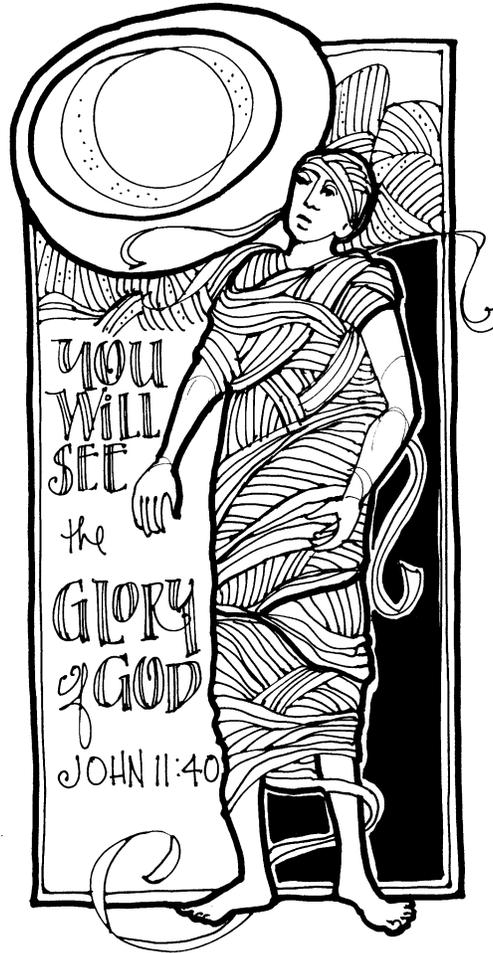


SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 22, 2026

March 22, 2026
Fifth Sunday in Lent

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE *What Wondrous Love Is This* arr. John Carter

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

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

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,

and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin,

and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,
 and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:
 Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
 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.
 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.

Amen.

***GATHERING SONG *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* (ELW 886)**



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
- 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
- 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
- 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
 to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
 sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
 the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
 O fallen human race!
 Look and be saved through faith alone,
 be justified by grace! | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
 be now and ever giv'n
 by saints below and saints above,
 the church in earth and heav'n. |
|---|---|

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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***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.

*KYRIE (ELW S213)

S 213a



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM *Touch Me With Ashes* - Joseph Martin/Stacey Normeyer

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

A reading from Ezekiel.

Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."

¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.

⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a

noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹ Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 130

(read responsively between lector and congregation, beginning with the lector)

¹ Out | of the depths

I cry to | you, O LORD;

² **O LORD, | hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my | supplication.

³ If you were to keep watch | over sins,

O LORD, | who could stand?

⁴ **Yet with you | is forgiveness,**

in order that you | may be feared.

⁵ I wait for you, O LORD; | my soul waits;

in your word | is my hope.

⁶ **My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch | for the morning,**

more than those who keep watch | for the morning.

⁷ O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is | steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plen- | teous redemption.

⁸ **For the LORD shall | redeem Israel**

from | all their sins.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11

A reading from Romans.

For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.

⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)**



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

***GOSPEL: John 11:1-45**

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³ Jesus, however, had been

speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” ⁴⁵ Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

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

SERMON Wayne Dale

***Please stand as you are able for the final verse**

HYMN OF THE DAY *What Wondrous Love Is This* (ELW 666)



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' CREED.

***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 THE CHURCH** (Please respond.)

P: Hear us, O God. **C:** Your mercy is great.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

***OFFERTORY** *Create in Me a Clean Heart (Hillert)* (ELW 186)



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

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.
Through our gifts,
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.
Amen.

***THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

O God of justice and love,
we give thanks to you that you illumine our way
through life with the words of your Son.
Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others,
and at the end bring all the world to your feast;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom,
with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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**

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.
Amen.

***SENDING SONG *You Are the Way* (ELW 758)**



- 1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
- 2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
- 3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
 you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
 and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
 that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799-1859, alt.
 Music: DUNDEE. *Psalter*. Edinburgh. 1615

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Believe the good news.
Thanks be to God.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

ORGAN POSTLUDE *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* Robert Lau

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SERVING TODAY

Worship Leader Wayne Dale
 Church Office Email Address office@solomonslutheran.org
 Organist Mary-Jo Bedsworth
 Head Usher Aaron Shreiner
 Acolyte Janice McEntire
 Lector..... Kathy Bowen
 Securing Offering Ron Coldsmith & Rich McEntire
 Attendance Last Sunday 34

March 21, 1685, is recorded as the birth of the great composer, Johann Sebastian Bach. Because Lent/Holy Week/Easter fall earlier this year, music planning for Lenten themes took priority over Bach's birthday. We acknowledge his birthday this morning and note that a tribute to the great composer will take place during the weeks following Easter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the glory of God in honor of our mom and Tammy's birthday given by Roxy and Lisa.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

Any pastoral care or concerns can be addressed to Pastor Julia Brown by email jlouisebrown@msn.com or phone 703-434-9220.

Prayer requests for the following: *Eva Stahl, Amy Eichelberger, Paul Steiding, Clif Rau, Dennis Hose, Sam Brooks, Ellie Martin, Kaitlyn Dovey, Patsy Wildeson, James Bersch, Kristen Hardman, Charles Carl, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Chuck Bedsworth, Linda Mumaugh, Katy Klutz, Becky Ensinger, all the Homebound, and our world & country. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.*

Please Be Aware: *We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.*

Weekly Calendar Reminders:

March 25 - Bible Study 10am

Lenten Service 7pm (soup/bread meal 5:30pm)

26 - Choir 7pm

During the month of April, Social Ministry will be collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry. Paper products cannot be purchased with Food Stamps. Items needed are toilet paper, napkins, paper towels, Kleenex, hand wipes, diapers, etc. Please place the items in the totes under the coat rack, next to the mailboxes.

Holy Week at Solomons: Holy Week begins next Sunday with Palm Sunday worship. The service will include the blessing of the palms and Holy Communion. Maundy Thursday worship with the stripping of the altar and Holy Communion will be a joint service at Solomons UCC at 7 PM. Good Friday worship returns here to Solomons Lutheran at 7 PM in a joint service, when we will use the Service of the Tenebrae which includes the reading of the Passion and accompanying hymns. Finally, Easter Sunday worship will be here at 10:45 AM, with Holy Communion. Special music for this festival service will begin at 10:30 AM. Invite family and friends to join us during this special time.

Solomon's Annual Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 4 at 11:00AM - Solomon's Picnic Woods. All children 12 and under are invited.

Orioles and Yankees Game – Tuesday, May 12. Need to leave early (around 3:15p.m.), it is a night game. Wolf's Bus Line. Price is \$127 which includes the ride to and from Camden Yards, ticket, and tip. We need at least 27 people and ½ down payment. We will leave from Solomon's Church. Friends and family welcome. If interested, call Linda.

Mid-week Lenten service on Wednesday, March 25 at Trinity Episcopal beginning with supper at 5:30, followed by worship beginning at 7:00pm. The offering during this Lenten season will be given to Hearken House Ministry. Hearken House Ministry provides a work/training program for those being released on parole from a Pennsylvania state or county jail and who strongly desire to change the way of life they have chosen in the past. Checks to support Hearken House may be made **payable to LARC**.

Bible Study on John's Revelation. Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the fellowship center conference room. We will continue with session 7.

If you are not taking your altar flowers home, please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

Inclement Weather Cancellation Notification. In the event of inclement weather, Solomon's will announce that our worship services are cancelled by sending an email to the entire membership who have email addresses. Also, the phone message on the office phone at the church (717-267-2266) will state when services are cancelled. **This will be done by 7:30AM Sunday morning.** If you receive an email notifying you of a cancellation and if you know a friend who does not have email, please contact them. **If the church office does not have your current email address, please let Kimberly in the church office know this as soon as possible, so it can be updated!** Above all, safety is our most important concern, so please do not take any unnecessary chances.

The 2026 Chart for Altar flowers is on the table in the Sunday School room. The cost of the two vases will be \$60.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$60.00 with the bulletin information.

Power Pack Meals: We are once again collecting nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need during the 2025-2026 school year. Please place the items you donate in the tote in the Sunday School room. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put Power Pack Meals in the memo of your check.

The 2026 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room. Please sign up for as many as you can.

Music Notes/Hymn Notes:

Our opening hymn this morning, “Oh for a Thousand Tongues to Sing,” was written in 1739 by Charles Wesley. His original version, written on the first anniversary of his conversion to Christianity, included 18 verses! Ours uses only 6 of those verses. The hymn was published in *Hymns and Sacred Poems* (1740), a hymnal compiled by Wesley and his brother John. It is a declaration of Christ’s power and victory in Wesley’s life. Rich in Biblical imagery of the Kingdom of God, “Oh for a Thousand Tongues” can become our own hymn of praise. In the hymn, we can stand with the angels before the throne of God, lifting our voices as one church to glorify the one who “bids our sorrows cease. Join with us as we open our worship, lifting your voices to praise the glory of His name! (Hymnary.org; Wikipedia)

Our Hymn of the Day this morning, *What Wondrous Love Is This*, seems to express awe at the love of God and is somewhat reminiscent of the text of John 3:16. The text was first published in 1811, but there are few clues as to the author or composer. The melody has a Celtic influence and first made its appearance in the valleys of the Southern Appalachians. It was included in the historic *Southern Harmony*, compiled by William Walker. The hymn is simple and persistent. Each stanza of the hymn has a single thought which is underscored by repetition. It is this repetition that is said to come from one who has experienced the profound sacrificial love of Christ. However, it is the haunting melody that has made this hymn a popular one in this country. (Hymnary.org; Wikipedia; Discipleship Ministries.org; Lovelace: [Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins](#), pg. 112)

Additional music notes: There is a wealth of beautiful Lenten and Passion music available for worship. Since there are only 5 Sundays in Lent before the start of Holy Week, there is much music that isn’t used from year to year. This morning’s postlude is an example of one of those pieces. It includes the chorale itself, (*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*) then interspersed with free style writing around each section of the chorale.

The anthem this morning, *Touch Me With Ashes*, is a repeat from Ash Wednesday, which we generally do not do. The text is appropriate to not only Ash Wednesday, but to the Lenten season itself. It provides another opportunity for mediation in our daily lives.

Touch Me With Ashes

Touch me with ashes, teach me Your way.
Here in this silence, reach me, I pray.
Kneeling before You, Lord, I implore You:
Kyrie eleison.

Grant me Your mercy, show me Your face.
Here in this moment, clothe me in grace.
Kneeling before You, Lord, I implore You:
Kyrie eleison.

Life is a vapor, a dream fading fast,
Only the things of the Spirit will last.
We are like dust with beginning and end,
A flower that fades, a reed in the wind.
Lord I am weary, weak and alone,
Lord, I am list’ning; speak to my soul.
Kneeling before You, Lord, I implore You:
Kyrie eleison.