

Online Bulletin for March 1, 2026
We Gather as the People of God

‡Musical Call to Worship

There in God's Garden

Arr. Farlee

‡Greeting, Announcements, and Invitation to Discipleship

Introit

Bless the Lord

Taizé

*‡Call to Worship

Leader: Tell me something good!

People: God loves you more than you can imagine.

Leader: Tell me something good!

People: God loves all of creation more than you can imagine.

Leader: Tell me something good!

People: God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are not alone.

Leader: This is good news indeed!

All: Let us worship our compassionate God.

*‡Hymn No. 287

Gracious Spirit, Head our Pleading

NJOO KWETU, ROHO MWEMA

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(Let us pray with one voice.)

Merciful God, did we see you hungry and give you something to eat? Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink?

Did we see you alone and offer you compassion? Or did we cross the street? Did we avert our eyes? Did we come up with every excuse in the book?

God, we long to be people who love our neighbors with the same overwhelming love that you have for them. But we must admit, we have a long way to go.

Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear get in the way of love.

Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again. With hope for a better tomorrow, we pray. Amen.

(Moment for Silent Prayer)

Hymn No. 577

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

All: We are seen. We are forgiven. We are invited to try again. Thanks be to God for this unending love.

*✠Exchange of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Greet one another in the peace of Christ.

*✠Response Hymn No. **288**

Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Matthew 25:35-40

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Kyrie eleison

Unruh

(Words printed on the back of the bulletin.)

Second Scripture Lesson Luke 7:36-50

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Caring for Christ

Rev. Kevin Ireland

We Respond to God's Word

**Affirmation of Faith* (Based on *The Confession of 1967*)

**We believe that in Jesus Christ, God was reconciling the world.
To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world
as God's reconciling community.
We are entrusted with the message of reconciliation
and share in God's work of healing the enmities
that separate us from God and from one another.
In gratitude and hope, we commit ourselves
to love our neighbors, to seek justice and peace,
and to follow Christ on the road that leads through the cross
to resurrection life.**

Hymn No. 186

Come Now Blessed Eat at My Table

COME NOW, YOU BLESSED

Offertory Sentence

Offertory

Softly and Tenderly

Arr. Brendlinger

Joys and Concerns of the People

Joy: First Presbyterian Church, Halstead

Ministry: Yellow Bag - IRC

Care and Comfort: Jay Ayers, Frank Burch, William Crouch,
Calissa Frye, Susan Kensill and Norma Scherback

Sympathy: To the family and friends of Bill Lewis upon his passing.

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Our Lord's Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

*Come forward up the center aisle,
starting from the back of the sanctuary, to receive the elements.
If you prefer, you may be served in your seat.*

Prayer after Communion

We Are Sent as God's Servants into the World

*Hymn No. 165

The Glory of These Forty Days

ERHALT UNS HERR

*Charge and Blessing

Leader: Alleluia! Amen.

People: Alleluia! Amen.

The Postlude

I Heard the Voice of Jesus

Arr. Larson

**(Please rise in body or in spirit.)*
‡(Time to seat those who arrive after the start of the service)

Leading and Serving in Worship Today

Rev. Kevin Ireland, Pastor, Head of Staff

Randy Routsong, Liturgist

Bruce Gealy, Reader

Sean Foster, Director Chancel Choir

Kelsey Wise, Organist

Chancel Choir

Mitzi Darmstetter, Sound

Chris Anderson, Broadcasting

Burris Family, Online Moderators

Worship Notes

Bless the Lord (Introit)

from Taizé

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

Kyrie eleison (Anthem)

By Eric W. Unruh

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

Welcome to God's House

Welcome to Grace Presbyterian Church. If you are looking for a church home, speak to our staff, ask one of our greeters, or visit our website, www.mygpc.org. If you are interested in getting married at Grace, please call the church office, 684-5215.

Share your prayer concerns with us by placing the blue prayer card in the offering plate. Your prayer requests will be shared with our Prayer Ministry Team.

We have a nursery available for your children (up to age 3) in room 107 (next to the north entrance). We worship in the Great Room at 9:00 a.m. Sunday school classes for all ages meet at 10:00 a.m. At 11:00 a.m. we worship in the Sanctuary.

Children are always welcome in worship. God put the wiggle in children, and we don't expect everyone to be perfectly still and quiet throughout the service.

You're encouraged to help your child follow along in the bulletin and hymnal. If your child is a reader, suggest that they circle words in the bulletin that they don't know or understand. Ask about these words after the service.

We have worship bags outside the sanctuary doors. If it helps your child to have some activities, please grab a bag. We know that children are bright and fully capable of worshipping God, and we're glad you're here.

287 Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing;
 2 Come to teach us; come to nour - ish
 3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing
 4 Not mere knowl - edge, but dis - cern - ment,
 5 Keep us fer - vent in our wit - ness,

fash - ion us all a - new. It's your lead - ing
 those who be - lieve in Christ. Bless the faith - ful;
 done in your ho - ly name. Mo - ti - vate all
 nor root - less lib - er - ty; turn dis - qui - et
 un - swayed by earth's al - lure. Ev - er grant us

that we're need - ing; help us to fol - low you.
 may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.
 in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.
 to con - tent - ment, doubt in - to cer - tain - ty.
 zeal - ous fit - ness, which you a - lone as - sure.

Refrain

Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
 Njo - o, njo - o, nj - oo, Ro - ho mwe - ma.

Originally written for the uniting of the Lutheran churches in Tanzania, this prayerful hymn touches on the need of the whole church at all times for the Holy Spirit's guidance and blessing. When appropriate, the refrain can effectively be used alone as a prayer response.

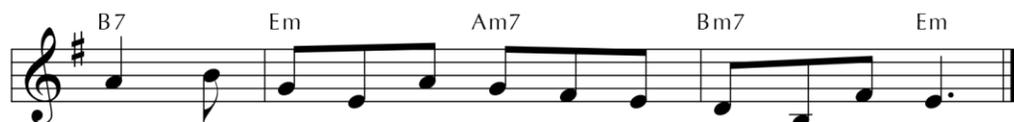
186 Come Now, You Blessed, Eat at My Table



1 "Come now, you bless - ed, eat at my ta - ble," said Je - sus
 2 When did we see you hun - gry or thirst - y? When were you
 3 "When you gave bread to earth's hun - gry chil - dren, when you gave
 4 Christ, when we see you out on life's road - ways, look - ing to



Christ to the righ - teous a - bove. "When I was hun - gry, thirst - y, and
 home - less, a strang - er a - lone? When did we see you sick or in
 shel - ter to war's ref - u - gees, when you re - mem - bered those most for -
 us in the fac - es of need, then may we know you, wel - come, and



home - less, sick and in pris - on, you showed me your love."
 pris - on? What have we done that you call us your own?
 got - ten, you cared for me in the small - est of these."
 show you love that is faith - ful in word and in deed.

This text reproduces Matthew 25:34–39 so faithfully that it can appropriately be regarded as a paraphrase of that passage; but like all effective paraphrases, it adds just enough detail to give the familiar language a sense of freshness and immediacy that helps us hear it anew.

165 The Glory of These Forty Days

1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
 2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the
 3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -
 4 Then grant that we like them be true, con -

cel - e - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, by whom all
 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride-groom's
 summed in fast and prayer with you; our spir - its strength-en

things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
 with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Appropriate for singing at any time during Lent, this stately text connects Jesus' wilderness fast with the solitary testing of other prophetic souls: Moses, Elijah, Daniel, and John the Baptist. This sturdy 16th-century chorale melody formed the basis of Bach's *Cantata 126*.