

Midweek Worship: Letting Go

March 25, 2026; 7 p.m.



St John's
Lutheran Church

Prelude

(Acolytes light the candles)

Linda Ranney

Call to Worship *(please stand)*

God, this is the creation you love.

**You speak stars into being
and make us family with every created thing.**

God, these are the people you love.

**You follow us out of the garden
and never fail us on our journey.**

God, this is the church you love.

**You teach us the way of loving kindness
and lead us with mercy.**

Send your Spirit among us, O God.

**Speak to us now through the wonders of creation
and the actions of our neighbors
and the meditations of our hearts.**

Gathering Hymn

ELW #757; *All My Hope on God is Founded* vs. 1-2

- 1 All my hope on God is founded
who will all my trust renew,
who through change and chance will guide me,
only good and only true.
God unknown, God alone,
call my heart to be thine own.
- 2 Mortal pride and earthly glory,

sword and crown betray our trust;
what with care and toil we fashion,
tow'r and temple, fall to dust.
But thy pow'r, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tow'r.

Prayer

Let us pray. God of limitless care, **you weave yourself between every thread of our lives' fabric. You dwell deeply in joy and pain, suffering and hope, loss and love. Immanent One, come to us now. Surface all around in the ordinary material of our congregation and our community. Draw us into deeper connections with our neighbors and with one another, for every part of creation reflects a facet of your face. Amen.**

Scripture: John 11:18-27

A reading from John.

¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Dick Freitag

Hymn

ELW #785; *When Peace like a River* vs. 1, 3, 4

Offering *(please sit)*

(Ushers collect offering and bring forward to Pastor.)

Linda Ranney

Prayers of the People

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

(Confirmation students will offer prayers)

Petition:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of infinite love, cradle all for whom we pray in the palm of your hand in the name of Jesus, who pours himself out for the whole world's sake.

Amen.

Candle Prayer

(Assembly is invited to light a candle and pray at the sand bowls.)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing *(please stand)*

The fullness of God's love
floods into every corner of our existence.
God blesses the works of our minds and bodies,
the words of our hands and lips,
the reflections of our hearts,
that all we say and pray and do

will reflect God's deep care.

God blesses you with creativity and renewal.
Christ blesses you with wisdom and courage.
The Spirit blesses you with insight and transformation,
here and now
and in every place and time.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

(Acolytes extinguish the candles)

ELW #757; *All My Hope on God Is Founded* vs. 3-4

- 3 Great thy goodness, e'er enduring;
 deep thy wisdom, passing thought;
 splendor, light, and life attend thee,
 beauty springing out of naught.
 Evermore from thy store
 newborn worlds rise and adore.
- 4 Still from earth to God eternal
 sacrifice of praise be done,
 high above all praises praising
 for the gift of God's own Son.
 Christ doth call one and all:
 ye who follow shall not fall.

Sending

Depart now in peace
to find Christ in your neighbor.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Linda Ranney

Serving at Worship Today

Pastor
Ushers

Pastor Christine Emerson
6th & 7th grade

Greeters	6 th & 7 th grade
Media & Streaming	Lydia Elko
Screen Operator	Lydia Elko
Musicians	Linda Ranney, piano/organ; Mark Lundin, Director of Music
Message	Dick Freitag

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