

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD OF LIFE

P: Let us pray . . . Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious onto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG ~ #858 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty ~ (All 4 Verses)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

{Join us for soup lunch in Hibbard Hall after service.}



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Pastor Michael Fazio is presiding. We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead.

SERVICE OF THE WORD MARCH 18TH, 2026

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Trusting in the Word of Life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin and to serve you in newness of life. Amen.

P: By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, ☩ God forgives us all our sins. Almighty God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG #759 My Faith Looks Up to Thee (All 4 verses)

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING *a reading from John 16:1-4, 12-15, 30-33*

‘I have said these things to you to keep you from stumbling. ² They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, an hour is coming when those who kill you will think that by doing so they are offering worship to God. ³ And they will do this because they have not known the Father or me. ⁴ But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them. ¹² ‘I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ³⁰ Now we know that you know all things, and do not need to have anyone question you; by this we believe that you came from God.’ ³¹ Jesus answered them, ‘Do you now believe? ³² The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. ³³ I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!’ This is the Word of the Lord

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

THE 2025 LENTEN SERMON SERIES IS: THE WONDERS OF THE WORD

SERMON ~ SUSTAINS

HYMN OF THE DAY #767 Lord, Take My Hand and Lee Me ~ (Sing all 3 Verses)

APOSTLE’S 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

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

a brief silence.

P: God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community and across the globe in right paths for your name’s sake. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: A God our provider, we cry out for this planet and the life it holds. Rescue endangered animals and plants, preserve threatened ecosystems, and save creatures from natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all. Hear us, O God.

P: Your mercy is great.

P: Here other intercessions may be offered. God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are ill and in need of your healing touch.

. . . Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God our home, we thank you for all who have died and completed their baptismal journeys. Grant us faith to live until we too dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.