



*The Congregations of  
First English Lutheran Church  
And Zion Lutheran Parish  
Welcome You to Worship  
Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett ~ 605-237-1501*

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## **Journey to the Cross**

*Lent Week 3 ~ March 11, 2026 ~ 6:00 pm*

**(congregation reads what is written in bold)**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

As we step away from the distractions of our everyday life tonight... our journey takes us on a path to discover what it means to be a disciple, filled with Living Water. Our worship does not depend on a location or a building, but on our faith and listening to the teachings of Jesus.

Through Jesus, we find our family, those who believe and do God's will. That means it is more important to forgive others and love those who have sinned against us, as Jesus died for our forgiveness. The gift of grace is more important than our being right or seeking pain or revenge on others.

Our worship is to be in spirit and truth, which comes from a sincere heart with truth. A passionate heart is not one that is aggressive but full of love that serves the other as Jesus did. On our journey to the cross, we learn to be compassionate and accepting of all people... for God loves all, even the sinner... of whom we are also.

Our focus tonight is to be filled with "living water" as a witness for God and His love for us...

### **Call to Worship**

L: We've come to worship God,

**C: who makes streams flow from rock,  
who turns the parched earth into springs of water,  
who sends the rain from heaven  
and makes the wilderness blossom and flourish.**

L: As the deer thirsts for flowing streams, so we thirst for You, O God.

**C: Come, let's worship our life-giving God,  
who pours out living water on all who thirst.**

**1. Jesus, keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain; free to all, a healing stream flows from Calv'ry's mountain.**

(Refrain): **In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever; till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.**

**4. Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever, till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river. (Refrain)**

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915. Music: William H. Doane, 1832-1915.

### **Greeting**

P: The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

### **Opening Prayer**

God of our hearts...here we are! We've come with thirsty hearts, praying that your Word will satisfy us. We come with aching hearts, praying for good news to comfort us. We come with overflowing hearts, praying for a chance to share your love. You, who know our hearts and hear our prayers, be with us now in this hour of worship. **C: Amen.**

### **Scripture Reading**

First Lesson: Exodus 17:1-7

OT pg. 49

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95

ELW Psalm 95

L: <sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**C: <sup>2</sup> Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

L: <sup>3</sup> For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

**C: <sup>4</sup> In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

L: <sup>5</sup> The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

**C: <sup>6</sup> Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

L: <sup>7</sup> For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

**C: <sup>8</sup> "Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

L: <sup>9</sup> There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

**C: <sup>10</sup> Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, 'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'**

L: <sup>11</sup> Indeed I swore in my anger, 'They shall never come to my rest.' "

Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42

NT pg. 72-73

P: The Holy Gospel according to...**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Holy Conversations – Lent 3**

*Instructions*

**Conversation by James and John**

**Engage with 3 questions:**

**Conversation by Woman at the Well**

**Engage with 3 questions:**

### **Time of Meditation**

### **We Will Now Have Our Offering**

*(Lenten Offerings are designated to local Water's Edge Scholarships)*

### **Offering Prayer for Lent**

L: God of the wilderness, We give these offerings in gratitude,

**C: rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us.**

L: We give these offerings in faith,

**C: trusting that you will provide for our needs.**

L: We give these offerings in hope,

**C: knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world.**

L: And with these offerings, we give ourselves;

**C: May we live with generous hearts, with open hands. Amen.**

Song of Response 'How Good, Lord, to be here' vs. 1, 2, & 5 #315

**1. How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night; your face and garments, like the sun, shine with unborrowed light.**

**2. How good, Lord, to be here! Your beauty to behold where Moses and Elijah stand, your messengers of old.**

**5. How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain; but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.**

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt. Music: W. Mercer, The Church Psalter and Hymn Book, 1854.

## Prayers of Intercession

P: O healing river, **C: pour down Your waters, and heal Your people.**

P: We pray for those in the....draw from this eternal water. **C: Amen.**

P: In the name of Jesus Christ—the source of living water—we pray.

**C: Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

pg. 208

**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: Go now from this service of worship to the service of God's people near and far, refreshed by the living water that Jesus offers to you. Listen for the parched voices of the least of these; search out the dry places and the arid souls, and become for them a spring of living water. And as you go, may the blessings of the God of life, the Christ of love, and the Spirit of grace be upon you this day and forevermore.

**C: Amen.**

## Sending Song

'Jesus, Still Lead On' vs. 1 - 2

#624

**1. Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, although the way be cheerless, we will follow, calm and fearless; guide us by your hand to the promised land.**

**2. If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faithless fears o'ertake us, let not faith and hope forsake us; safely past the foe to our home we go.**

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700-1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897, alt. Music: Adam Drese, 1620-1701.

## Dismissal

P: Go in peace, and journey with Christ. **C: We Will. Thanks be to God.**

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### **This Week's Ministry Assistants — Lent 6 pm FELC March 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Organist:** Amy Adelman

Confirmation Students

**Tech Desk:** Liz Ketz & Bryson Karels