

# Hollywood Lutheran Church

Third Sunday in Lent  
Sunday, March 23, 2025



## **INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!



# Welcome To Worship

**Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to offer God’s Word of Love, Grace, Mercy, and Justice to our homes, congregation, city, and all creation.**

### **Welcome**

### **Music**

We are delighted you have come to worship. Relax, sing, and center yourself. Let the congregation and this bulletin guide you and follow along as you can. Join us after the service for refreshments. We look forward to meeting you. **Mask: we ask that if you aren’t feeling well or have a cold or cough, please wear a mask. It takes a little effort from everyone to stay safe and healthy.**

If you don’t know a song, sing along as you can, and don’t worry about getting it right. Just praise.

### **Children are Welcomed Here**

### **Visitor**

Children enrich our worship experience. The sounds of crying, laughing, and talking are welcome in our church; these sounds are a true gift and remind us of God’s presence. Children may find crayons and coloring sheets helpful during worship; you can find some in our narthex.

Please complete the attendance card located in the pew. You may also include prayer requests, concerns, and other information you want the church to know. If you are interested in meeting with the pastor, learning more about our community, or becoming a member, please make a note on the card.

### **Holy Communion**

The congregation will celebrate Holy Communion this morning. All are welcome, no matter their background. Wine, grape juice, and gluten-free bread are offered at the table.

*Join us after the service for refreshments in Hoick Hall. We look forward to meeting you.*

---

## **PRELUDE**

Michael Anderson

*The congregation is invited to stand as they can or feel comfortable.*

## **Welcome, This Morning Worship Service Begins With**

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

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **In Today’s Liturgy**

- Minister:** Pastor Marc Mohr
- Assistant Minister:** Bill Richards
- Lector:** Karla Richards
- Organist:** Michael Anderson
- Cantor:** Phyllis Lundine

---

Plants and Flowers are given to the glory of God

## GATHERING SONG

*Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me (ELW 755)*



1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me o - ver  
2 As a moth - er stills her child, thou canst  
3 When at last I near the shore, and the



life's tem - pes - tuous sea; un - known waves be - fore me  
hush the o - cean wild; bois - t'rous waves o - bey thy  
fear - ful break - ers roar twixt me and the peace - ful



roll, hid - ing rock and treach - 'rous shoal; chart and  
will when thou say'st to them: "Be still." Won - drous  
rest, then, while lean - ing on thy breast, may I



com - pass come from thee. Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.  
sov - 'reign of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.  
hear thee say to me: "Fear not, I will pi - lot thee."

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,

and of the + Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

*Now the Feast and Celebration (ELW 167)*

*Refrain*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion  
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;  
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.  
*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-9**

A reading from Isaiah.

*To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.*

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;  
and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.  
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.  
Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.  
I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.  
See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.  
See, you shall call nations that you do not know,  
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.  
Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;  
let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 63:1-8**

*Refrain:* O God, eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you. **R**

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,  
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

**So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name. R**

My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,  
**when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.**

For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

**My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. R**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

*Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.*

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink.

For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### **GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.*

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. Jesus asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**



*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

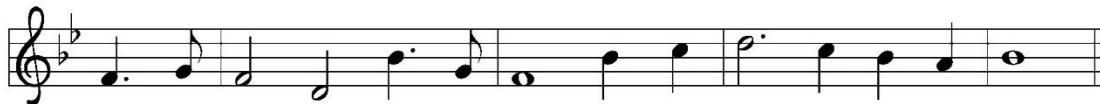
*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me (ELW 623)*



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;  
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Led by the Spirit, let us pray to God for the church, the world, and all those in need.

We pray for the church, and we are called to be a witness to all people. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations so that they may call upon you in making decisions. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for the earth, which is called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries so that all the world may have enough to live. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in need who are called to receive your compassion. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters and human conflict. Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly, which is called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless food pantries, community gardens and kitchens, clean water projects, and all ministries that address human hunger and thirst. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended. May their witness inspire our own. God, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

For what else shall we pray for today? *We invite prayers from the congregation to be shared.*

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

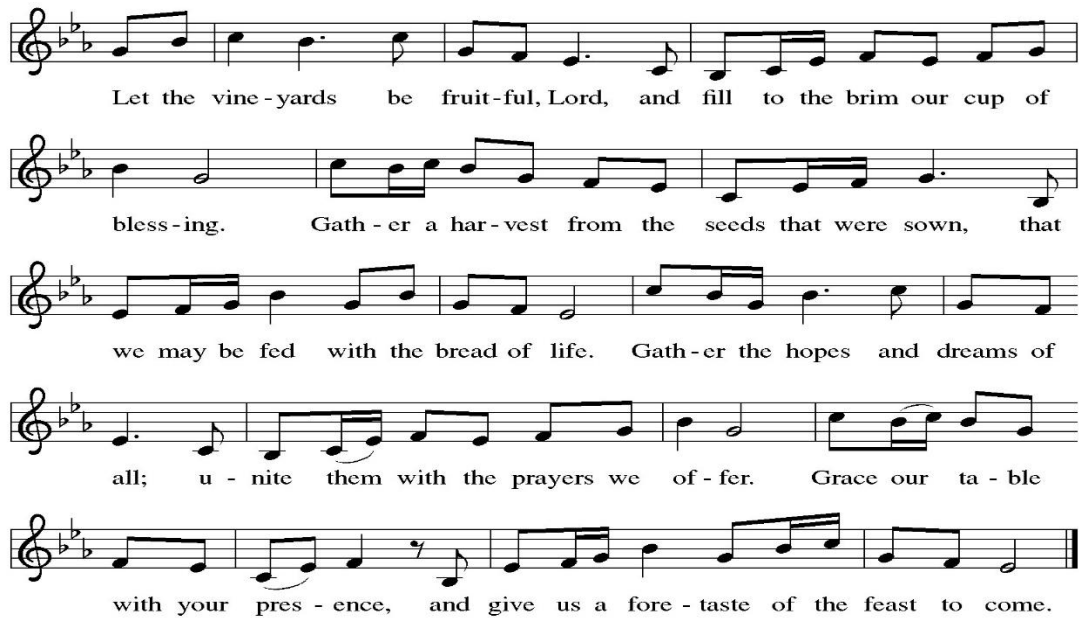
*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

Special Music by Michael Anderson  
*The usher will now pass the offering plate.*



## OFFERING

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

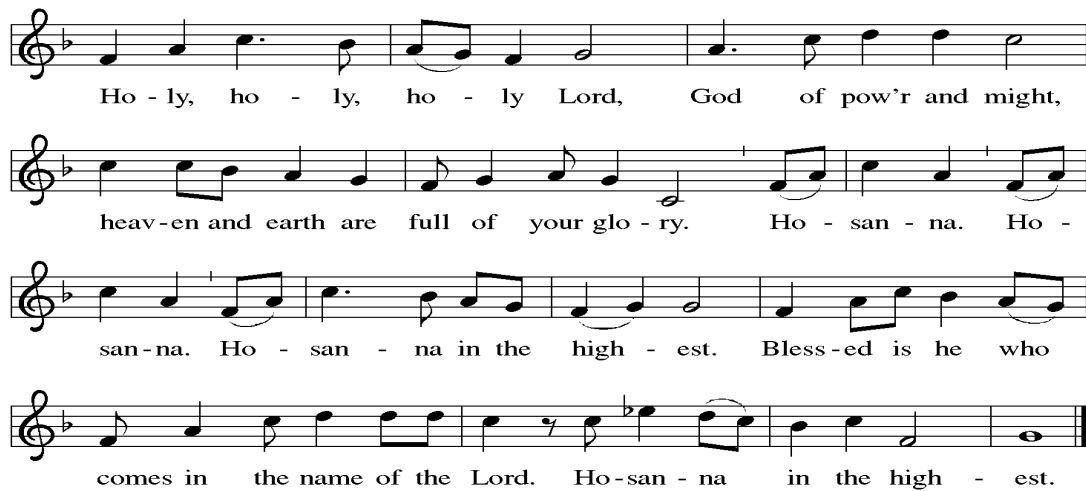
## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

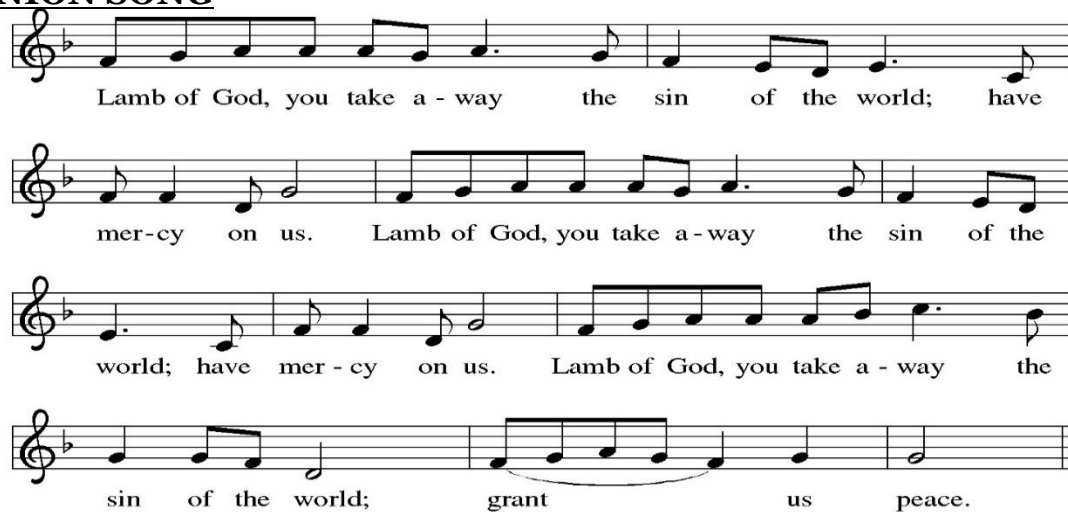
**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,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

"Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are they who are called to His table."

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

## **COMMUNION SONG**



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **SENDING FORTH**

Almighty God, grant that your holy word, which has been proclaimed this day, may enter into our hearts through your grace, that it may produce in us the fruit of the Spirit for witness and service in the world and to the praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord. Amen.

## **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

*Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer (ELW 618)*



1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.  
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**



Please offer your prayers throughout the week for the following individuals:

**Special Prayer:**

God of peace gives leaders of nations the wisdom to choose peace over war and dialogue over conflict.  
Comfort those in fear and caught in the middle of the conflict.

**For healing:**

Phyllis Lundine, Linda Florczyk, Faith Rossman, Paul Hohmann, Walter Cana's

**For wholeness and well-being:**

Deborah An Monahan, David Hart, Thomas Richardson, Esther Olsen, Bill Reid, Emmett Richards, Bill Lortz,  
Roy Stone

**For trust in your mercy:**

Arpik Rostamians, Sherry Bond & Family

**For strength and healing in fighting cancers:**

Sylvia Goulden, Anna Harris, Robin Ardinger,  
Ashlyn (Raoul's niece), Jennifer Yates,  
Will Terry, Jaha Blackwell,  
Sam Gros, Debra Lande, Tim Pugh

**For hopefulness and strength:**

Wayne and Jane King Family.  
For all people in the military who are deployed or serving our country.

**Memorial Candles are lit in memory of:**

Wayne and Jane King, Javier Cruz, and all our past loved ones.

If anyone wants to add or re-add a name, please email or call our office. [hlchurch.office@gmail.com](mailto:hlchurch.office@gmail.com) (323)667-1212  
Names typically remain on our list for a month, or they're removed before by request.

The rainbow candelabra located on the altar serves as a reminder of this community's inclusive and intentional welcome to the LGBTQ+ community.

Our congregation uses the paschal candle at the sanctuary's entrance as the welcoming light of Jesus Christ. It has traditionally been utilized as light to the world.



**HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**104th Year**

We are a Southwest California Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church congregation in America.

Email: [hlchurch.office@gmail.com](mailto:hlchurch.office@gmail.com) Phone: (323)667-1212

Website: [www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net](http://www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net)

**Upcoming Calendar**

Food Pantry Delivery Mondays 8:00 am

Food Pantry Distribution Wednesdays 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

# Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

(ELW 608)



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

## *Refrain*



watch - ing for you and for me.  
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!  
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

*Good Friday*  
April 18, 2025

