



*We celebrate faith by:*

*ROOTING our lives in a relationship with our God.*

*REJOICING in the gifts of life and love our God graciously offers.*

*REACHING out to our world with God's healing and hope!*

# ***HOUSE OF PRAYER***

***Evangelical Lutheran Church***

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## ***MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP***

**March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 6:00 PM**



***Pastor: Rev. Joel Samuelson***  
***Minister of Discipleship: Michelle Hintz***  
***Vocalist/Pianist Accompanist: Krisha Fuller***

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**Every Wednesday, 6:00 PM: March 1<sup>st</sup> to March 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Tonight's Theme: "The Prodigal Son"**

**NEXT WEEK: "The Blind Man"**

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** **Amen.**

**L:** O Lord, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath.

**ALL:** **Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled.**

**L:** My soul also is greatly troubled. But you, O Lord—how long?

**ALL:** **Turn, O Lord, deliver my life; save me for the sake of your steadfast love.**

**L:** Depart from me, all you workers of evil, for the Lord has heard the sound of my weeping.

**ALL:** **The Lord has heard my plea; the Lord accepts my prayer.**

### **OPENING SONG**

***“Bind Us Together”***

***“Gratitude”***

***Grey #140***

***(See Overhead)***

## **WE CONFESS OUR SIN**

*(Please be seated as we prepare ourselves for confession through silence and prayerful reflection.)*

**L:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL:** **AMEN.**

**L:** A son received a generous inheritance but wasted it all in sinful living. He acknowledged his sin and returned in humble repentance, seeking his father’s mercy. Our gracious heavenly Father has given us so much, but we too have misused his gifts and wasted what we have received. Humbly repenting of our sins, we ask his forgiveness.

**ALL:** **Heavenly Father, we confess that we are not always thankful for the gifts we have received, the gifts of family, home, work and friends. Daily we choose to follow paths that may lead us away from you, the pathways of our own desires. We turn away from your will and your Word. Have mercy on us and forgive us for the sake of Jesus, who took up the path of the cross for us.**

**L:** The father welcomed his wayward son and celebrated his return, saying, “My son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.” God our heavenly Father has had mercy on us, showering us with his grace through Jesus, who suffered the penalty of death for our sins. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: AMEN.**

### **CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE**

***“Think About His Love”  
“Greater Still”***

***Grey #50 (Repeat)  
(See Overhead)***

### **CHILDREN’S SERMON**

#### ***WORD***

*God speaks to us through Scripture, Preaching, and Song.*

**FIRST READING:**

**Ephesians 2:1-10**

**GOSPEL READING**

**Luke 15:11-32**



***Tonight’s Message:***

***“The Prodigal Son”***

***Minister of Discipleship Michelle Hintz***

#### ***THANKSGIVING***

*We respond with gratitude for God’s gracious gifts.*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**Apostles’ Creed**

*(See Overhead)*

**OFFERING MOMENT**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

*(See Overhead)*

#### ***SENDING***

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **CLOSING HYMN**

***“Amazing Grace”***

*(See Overhead)*

## **DISMISSAL**

**L:** For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

**ALL: For we are created in Christ Jesus for good works.**

**L:** Go in peace to serve God! Be of good courage and hold fast to that which is good!

**ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

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***PLAN TO JOIN US EVERY WEDNESDAY!***

**IN NEED OF HEALING – Ron & Donna Wilkinson, Birdie Fode, Alice Neuberger, Ellen Bartz, Judy Zhorela, Gerald Johnson, Sidney Weigel, Darlene Frieze, Doris Lowe, Lori LaCoe, Lou Ann Heinle, Sally Weisgram, Vic Huber, Julie Schepp**

**CANCER CARE – Gary Dietz, Marty Well, Colby, Arlene Walch, Christine Raulston, Arlene (Stephanie Luebke’s Mom), Ray Huber, Dick Olson, Hillary Groseclose, Ron Schepp, George Frye, David, Ray Seifert, Carmen Ruud, Wanda**

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Join us for our Amazing Grace Lenten series based on the beloved song that celebrates its 250th anniversary this year. We experience the amazing grace of God in confession and forgiveness this Lent as we look toward the cross of Christ that made our freedom from sin possible.

Join us every Wednesday during Lent for this series!

**March 15th**-The Blind Man

**March 22nd**-The Woman at the Well

**March 29th**-Paul

### **Holy Week Services**

April 6th, 6:30p-Maundy Thursday service, First Communion for 5th graders

April 7th, 6:30p-Good Friday service

April 9th, 6:30am, 8:00am, 10:00am Easter services