

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 ~ #547 Sent Forth by God's Blessing (Both Verses)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

{Join us for soup the final lunch for this Lent 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 25TH, 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 ~ #665 Rise, You People ~ (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 Matthew 10:5-20*

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶ but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷ As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." [a] ⁸ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, [b] cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. ⁹ Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, ¹⁰ no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; or laborer's deserve their food. ¹¹ Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹² As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³ If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴ If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgement than for that town. ¹⁶ 'See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; ¹⁸ and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹ When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; ²⁰ for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. 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 ~ SENDS

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ #543 Go, My Children, with My Blessing ~ (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: We pray for Your church. Grant life and peace to all who gather in your name. Breathe into us so that we may share your message of forgiveness, hope, and love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for creation. Renew landscapes that have dried up, prosper the work of those who restore homes and habitats after natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for the nations. Unbind leaders trapped by fear to act boldly for justice, free all who live in places of war and violence, and guide refugees to safety. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for this assembly. Ready the hearts and spirits of all preparing to be baptized. Deepen our wonder at the mystery of your resurrection and life. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We pray for all people in need. Take away the stone of poverty that weighs down so many. Console any who weep and heal all who are sick Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We offer our thanksgiving for all people who have died in faith. Give us faith to trust in your power to redeem and save, and bring us up from our graves to life in you. 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.