

Third Sunday in Lent



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**March 8, 2026
11:00 am
Third Sunday in Lent
Holy Communion**

Gathering Music



“Your Grace is Enough”
Sound Offering

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MARCH 7 / 8
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Rev. Dr. Michelle Holley Carlson,
Presiding

Rev. Dr. Rick Carlson,
Preaching



S.A.F.E. Center Donations for March:

*Q-Tips, Cotton Balls
and Band-Aids*

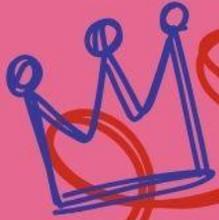


**Please set items on the
sharing shelf in the narthex.**



S.A.F.E. Center

Empower. Support. Educate.



COLOR THEIR FUTURE

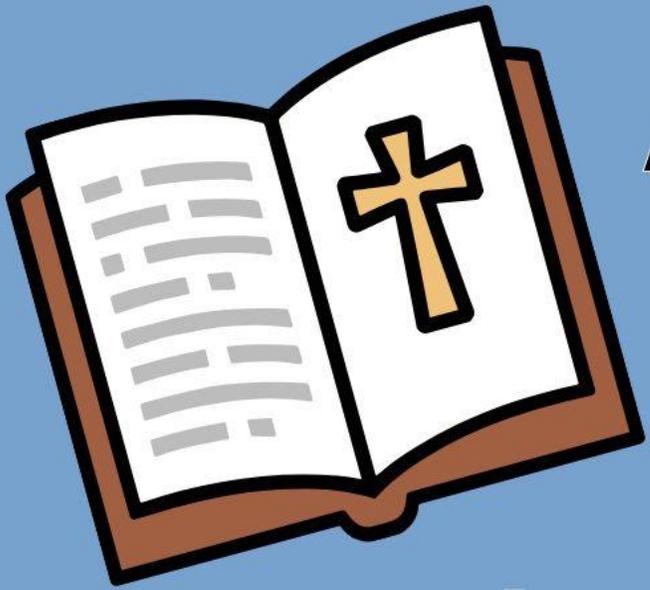


Preschool Scholarship Fundraiser

Pick up an envelope from the Narthex.
Envelopes are numbered 1 - 100.

Donate the amount on the
outside of the envelope.





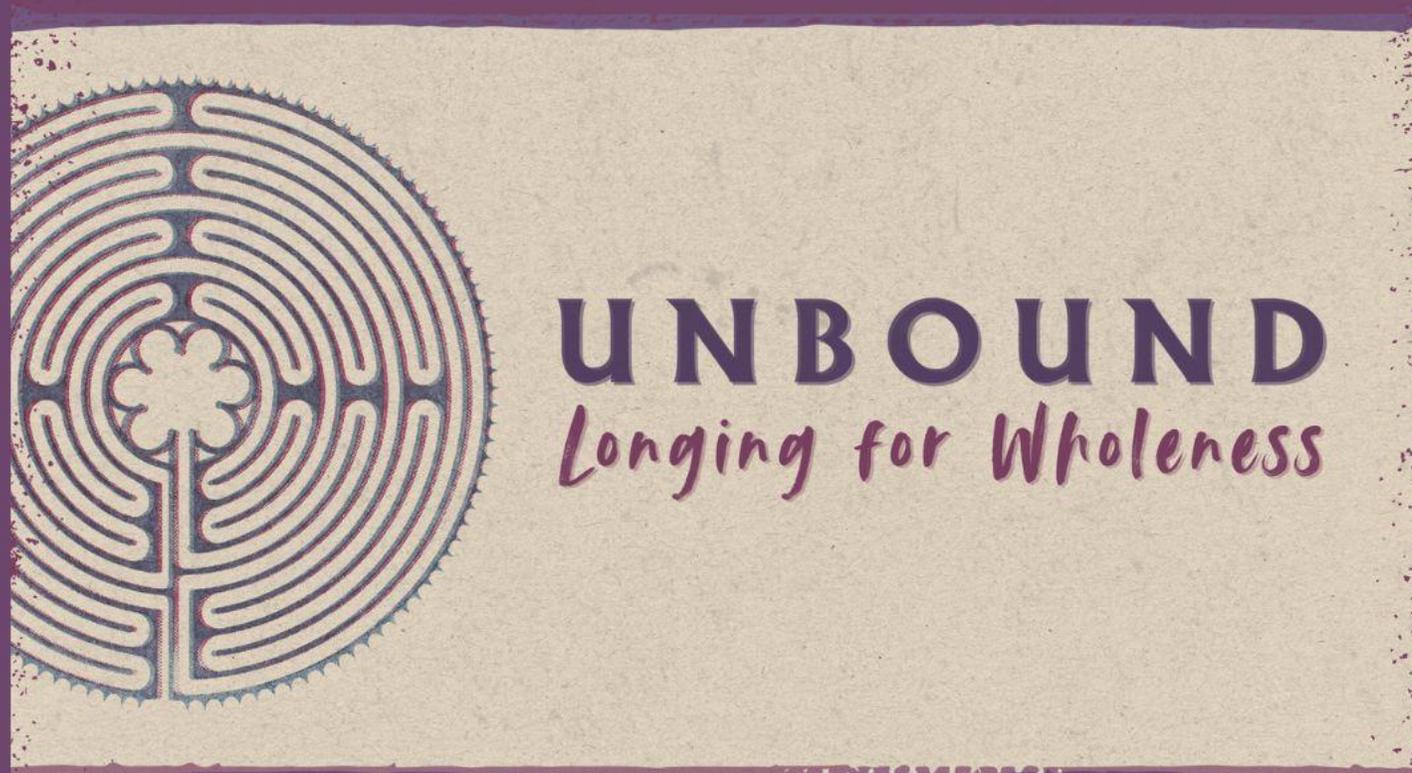
Adult Bible Study with Pastor Rick

God's Spokespersons: The Prophets and Their Books

- **9:50am**
- **Every Sunday in March**
- **Centennial Hall**

Recordings available at FirstLutheranKearney.org

**Wednesday Evening
Lenten Services
6:30pm - 7:00pm**



**Order forms for Easter Lilies
or Tulips are due March 9th
Order forms can be located on
the welcome station.**



You will be able to add a note if the plant is in honor or in memory of someone special or a special occasion.

The blooming plants will be delivered to the church and then available for you to take home after the 11:00am service on Easter Sunday.

Holy Week Schedule of Services

- **Palm Sunday, March 28/29 6pm, 8:45am, 11am**
- **Maundy Thursday, April 2 - 6:30pm**
- **Good Friday, April 3 - 6:30pm**
- **Holy Saturday, April 4 - 6pm**
- **Easter Sunday, April 5 - 7am, 8:45am, 11am**



Greeting

GREETING ONE ANOTHER

We greet one another in the name of the Lord using words such as “Peace be with you.”



Worship Song



“Our God”

Image credited to Dr. He Qi www.heqiart.com Text and Music: Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin, Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves © 2010 Shout! Publishing, WorshipTogether.com songs, ThankYou Music, Shout! Publishing (adm. By EMI Christian Music Group) All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of CCLI #1093735

“Our God”

**Water You turned into wine,
opened the eyes of the blind.
There’s no one like You,
none like You.**



“Our God”

**Into the darkness You shine,
out of the ashes we rise.
There’s no one like You,
none like You.**



“Our God”

**Our God is greater,
our God is stronger.**

God, You are higher than any other.

**Our God is Healer,
awesome in power, our God, our God.**



“Our God”

**Into the darkness You shine,
out of the ashes we rise.
There’s no one like You,
none like You.**



“Our God”

**Our God is greater,
our God is stronger.**

God, You are higher than any other.

**Our God is Healer,
awesome in power, our God, our God.**



“Our God”

**Our God is greater,
our God is stronger.**

God, You are higher than any other.

**Our God is Healer,
awesome in power, our God, our God.**



“Our God”

**And if our God is for us,
then who could ever stop us?**

**And if our God is with us,
then what could stand against?**



“Our God”

**And if our God is for us,
then who could ever stop us?**

**And if our God is with us,
then what could stand against?**

What could stand against?



“Our God”

**Our God is greater,
our God is stronger.**

God, You are higher than any other.

**Our God is Healer,
awesome in power, our God, our God.**



“Our God”

**Our God is greater,
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“Our God”

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then who could ever stop us?**

**And if our God is with us,
then what could stand against?
Then what could stand against?**



“Our God”

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our God is stronger.**

God, You are higher than any other.

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**Our God is Healer,
awesome in power, our God, our God.**

Text and Music: Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin, Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves

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Worship Song



“Reckless Love”

Text and Music: Caleb Culver, Cory Asbury and Ran Jackson

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“Reckless Love”

**Before I spoke a word,
You were singing over me.
You have been so, so good to me.
Before I took a breath,
You breathed Your life in me.
You have been so, so kind to me.**



“Reckless Love”

**Oh, the overwhelming, never ending,
reckless love of God.
Oh, it chases me down,
fights till I'm found,
leaves the ninety-nine.**



“Reckless Love”

**I couldn't earn it, and I don't deserve it,
still You give Yourself away.
Oh, the overwhelming, never ending,
reckless love of God, yeah.**



“Reckless Love”

**When I was Your foe,
still Your love fought for me.
You have been so, so good to me.
When I felt no worth,
You paid all for me.
You have been so, so kind to me.**



“Reckless Love”

**Oh, the overwhelming, never ending,
reckless love of God.
Oh, it chases me down,
fights till I'm found,
leaves the ninety-nine.**



“Reckless Love”

**I couldn't earn it, and I don't deserve it,
still You give Yourself away.
Oh, the overwhelming, never ending,
reckless love of God, yeah.**



“Reckless Love”

**There's no shadow You won't light up,
mountain You won't climb up
coming after me.**

**There's no wall You won't kick down,
lie You won't tear down
coming after me.**



“Reckless Love”

**There's no shadow You won't light up,
mountain You won't climb up
coming after.**

**There's no wall You won't kick down,
lie You won't tear down
coming after me.**



“Reckless Love”

**There's no shadow You won't light up,
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“Reckless Love”

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coming after me.**



“Reckless Love”

**Oh, the overwhelming, never ending,
reckless love of God.
Oh, it chases me down,
fights till I'm found,
leaves the ninety-nine.**



“Reckless Love”

**And I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it,
still You give Yourself away.
Oh, the overwhelming, never ending,
reckless love of God, yeah.**

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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

L: Let us pray.

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always.



Prayer of the Day

Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



Gospel: John 4:5-42

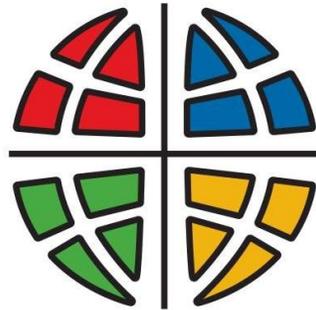
Today's Gospel reading is being presented as a conversation between a Samaritan Woman and Jesus based on John 4:5-42.



Children's Message

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND "NOISY" OFFERING

*Children's Offering goes towards
ELCA North Carolina Disaster Relief Fund*



Lutheran
Disaster Response



Sermon



Image credited to Dr. He Qi www.heqiart.com

SERMON

Pastor Rick Carlson

Worship Song



“Holy Water”

Text and Music: Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, & Scott Cash. Arr. By Dan Galbraith.
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“Holy Water”

**God, I'm on my knees again.
God, I'm begging please again,
I need You.
Oh, I need You.**



“Holy Water”

**Walking down these desert roads,
water for my thirsty soul,
I need You.
Oh, I need You.**



“Holy Water”

**Your forgiveness is like sweet,
sweet honey on my lips.
Like the sound of a symphony
to my ears.
Like holy water on my skin.**



“Holy Water”

**Dead man walking, slave to sin,
I wanna know about being born again.
I need You.
Oh, God, I need You.**



“Holy Water”

**So take me to the riverside.
Take me under, baptize. I need You.
Oh, God, I need You.**



“Holy Water”

**Your forgiveness is like sweet,
sweet honey on my lips.
Like the sound of a symphony
to my ears.
Like holy water on my skin.**



“Holy Water”

I don't wanna abuse Your grace.

God, I need it ev'ry day.

**It's the only thing that ever really
makes me wanna change.**



“Holy Water”

I don't wanna abuse Your grace.

God, I need it ev'ry day.

**It's the only thing that ever really
makes me wanna change.**



“Holy Water”

I don't wanna abuse Your grace.

God, I need it ev'ry day.

**It's the only thing that ever really
makes me wanna change.**



“Holy Water”

I don't wanna abuse Your grace.

God, I need it ev'ry day.

**It's the only thing that ever really
makes me wanna change.**



“Holy Water”

**Your forgiveness is like sweet,
sweet honey on my lips.
Like the sound of a symphony
to my ears.
It's like holy water**



“Holy Water”

**Your forgiveness is like sweet,
sweet honey on my lips.**

Like the sound of a symphony to my ears.

Like holy water on my skin.

Like holy water on my skin.

Oh, it's like holy water.

Text and Music: Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, & Scott Cash. Arr. By Dan Galbraith.
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Creed

L: Let us profess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son,
our Lord and Savior. I believe in the Holy
Spirit, the Holy Christian church, the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of
sins, the resurrection of the body and
the life everlasting.

Amen.



Prayers of Intercession

Prayers of Intercession

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

A brief silence for reflection.



Prayers of Intercession

L: O God, when suffering arises, preserve your church. Give to pastors, deacons, bishops, and all servants of your gospel the endurance that produces character and the hope that will never disappoint.



Prayers of Intercession

L: When the waters run dry, sustain this earth. Send water to places languishing with drought, and bring relief to places damaged by floods.



Prayers of Intercession

L: When quarrels ensue, soften our hearts. Quell hostilities between nations and peoples, and reconcile all humans across the lines of race, class, nationality, moral conviction, religion, and all else that divides or oppresses.



Prayers of Intercession

L: When we gather to worship, send us your Spirit. Renew our hearts through the joyful noise we make and bless the work of our church musicians and musical ensembles.



Prayers of Intercession

L: When your people thirst, satisfy their needs. Send water and food to all who need nourishment. Grant welcome to all who are excluded. Show your mercy to any in need. We pray especially for:



Prayers of Intercession

Jim Anderson
Doug Bierman
Bertha Boyer
Vicki Buschelman
Pastor John Carlson
Gregory Carrico
Rich Ferris
Corinne Fischer
Leonard Fowler
Randy Fritson

Larry Giddings
Keith Halliwell
Mary Henning
Jerry Ibsen
Patty Ibsen
Tami Jobman
Derek Johnson
Laura Morton
Russell Radcliffe



Prayers of Intercession

Mary Renshaw

Daniel Rheome

Eileen Richter

Kristen Richter

Daryl Rodgers

Garth Scism

Debbie Steinbrecher

Carrie Stithem

Joanne Suing

Tony Tauer

Martha Tiede

Alicia Tracy

Misty White

Dean Wiese

Miranda Wright

Paula Yoachim

James Ziebarth

Midge Zimmer



Prayers of Intercession

Prayers of comfort and peace for:

- *Todd & Susan Athy and family on the death of Todd's uncle, Doug Bliss*
- *Marvel Hueke's family and friends on her death*



Prayers of Intercession

L: O God, when death draws near, we rejoice in the promise of life with you. We remember all who have entered eternal rest, and we pray that you bring us the hope of sharing in your glory.



Prayers of Intercession

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

C: Amen.



Meal

Offertory



Sound Offering

Communion Servers:

Please come forward at this time.

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Music: Arr. Ellen Banks Elwell Hope Publishing Company

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FAITH

ON-LINE
visit FLC's
website

MOBILE
APP
iPhone & Android

VANCO MOBILE IS SIMPLE AND SECURE.
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Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one
God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.



Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us confess our sin before God,
who removes our guilt and blots out all
offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.



Confession and Forgiveness

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.



Confession and Forgiveness

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of
hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your
steadfast love.**



Confession and Forgiveness

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.



Confession and Forgiveness

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdainning the living water Christ offers:

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.



Confession and Forgiveness

P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.



Confession and Forgiveness

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.



Confession and Forgiveness

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.



Confession and Forgiveness

The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

C: Amen.



Offertory Prayer

L: Let us pray.

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty.



Offertory Prayer

Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your
Son, who calls us to bear witness to his
saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.
C: Amen.



The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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



Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was handed over, 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.



Words of Institution

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.



Words of Institution

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.



The Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom
come, thy will be done, on earth
as it is in heaven.



The Lord's Prayer

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.



Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Please be seated.



Communion

We practice open communion at First Lutheran. All are welcome to receive the elements. Gluten-free wafers are available. In addition to the cups filled with wine (red) in the tray, there are cups containing grape juice (clear) in the center.

Communion Music “Oceans” Sound Offering

Text and Music: Joel Houston, Matt Crocker, Salomon Lighthelm
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Table Grace

Please stand as you are able.

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.



Prayer after Communion

L: Let us pray.
God of our salvation,
we give you thanks for this meal that
restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us
for the journey.



Prayer after Communion

Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the
world,
bearing witness to your love for all
creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord.

C: Amen.



Blessing

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath
sustains creation,

✠ bless you now and always.

C: Amen.



Worship Song



“The Blessing”

Words and Music by Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe and Steven Furtick
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“The Blessing”

**The Lord bless you and keep you,
make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you.**

**The Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace.**



“The Blessing”

**Amen, amen, amen.
Amen, amen, amen.**



“The Blessing”

**The Lord bless you and keep you,
make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you.**

**The Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace.**



“The Blessing”

**Amen, amen, amen.
Amen, amen, amen.**



“The Blessing”

**May His favor be upon you
and a thousand generations
and your fam'ly and your children
and their children and their children.**



“The Blessing”

**May His favor be upon you
and a thousand generations
and your fam'ly and your children
and their children and their children.**



“The Blessing”

**May His favor be upon you
and a thousand generations
and your fam'ly and your children
and their children and their children.**



“The Blessing”

**May His favor be upon you
and a thousand generations
and your fam'ly and your children
and their children and their children.**



“The Blessing”

**May His presence go before you
and behind you and beside you.
All around you and within you,
He is with you. He is with you.**



“The Blessing”

**In the morning, in the evening,
in your coming and your going,
in your weeping and rejoicing,
He is for you. He is for you.**



“The Blessing”

**He is for you. He is for you.
He is for you. He is for you.
He is for you. He is for you.**



“The Blessing”

**Amen, amen, amen.
Amen, amen, amen.**



“The Blessing”

**May His favor be upon you
and a thousand generations
and your fam'ly and your children
and their children and their children.**



“The Blessing”

**May His presence go before you
and behind you and beside you.
All around you and within you,
He is with you. He is with you.**



“The Blessing”

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in your weeping and rejoicing,
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“The Blessing”

**He is for you. He is for you.
He is for you.**



“The Blessing”

**Amen, amen, amen.
Amen, amen, amen.**

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Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.



Dismissal



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Sound Offering