



Risen Christ Lutheran Church

4th Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026 9:30am

REMEMBER, YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER HIS SANCTURARY, PLEASE SIT QUIETLY, PRAY, AND READ THROUGH THIS WORSHIP FOLDER TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170
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ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe that the Lord’s Supper is not symbolic. We believe what Jesus Himself said: that His body and blood are truly present in this, His meal that He instituted for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above and you are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and you have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to the Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Grape Juice is in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world through your here! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Everyone please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. For Guests, Pastor will send you a welcome card and please indicate that you “desire” a call for any further contact.

Large Print Bulletins – Available from an usher.

Listening Assistance Devices – Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby (“Narthex”)

For Children – Children’s Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

As We Gather – Some of the central people in the Gospel narratives we get to know by name; others we do not. Although the man born blind is a major person in John 9, we never learn what his name might be. We meet his parents and his neighbors and we meet the Pharisees to whom he tells the story of the miraculous restoration of his sight. Although we do not learn his name, Jesus said of the man born blind that the works of God were displayed in him. As the One brightening our lives with the light of salvation, Jesus brings a new vision to our lives—an eternal vision of life with God that never ends. God knows our names. He directs the cross currents of our daily lives. In His light we see light—and that is what matters!

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Opening Sentences

Psalm 119:33–35, 40–41

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes; and I will keep it to the end.

C **Give me understanding, that I may keep Your law and observe it with my whole heart.**

P Lead me in the path of Your commandments, for I delight in it.

C **Behold, I long for Your precepts; in Your righteousness give me life!**

Let Your steadfast love come to me, O LORD, Your salvation according to Your promise.

Way Maker

You are here moving in our midst
I worship You I worship You
You are here working in this place
I worship You I worship You

***CHORUS: (You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise Keeper
Light in the darkness my God that is who You are***

You are here touching ev'ry heart
I worship You I worship You
You are here healing ev'ry heart
I worship You I worship You

You are here turning lives around
I worship You I worship You
You are here mending ev'ry heart
I worship You yeah I worship You Lord

CHORUS

TAG: That is who You are
That is who You are
That is who You are
That is who You are

BRIDGE: Even when I don't see
it You're working
Even when I don't feel it You're working
You never stop You never stop working
You never stop You never stop working ***CHORUS***

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Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us make confession of our sins to God, our gracious, heavenly Father.
- C** **Eternal God, we confess that we all have sinned and need forgiveness. By nature, we are sinful from the very beginnings of our lives. Through our thoughts, words, and deeds, we continually sin against You. We have lived for ourselves in many ways, breaking Your commands that direct us not to lie, steal, or transgress Your holy will. We have walked in the darkness of bad choices and have left unfulfilled opportunities to do good and be blessings to others. O God, in Your mercy forgive our sin and free us from selfishness and indifference, that we may joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your commandments. Graciously forgive our sins and direct us in ways of compassion and love.**
- P** God promises to hear those who turn to Him with repentant hearts. Upon this your confession, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in † peace. **C Amen.**

Introit

Psalm 27:4–6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15

- C My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He will pluck my feet out of the net.**

- I *One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His temple.*
- II *For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high upon a rock.*
- I *And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;*
- II *I will sing and make melody to the Lord.*
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He will pluck my feet out of the net.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:14–21

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools.

¹⁶And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them.

I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods."

¹⁸Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see!

¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD?

²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 142; antiphon: v. 5

P I cry to You, O LORD; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."

C **With my voice I cry out to the LORD; with my voice I plead for mercy to the LORD.**

I *I pour out my complaint before Him; I tell my trouble before Him.*

II *When my spirit faints within me, You know my way! In the path where I walk they have hidden a trap for me.*

- I *Look to the right and see: there is none who takes notice of me; no refuge remains to me; no one cares for my soul.*
 - II *I cry to You, O LORD; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."*
 - I *Attend to my cry, for I am brought very low! Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me!*
 - II *Bring me out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name! The righteous will surround me, for You will deal bountifully with me.*
- G I cry to You, O LORD; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."**

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8–14

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,
 "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

- L This is the Word of the Lord. **G Thanks be to God.**

Apostles' Creed

- G I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
 And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Gradual and Verse

Psalms 36:9, Hebrews. 12:2

- G With You is the fountain of life; in Your light do we see light.**
- I *O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith,*
 - II *who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*
- G With You is the fountain of life; in Your light do we see light.**

Holy Gospel

John 9:1–41

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter. **G Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.



ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to or - der
 fu - ture as He has the past. Your hope, your con - fi - dence let
 dark - ened in this vale of tears; Then you will bet - ter know His
 be for - ev - er with the Lord, When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and



and pro - vide; In ev - 'ry change He faith - ful will re -
 noth - ing shake; All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at
 love, His heart, Who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your
 fear are gone, Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re -



main. Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly Friend
 last. Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
 fears. Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
 stored. Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
 From His own full - ness all He takes a - way.
 All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

Sermon – “Walking as ‘Children of Light’” based on Ephesians 5:8–14

1. To walk as children of light means walking in what is good.
2. To walk as children of light means walking in what is right.
3. To walk as children of light means walking in what is true.

Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at www.RisenChrist.info – Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a Worship Card so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

Prayer of the Church

P Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

MEN – May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil’s kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

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.**

How Great Is Our God

The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice
He wraps himself in Light
and darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice, trembles at His voice

Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end
The Godhead Three in One, Father Spirit Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb

CHORUS

**CHORUS: How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God**

**BRIDGE: Name above all names,
worthy of our praise
My heart will sing how great is our God **CHORUS****

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Benediction

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