



AMAZING GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2026



Pastor's Column

Submitted by
Lead Pastor
Tim Maybee

“Is caring for one another, honoring the dignity and worth of our neighbors, going to be at the heart of our public life? Or are we going to take a completely different direction?”
**Rev. Todd Lippert, interview by
The Christian Century**

Dear Amazing Grace,

The above question was asked by a lead organizer with ISAIAH in a conversation about “The Palm Sunday Path,” a program into which our partner organization has invited us and Christians around the country. Throughout Lent, we will be looking at stories where Jesus came face to face with powers opposed to the compassionate Kingdom of God. We’ll then have an opportunity to March with other Christians on the afternoon of Palm Sunday, March 29, at the State Capital. This march will focus on providing an alternative to the kind of Christianity espoused in

“Christian” nationalism, which seeks power to elevate some people over others and ensure the domination of anyone who doesn’t fit into their narrow parameters of belonging.

The Palm Sunday text of Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem (where he will soon be executed) is a familiar one for churchgoers. We return to it every year on the Sunday before Easter. Rather than this repetition making us experts on the passage, I fear our familiarity domesticates the story. Throughout my own life, I’ve mostly heard this passage as a kind of prelude to what was to come. The focus is usually placed not on the actual actions that Jesus takes, but on the response of the crowd. Most of the sermons I’ve heard (and preached) on this passage lift up the idea that crowd that welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem with shouts of Hosanna is either nowhere to be found when he is betrayed, tried, and executed, OR they are the very ones who turn on him and demand his execution. This is a fine message that helps us examine our own sin and complicity in pushing the Christ out of the world and onto the cross. However, this interpretation tends not to lead us to consider what Jesus is actually doing here and, therefore, clouds the message that might shape our

Sunday Worship

9:30 a.m.

Livestream or watch
past worship
services:

[AGLC's YouTube
Channel](#)

March Events

*Lenten Soup Suppers
Wednesdays
5:30pm*

*Lenten Worship
Wednesdays
7:00pm*

*Adult Faith Formation:
The Strength to Love
Sundays 10:45am*

*Palm Sunday
March 29*

Newsletter Articles

*Submit your newsletter
articles to Sarah Bjorklund
at sbjorklund@aglcigh.org
by the 20th of the month.*

discipleship or daily living.

See, Jesus' procession wasn't just a nice celebration. It was a way to thumb his nose at the powers that dominated the people and communicated that some were worth more than others. The people of Jerusalem would have been accustomed to "triumphal entries" into their city. After a military victory or in celebration of significant events in a community (such as Passover in Jerusalem) representatives of the Caesar (emperor) or the Caesar himself would show up to the gates of a conquered city with their armed guard, riding on a great white war steed. This was to further enforce the domination of the Roman conquerors of their subjects. The armed guard would yank people out of their homes to line the street for the procession. They would force citizens of the city to gather branches and and throw their own garments in the road for the steed to trample upon. These "triumphs" were common enough that people knew what to expect, but rare enough that they still felt like big occasions.

Clearly, Jesus' triumphal entry is meant to lampoon Rome's. Jesus enters in on the opposite side of the city than Rome typically did. He did not ride on a great white steed who has seen battle, but on the colt of a donkey that had never been ridden. Having never been ridden, this donkey never participated in the Roman economy or military. One old dictum says that Christ rode an ass into Jerusalem to make an ass out of Caesar. Moreover, the disciples of Jesus didn't have to drag people from their homes and force them to lay down branches and garments. They do so spontaneously,

presumably because Jesus' ministry has been effective in changing the lives of people and the community wants just that kind of transformation. The Pharisees present seem to agree with Jesus' ends, but they don't like his tactics for resisting. Jesus points out that the people are not being centrally controlled but are self-motivated to cry out for salvation, so that if they were silenced even creation itself would cry out. There is no stopping Jesus' ministry of compassion.

In the events of Palm Sunday, Jesus demonstrated an alternative kind of community built on the alternative values of compassion rather than dominance and coercion. As we walk the Palm Sunday path, we are called to witness to an alternative to the unchristian values of "christian" nationalism. We are called to proclaim a faith founded not on domination, exclusion, tribalism, or ethnocentrism, but on the love of God in Christ who marches beside us in service to our neighbors. Join us if you feel so moved. More information is forthcoming.

Peace,
Pastor Tim

Stay Connected with the Saint Paul Area Synod

Want to become more informed about how we are being church together with our siblings throughout the Saint Paul Area Synod?

[Click here to sign up for the News and Events weekly email blast.](#)

Or, go to spas-elca.org and, on the bottom right of the homepage, there is a button that says, "Subscribe to Synod News." Click there and follow the instructions.

Recent Endowment Grants

³⁰ *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.*^[a] ³¹ *The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'*^[b] *There is no commandment greater than these."* (Mark 12:30-31)

Thanks to the generosity of Amazing Grace in the establishment of our Endowment Fund, we are able to support the good work of others in spreading God's love beyond our walls.

In February, the Endowment Committee approved and funded the following grant requests:

\$1,000 Banyan Community <https://banyancommunity.org>

This established 501c3 organization serves the Phillips neighborhood in South Minneapolis where most of the families they support are Latinx or Somali immigrants directly affected by ICE activities in the city. Banyan Community created a weekly grocery and basic needs delivery protocol for those families sheltering in place. Our grant is in support of that effort as well as ongoing youth enrichment programming to positively impact the physical, mental and emotional well-being of children able to attend.

\$1,000 Immigrant Support Fund of the SPAS <https://spas-elca.org/domestic/immigrant-support/>

The St. Paul Area Synod created this designated fund to assist families connected with the synod's ethnic-specific congregations that have been targeted in unjust ways simply because of the color of their skin. Donations support food relief, rent assistance and legal fees when appropriate. In addition to financial help, the synod also created a response network of volunteers to ensure our siblings have access to the support they need in ways that reduce their risk of danger.

Please follow the links above to learn more about these organizations and initiatives and to possibly add your own contributions or volunteer. In times or circumstances when we are not able to be the direct hands and feet of Jesus, we remain empowered to be the village of support and encouragement to those that are.

Yogadevotion

Join Yogadevotion at Amazing Grace. Take time for yourself to unwind from your day with this class. New and experienced yogi will enjoy the class. The next session begins on Monday, March 2. This is an 8 week session that runs March 2 thru April 27 with no class on March 30. The cost is \$88.

You can also register for individual classes within the session. Register at Yogadevotion.com/classes

Women's Bible Study

The women's Bible study meets March 17 at 9:30am in the upper room. All are welcome to attend.

Faithful Readers: So Many Books!

We gather at 2pm at Barnes & Noble Booksellers Cafe on Promenade in Eagan for our book discussion. We meet the fourth Sunday of the month. The books for the rest of the year are listed below. All are welcome to join in the discussion. Let's all read together faithfully!

March 22 City of a Thousand Gates by Rebecca Sacks — a book bag selection

The reader is introduced to a variety of people entering or in Jerusalem. The novel follows each of these characters as they try to protect what they love. The novel is set in present day Israel and Palestine. The interwoven stories reveal complicated and painful truths about life in this conflicted land.

April 26 The Women by Kristin Hannah

Women can be heroes. When twenty-year-old nursing student, Frankie hears those words, it's a revelation. It is 1965 and the world is changing. She sees a different path for her life. She joins the Army Nurse Corps and is shipped to Vietnam. She is as green as the men serving there, it is over whelming. As is her return to a changed world.

May 24 The Distance Between Us by Maggie O'Farrell

At the same instant two people on opposite sides of the world who don't know one another suddenly feel they are in danger for their very lives. They each flee. The novel explores what happens next.

June 28 The Pretender by Jo Harkin

The novel is inspired by a footnote to history. The true story of little known Simnel, who was a figurehead of the 1487 Yorkist rebellion and ended up working as a spy in the court of Henry VII. The Pretender is a portrait of British monarchy and life within the court with a cast of heroes and villains drawn from 15th century England.

July 26 Miss Morgan's Book Brigade by Janet Skeslien Charles

In 1918 as the Great War rages, Jessie Carlson takes a leave of absence from the New York Public Library to work for the American Committee for Devastated France. Founded by millionaire Anne Morgan, this group helps to restore French communities ruined by the war. Working close to the front Jessie establishes children's libraries, turns ambulances into bookmobiles and trains the first French female librarians. Then she disappears. In 1987 Wendy Peterson stumbles across a passing reference to Jesse and becomes obsessed with discovering her fate.

August 23 The Cemetery of Untold Stories by Julia Alvarez

When celebrated author, Alma Cruz inherits a small plot of land in the Dominican Republic, she turns it into a place to bury her untold stories - literally. Alma wants her characters to rest in peace, but they have other ideas and the cemetery becomes a mysterious sanctuary for their true narratives.

September 27 Strangers in Time by David Baldacci

A WWII story set in London during the blitz. Two teens on their own in London during the blitz meet up with one another. Both have lost all contact with their family. They meet a "protector", who has also recently experienced the death of his wife. Together they rediscover the spirit of family they each have lost. They need to trust each other as bombs fall to survive.

October 25 The Stationery Shop by Marjan Kamel

The novel opens in Tehran in 1953 with the backdrop of the American influenced Iranian Coup. A young

(continued on next page)

couple in love is separated in the crush of the main square of Tehran on the eve of their marriage. Unable to find one another they go their separate ways. They are reunited 60 years later having led separate, independent lives in America. What happened that day in the square?

November 22 People of Means by Nancy Johnson

Two women. Two pivotal moments. One dream for justice and equality. The first moment is 1959, the beginning of the Civil Rights movement. The second comes in 1992 with the ruling from the trial of the officers in the Rodney King beating. The novel offers a glimpse into the quest for racial equality, the pursuit of personal and communal success and the power of love and family ties.

December No Organized Discussion Share a Book with a Friend!

Lenten Dinners Wednesdays Through March 25

All are invited to join us for a meal and fellowship on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

A light meal will be served from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Most nights we will be serving two types of soup, simple sides and assorted desserts. You are encouraged to bring your own bowl or mug to reduce paper waste (bowls will also be provided).

We are looking for volunteers each week to bring a dessert item, add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.

If you have any questions, please contact Cyndi Berg
cyndi.a.berg@gmail.com
952-250-7720

Volunteer Drivers Needed

Support Local Seniors

The Opportunity: In the Twin Cities, limited transportation options leave many seniors struggling to find rides to medical appointments, social activities, and community resources. Volunteer drivers play a vital role in bridging this gap, offering essential support that enables seniors to stay active and engaged.

No Special Skills Required: Just a kind heart, a reliable vehicle, and a desire to help!

Benefits

- **Flexible Schedule:** Volunteer when it works best for you—whether it's a few hours a week or on a more occasional basis.
- **Rewarding Experience:** Gain personal satisfaction knowing you've made a meaningful difference in someone's life.
- **Build Connections:** Strengthen community ties by forming relationships with seniors and other volunteers.



Learn & Join

651-642-1892 

information@helpatyourdoor.org 

helpatyourdoor.org 

Mission: to help seniors and individuals with disabilities maintain their independence and continue living in their homes.

Gerten's Spring Plant Sale: Order by April 6

The online site to order Gerten's spring plants is now open. New this year, you will be able to direct the profit from your purchase to either future Tanzania Mission travel, Youth Mission travel, the Family Emergency Fund or Neighbor's Inc. Simply select which fund under the "Seller" drop down menu.

Please place your order online by Monday, April 6th (online ordering closes at 10pm) and mark your calendar to pick up your plants Wednesday, May 13. Sellers will need to pick up their orders and deliver them to their customers.

To access the site and place an order:

- Go to www.gertensfundraising.com
- Enter the Store ID code **134** into the text field and click 'Enter ID to Continue'

Lenten Faith Formation: Strength to Love

Join us for the faith formation hour throughout Lent on Sundays after worship. We will be exploring some of the key theological ideas behind the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and work.

Want to go deeper? In addition to discussion, you are invited to read the book *Strength to Love* by MLK. Copies can be purchased from the church office for \$10. Reading the book is not a requirement for participation in the discussion.

Schedule:

March 1: MLK's Theology: Strength to Love and "A Tough Mind and a Tender Heart" (chapter 1)

March 8: Nonconformity through Love and Neighborliness (chapters 2-6)

March 15: God of the Oppressed (chapters 7-11)

March 22: Reacting to Fearful Times with Loving Nonviolence (chapter 12-15)

Introducing a New Cleaning Crew

Amazing Grace had been fortunate to have had the same cleaning service for a number of years. We contracted services through a company owned by Kristi Frid, daughter of members Chuck and Betty Frid. Kristi retired and discontinued her cleaning company at the end of October 2025. The reliable and quality service provided by Kristi's team was appreciated and will be missed. In an effort to find a new service provider, we contacted several local churches seeking recommendations. From the list of recommendations, we conducted on-site interviews with representatives from three companies – all were professional, highly engaged, and responsive to our specific needs as well as budget.

We are excited to announce a contract with [Anago Cleaning Systems of Minneapolis](#). Our new cleaning crew (Maria and Darin) has been assigned and officially started as of Feb. 17. Thank you to Kari Rogers and Todd Erickson for taking on extra duties while we were without a cleaning service, and for their assistance in selecting and welcoming the new crew.

If you have any questions or feedback related to cleaning services, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Cyndi Berg and Pete Malamen
Co-chairs, Business Management and Properties

March Worship Volunteers

*If you would like to volunteer to help with a worship service,
please contact Julie Linscheid njlinscheid@gmail.com*

	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	Palm Sunday March 29
Greeters	Darlene Wold	Jean Jantzen	Mary Garfield	Scott Ferriss	Susanna Jackson
Ushers	Norm Beckman and Cyndi Berg	Gail Marek and Todd Erickson	Julie Linscheid and Bruce Klopfleisch	Pete Malamen and Jean Jantzen	Cyndi and Rick Berg
Readers	Scott Ferriss	Pete Malamen	Jason Teiken	Bartholomew Wilson	Bruce Klopfleisch
Sound	Jason Teiken	Miranda Barnhart	Katie Klopfleisch	Sophie Ball	Markus Linscheid
Altar Care/ Acolyte	Anna Wilson	Lisa Barnhart	Teri Santema	Jeannie Hall	Julie Linscheid
Counter	Tim Sanborn	Pete Malamen	Mary Garfield	Tim Sanborn	Pete Malamen

April Worship Volunteers

*If you would like to volunteer to help with a worship service,
please contact Julie Linscheid njlinscheid@gmail.com*

	Easter Sunday, Early April 5	Easter Sunday, Late April 5	April 12	April 19	April 26
Greeters	Glen and Kathy Armstrong	Janet Aguirre	Janet Aguirre	Gail Marek	Anna Wilson
Ushers	Jason Teiken		Todd Erickson and Bartholomew Wilson	Katie Klopfleisch and Russ Barnhart	Mark Bartlette and Julie Linscheid
Readers	Barb Malamen		Julie Linscheid	Mary Garfield	Barb Malamen
Sound	Pete Malamen		Jeannie Hall	Bruce Klopfleisch	Pete Malamen
Altar Care/ Acolyte			Lisa Barnhart	Teri Santema	Lynda Bartlette
Counter	Helen Yotter	Helen Yotter			

March AGLC Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9:30am Worship</p> <p>10:40am Sunday School: Last Supper</p> <p>10:45am Adult Faith Formation: The Strength to Love 1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6pm Yogadevotion</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper</p> <p>7pm Lent Worship</p> <p>7:30pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10am Inver Glen Worship</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30am Worship</p> <p>10:40am Sunday School: Last Supper</p> <p>10:45am Adult Faith Formation: The Strength to Love 2</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6pm Yogadevotion</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10am Stewardship and Evangelism</p> <p>6:30pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper</p> <p>7pm Lent Worship</p> <p>7:30pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30am Worship</p> <p>10:40am Sunday School: Lord is My Shepherd</p> <p>10:45am Adult Faith Formation: The Strength to Love 3</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6pm Yogadevotion</p> <p>6:30pm Isaiah Gathering</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:30am Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper</p> <p>7pm Lent Worship</p> <p>7:30pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30am Worship</p> <p>10:40am Sunday School</p> <p>10:45am Adult Faith Formation: The Strength to Love 4</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6pm Yogadevotion</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10am Staff Meeting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper</p> <p>7pm Lent Worship</p> <p>7:30pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>PALM SUNDAY</p> <p>9:30am Worship</p> <p>1pm ISAIAH: Palm Sunday Path March, St Paul</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6pm Yogadevotion</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p> <p>7:30pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10am Inver Glen Worship</p> <p>7pm Maundy Thursday Worship</p>	<p>3</p> <p>GOOD FRIDAY</p> <p>7pm Good Friday Worship</p>	<p>4</p>



Website:

www.aglcigh.org

Church Office Hours:

*By appointment only
Phone: 651-455-0093*

Staff:

Lead Pastor—Pastor Tim Maybee
tmaybee@aglcigh.org
763-233-9576

Office Administrator—Kari Rogers
agladmin@aglcigh.org

Communications Coordinator—Sarah Bjorklund
sbjorklund@aglcigh.org

Worship Coordinator —Barbara Forthun
bforthun@aglcigh.org

Worship Musician—Sandy McAllister

AGLC President—Annie Morgan
ann1216morgan@gmail.com

Deadlines:

*Newsletter article submissions are due
by the 20th of the month to Sarah Bjorklund
sbjorklund@aglcigh.org*

*Friday Email Announcements are due
Wednesdays by Noon to Sarah Bjorklund
sbjorklund@aglcigh.org*

*Bulletin Announcements are due
Wednesdays by Noon to Kari
agladmin@aglcigh.org*

**AMAZING
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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Address Service Requested



Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

*Joining Together to Serve the World
Around Us*