - der, view - ing all our  
3 Here we find the dawn of heav - en while up -  
4 Oh, that, near the cross a - bid - ing, we may  
5 Lord, in lov - ing con - tem - pla - tion fix our



fore the cross we spend, life and health and  
sins on Je - sus laid; here we see re -  
on the cross we gaze, see our tres - pass -  
to the Sav - ior cleave, naught with him our  
hearts and eyes on you till we taste your



peace pos - sess - ing from the sin - ner's dy - ing friend.  
demp - tion flow - ing from the sac - ri - fice he made.  
es for - giv - en, and our songs of tri - umph raise.  
hearts di - vid - ing, all for him con - tent to leave!  
full sal - va - tion and your un - veiled glo - ry view.

## ✠ THE MESSAGE ✠

### Lord, Have Mercy

*Isaiah 44:6-11*

## SONG OF MARY

CW 220



My soul pro - claims the great - ness of the Lord; my spir - it re -



joic - es in God my Sav - ior, for he has looked with fa - vor



on his low - ly ser - vant. From this day all gen - er - a - tions  
will call me bless - ed. The Al - might - y has done great  
things for me, and ho - ly is his name. He has mer - cy on  
those who fear him in ev - 'ry gen - er - a - tion.  
He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat - tered the  
proud in their con - ceit. He has cast down the might - y  
from their thrones and has lift - ed up the low - ly.  
He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich  
he has sent a - way emp - ty. He has come to the  
help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has re - mem - bered his  
prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise made to our fa - thers,  
to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

## WORSHIPING THE LORD WITH OUR OFFERINGS



Members of Shepherd of the Hills respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully and freely according to how the Lord has blessed them. If you are a guest today, please know that there are no expectations for you to make a donation. If you wish to support us by making an online offering, scan the QR code here or visit our website: [www.duluthlutheran.org](http://www.duluthlutheran.org) and click on the "GIVE" tab.

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the leaders of our synod and district, for all pastors in Christ, for all who are servants of the Church, and for all the people of God, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all who govern our nation and for all public servants, that they may be upheld and strengthened for every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Silence for individual prayer.*

P: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our Lord:

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

## 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.

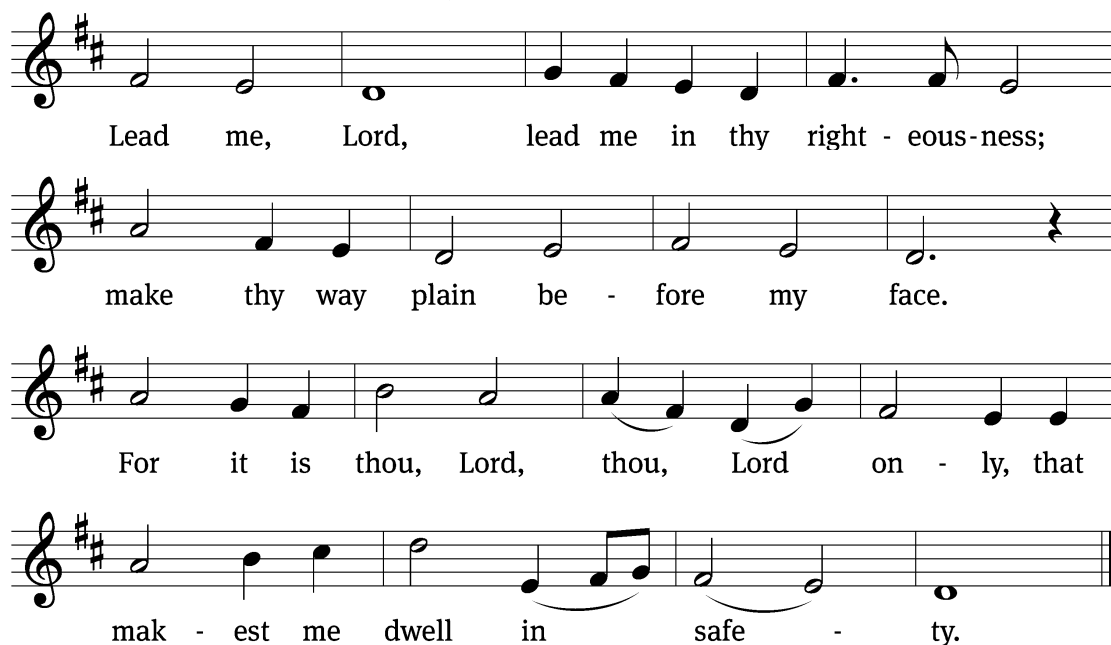
## BLESSING

P: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN: Lead Me, Lord

CW 926



Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy right - eous - ness;  
make thy way plain be - fore my face.  
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord on - ly, that  
mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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