



## March 4, 2026 Lenten Worship 2<sup>nd</sup> Week in Lent

### PRELUDE / BELLS

#### GATHERING

*\*STAND AS ABLE*

#### **\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Tell me something good!

**God loves you more than you could imagine.**

Tell me something good!

**God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.**

Tell me something good!

**God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are not alone.**

This is good news indeed!

**Let us worship our compassionate God.**

#### **\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

Family of faith,

we long to love others as God loves us,

but that work is easier said than done.

We lose our way.

We become distracted.

We grow fearful.

We need God's grace.

Fortunately for us, God's grace is freely and abundantly given.

So join me in the Prayer of Confession.

Join me in being transformed.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, did we see you hungry and give you something to eat?

Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink?

Did we see you alone and offer you compassion?

Or did we cross the street?

Did we avert our eyes?

Did we come up with every excuse in the book?

God, we long to be people who love our neighbors  
with the same overwhelming love that you have for them.

But we must admit, we have a long way to go.

Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear  
get in the way of love. Wash us clean and give us the courage to try  
again.

With hope for a better tomorrow we pray. Amen.

**\*WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

Faith family,

even when we act with judgment,

even when we are guided by fear,

even when we turn our back on a neighbor in need,

God does not turn God's back on us.

So join me in this good-news declaration:

**We are seen.**

**We are forgiven.**

**We are invited to try again.**

**Thanks be to God for this unending love.**

**\*GATHERING SONG** *Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory (ELW #561)*

**\*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Good news God,

Speak louder than the news updates.

Speak louder than our mental distractions.

Speak louder than our anger and louder than our fear.

God, speak loudly to us today,

because we long to hear your good news once more.

With hope we pray. **Amen.**

**READING: Luke 7:36-50**

**DINNER AT SIMON'S HOUSE – CONFIRMATION SKIT**

**HOMILY**



**See You**

by T. Denise Anderson

Inspired by Matthew 25:35-40

**Look**

*Contemplate the paint drips in the artwork. What meaning or feelings do the words convey to you?*

**\*AN 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.

**OFFERING**

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

## **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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**

## **\*BENEDICTION**

As you leave this place, when you meet anger, speak with love.  
When you meet fear, speak with hope.  
When you meet pain, speak with gentleness.  
But no matter what, speak this good news.  
For the good news of the gospel is love and justice for all.  
It is joy that surprises, and nonviolence that transforms.  
The good news of the gospel is alive in the world, so go forth speaking.  
For if you won't, then who will?  
Thanks be to God for this good, good news.  
**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG** *Now Our Day is Over (ELW #570)*

## **\*DISMISSAL**

The good news is...Great love for God and neighbor!  
**Thanks be to God!**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Words for worship for Lent-Easter  
Written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed*

*Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*