



*Welcome to Worship at
Zion Lutheran Church*

*Sunday, March 8, 2026
9:00 am*

Photo by Kory Haats



Welcome and Announcements

A new book/Bible study will begin in March

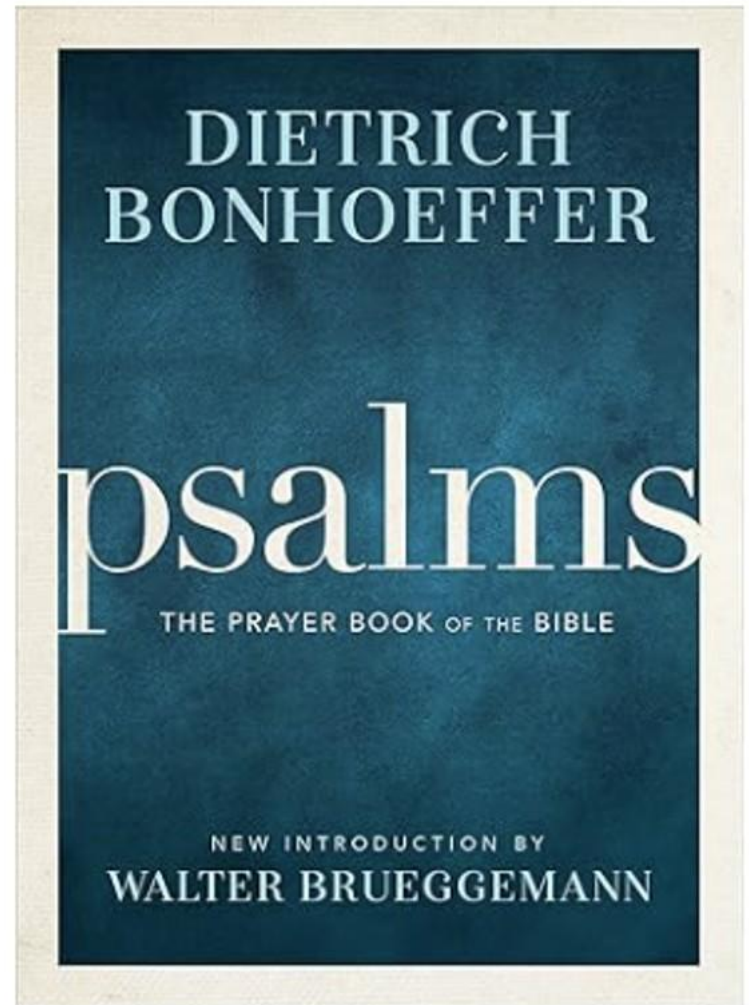
Join Shawn Brunelle will for a one-hour weekly book/Bible study

Offered twice each week:

- Tuesdays at noon
(starting March 10)
- Sundays at 11:00 am
(starting March 15)

Pick the time works best for you!

To register for the study,
contact the church office.



You will need to obtain your own copy of the book.

Near the Cross

Witnessing the Passion of Jesus

Lenten Worship Series

Wednesdays, February 25 - March 25

5:00 pm- Light meal
6:15 pm- Worship



The March 11 meal served by the Worship & Music Committee and the choir will be chili and sandwiches.



Prayers for the HEART^h

Throughout the season of Lent, we have the opportunity to practice intentional prayer together in a new visual way.

There is a clear jar in the entrance to the Sanctuary with blank paper hearts for you to write a name, a situation, or anything else you would like to pray for. Prayers placed in the jar will stay in the jar **unread** - but are certainly heard by our faithful God of hope and love.

On Maundy Thursday, as an act of worship, we will burn these prayers, taking to heart Psalm 141:2 "Let my prayer be counted as incense before you and the lifting up my hands as an evening sacrifice."

Would you like to support your friends, neighbors, and coworkers when they're struggling, but don't know how?



FREE 2-hour training at Zion

Tuesday, April 14

6:00 pm

A light supper will be provided by the
Congregational Care Committee at 5:30 pm.

**Pre-registration
is required.
Space is limited.**

COMET helps people take the next step after noticing someone might be struggling. This training teaches simple tools to reach out to help someone to shift their mental health path to a place of wellness and away from mental health crisis. This training doesn't expect community members to "fix it," but instead trains people to feel comfortable initiating a supportive conversation.

Register by April 9 by emailing **OFFICE@ZLCW.ORG** or calling 218-386-1733.

Sharing the Peace

God is Here!

ELW #526

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000. Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991. Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company.

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1. God is here!

As we your people meet
to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

**2. Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.**

**3. Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.**

**4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!**

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Gracious God,

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

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

Gracious God,

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

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

Gracious God,

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

L: 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.**

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

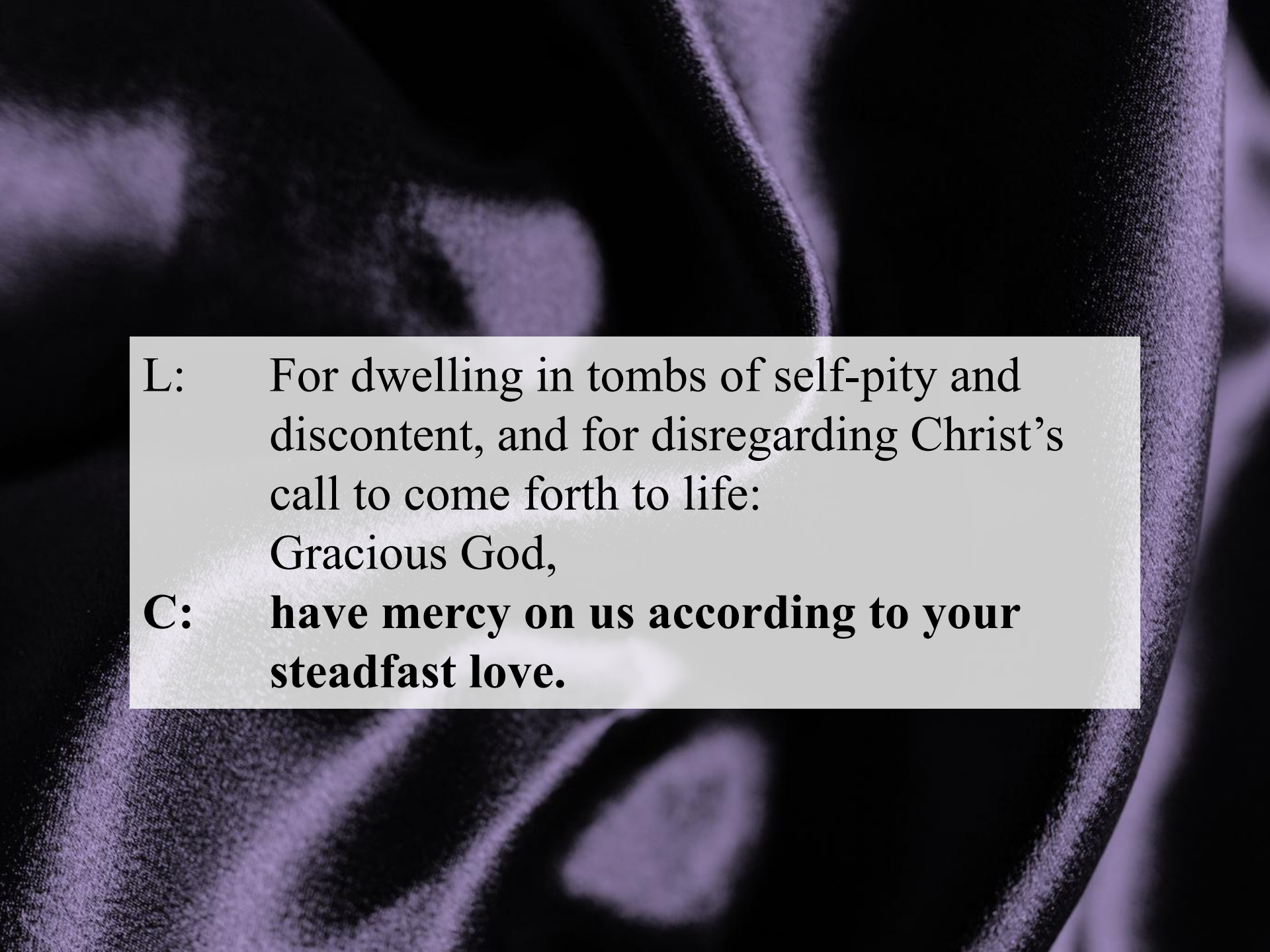
Gracious God,

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

L: 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.



L: 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.

L: 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.

C: Amen.

Greeting

L: 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.

Kyrie

p. 203

**Have mercy on us, Lord,
and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word:
it saves us from despair.**

**Have mercy on us, Christ,
and wash away our sin.**

**Pour out your grace and make us whole
that new life may begin.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord;
make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r;
create in us new hearts!**

Canticle of Praise

p. 204

**Glory be to God in heaven;
peace, good-will to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation,
Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you,
we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you;
here on earth our songs we raise.**

**Glory be to Christ forever,
Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior,
you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us;
now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us;
in your promise firm we stand.**

**Holy One we now acclaim you;
Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you,
God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit,
in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit,
glory be to God on high!**



L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

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

A Message for All God's Children



First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—“Is the LORD among us or not?”—received a very positive answer.

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?”

⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵ The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95

L: ¹ Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

C: ² **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

L: ³ For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.

**C: ⁴ In your hand are the caverns of the
earth; the heights of the hills are also
yours.**

L: ⁵ The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.

**C: ⁶ Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

L: ⁷ For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

C: ⁸ **“Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

L: ⁹ There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

C: ¹⁰ Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, ‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.’

L: ¹¹ Indeed I swore in my anger, ‘They shall never come to my rest.’ ”

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-11

Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.

¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.

¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life.

¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Lenten Gospel Acclamation

p. 205

**We are turning, Lord, to hear you;
you are merciful and kind
slow to anger, rich in blessing,
and with love to us inclined.**

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Please be seated for the reading of the gospel.

Gospel: John 4:3-42

³ [Jesus] left Judea and started back to Galilee. ⁴ But he had to go through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)

¹⁰ Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” ¹¹ The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” ¹³ Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”

¹⁵ The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” ¹⁷ The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’ ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” ¹⁹ The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”

²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

²⁵ The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”

²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” ²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”

³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” ³³ So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” ³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’”

³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.


Message

I Love to Tell the Story

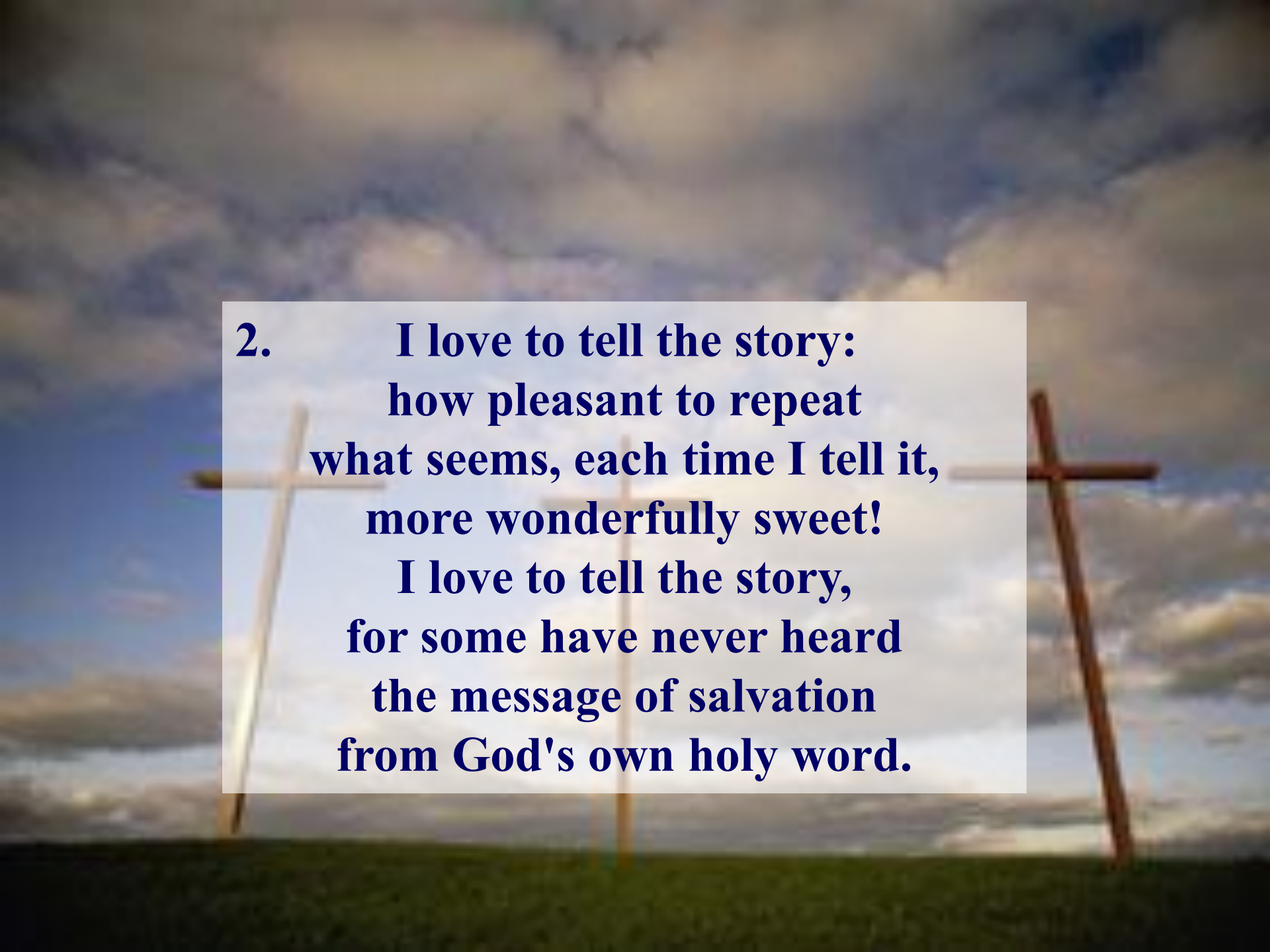
ELW #661

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911. Music: William E. Fischer, 1849-1936.
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- 1. I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else would do.**

The image features three simple wooden crosses standing in a green field. The crosses are made of weathered wood and are positioned in a line across the middle ground. The background is a vast sky filled with soft, white and grey clouds, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting. The lighting is gentle, with a slight glow on the horizon. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the crosses, containing the text.

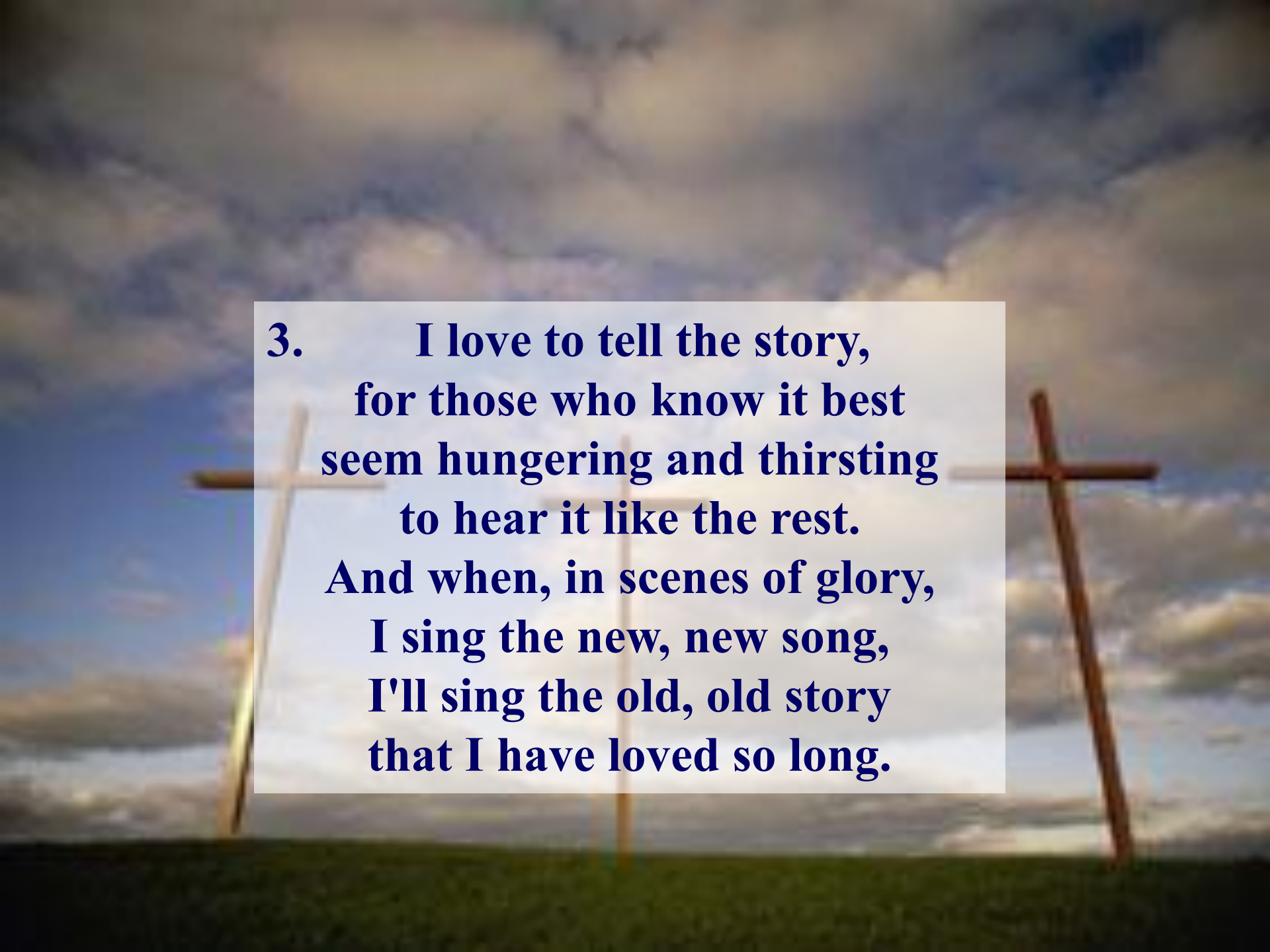
**I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.**

The background of the slide features three simple wooden crosses standing on a green grassy field. The sky is filled with soft, white and grey clouds, suggesting a bright but slightly overcast day. The crosses are positioned at different heights and angles, creating a sense of depth. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white rectangular area in the center of the image.


**2. I love to tell the story:
how pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it,
more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story,
for some have never heard
the message of salvation
from God's own holy word.**

The image shows three simple wooden crosses standing in a green field. The sky is filled with soft, white and grey clouds, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting. The crosses are made of dark wood and are positioned in a row, with the central one being slightly taller than the two flanking it. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the crosses, containing the text.

**I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.**

The background of the image shows three simple wooden crosses standing on a green grassy field. The sky is filled with soft, white and grey clouds, suggesting a bright but slightly overcast day. The crosses are made of weathered wood and are positioned at different heights and angles across the field.

**3. I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story
that I have loved so long.**

The image features three simple wooden crosses standing in a green field. The crosses are made of weathered wood and are positioned in a line across the middle ground. The background is a vast sky filled with soft, white and grey clouds, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting. The lighting is gentle, with a slight glow on the horizon. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the crosses, containing the text.

**I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.**

Apostles' 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.

Offering
with
Choir Anthem



Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW #184

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**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

L: 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 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Response after each petition:

L: Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

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

C: **Amen.**

The 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.**

**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

L: 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.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

ELW #543

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt. Music: Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1872-1959. Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House.
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- 1. “Go, my children, with my blessing,
never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you,
you are my own.
In my love’s baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing,
you are my own.”**

2.

**“Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure.**

**Here you learned how much I love you,
what I can cure.**

**Here you heard my dear Son’s story,
here you touched him, saw his glory.**

**Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure.”**

- 3. “Go my children, fed and nourished,
closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving,
joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you,
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished,
joyful and free.”**

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: Thanks be to God!



*Thank you
for worshipping
with us!*

God bless you!