

Vasa Lutheran Church
The Man Born Blind

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist-Anne Anderson

Sunday, February 15, 2026

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \ddagger one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ARISE, YOUR LIGHT HAS COME!

ELW 314

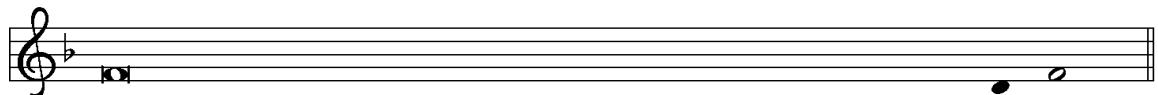
GREETING: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

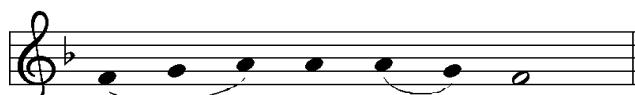
KYRIE



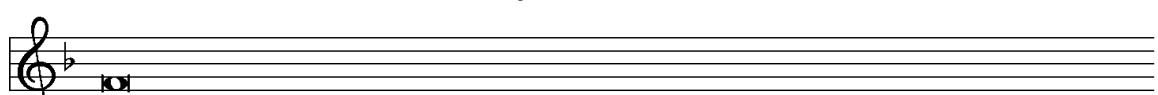
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



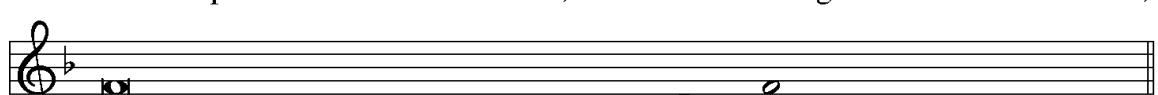
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



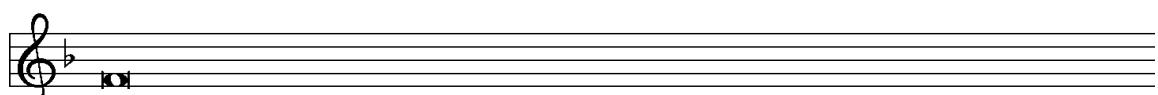
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



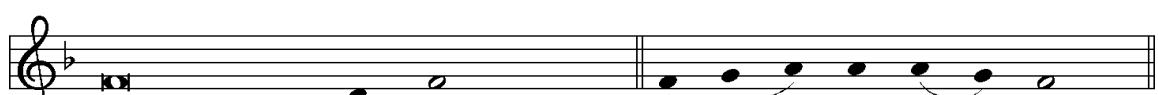
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



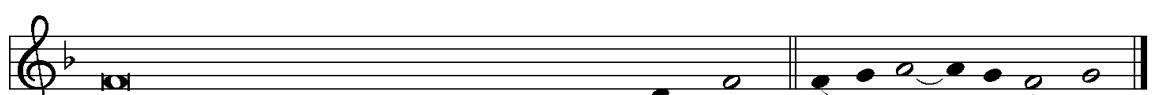
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



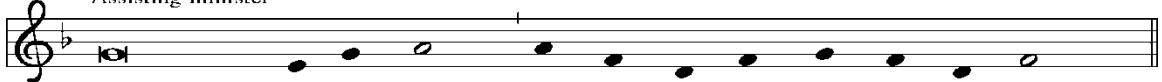
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **A** - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.



Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, All,



we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.



Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, All,



you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; All,



you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. All,



For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, All,



you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, All,



in the glory of God the Father. Amen. All,

PRAYER OF THE DAY: God of vision, **Too often we are spiritually blindfolded, unable to see you at work in our world. Remove barriers that keep us from seeing. Help us to be light for others. Amen.**

PSALM 27:1-4

P: The LORD is my light and my salvation;

C: whom shall I fear?

P: The LORD is the stronghold of my life;

C: of whom shall I be afraid?

P: When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh-- my adversaries and foes—

C: they shall stumble and fall.

P: Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;

C: though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

P: One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

C: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,

to behold the beauty of the LORD,

and to inquire in his temple.

GOSPEL READING: John 9:1 - 41 As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." 6 When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, 7 saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. 8 The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" 9 Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." 10 But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" 11 He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." 12 They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14 Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15 Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." 16 Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. 17 So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

18 The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19 and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" 20 His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 21 but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." 22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. 23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

24 So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." 25 He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." 26 They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" 27 He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" 28 Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29 We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." 30 The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. 32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." 34 They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

35 Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36 He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." 37 Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." 38 He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. 39 Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." 40 Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" 41 Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

L: Word of God, word of life,

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN

AMAZING GRACE

ELW 779

SERMON

HYMN

BE THOU MY VISION

ELW 793

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**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 CONGREGATION

Each petition will end with the words: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share God's peace with one another.

GENEROSITY MOMENT

HOLY COMMUNION WITH THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:
the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt,
the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets;
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
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.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,
we await his coming in power
to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we who share in Christ's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants
of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Give us the courage to follow in the footsteps of Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying...

**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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We will receive communion by intinction. All are welcome at the Lord's table. You don't need to be a member of Vasa, nor do you need to be a Lutheran to receive the body and blood of Christ today. Gluten free portions and non-alcoholic wine are available for those who have dietary restrictions. Children are welcome to come forward and will receive a blessing.

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ be with you now and forever. **Amen.**

Radiant God,

we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING HYMN PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS ELW 843

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you:

C: Wherever he may send you;

P: May he guide you through the wilderness:

C: Protect you through the storm;

P: May he bring you home rejoicing:

C: At the wonders he has shown you;

P: May he bring you home rejoicing:

C: Once again into our doors. Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.



Wendy Anderson, Jay

Mikaelson, Scott

Sorenson, Lorrie

Samuelson, Lynda

Rosener Sack, Terri

Fredin, Terri Mandelkow,

Connor Michalicek

(Rosann Pearson's

grandson), Roger

Guttromson, Eileen

Anderson

Worship Assistants Today

Usher: Rick Samuelson

Lector: Sid Featherstone

Hospitality: Lora Gruber

Communion Asst.: Marcia Featherstone

Worship Assistants Next Week

February 18

Usher: John & Mo Hauck

Lector: Ben Norman

Communion Asst.: Katie Featherstone

2026 Lenten Focus

The “I Am” Saying’s of Jesus

Ash Wednesday falls on Wednesday, Feb. 18th this year. The season of Lent will commence with a service in the **church sanctuary** at **7:00 p.m.** Our Scripture reading will be John 10:11-14 where Jesus says, “I am the good shepherd.”

This year’s pilgrimage through the season of Lent will include a soup supper at 5:30 in the Lutheran Center. At about 6:00 we will worship by singing Holden Evening Prayer. This service will include a brief meditation on the “I Am” saying of Jesus from the gospel of John.

February 18th— I am the **Good Shepherd** (John 10:11-14)

February 25th— I am the **Bread** of Life (John 6:35)

March 4th— I am the **Light** of the world (John 8:12)

March 11th— I am the **Gate/Door** (John 10:9)

March 18th— I am the **Way the Truth and the Life** (John 14:6)

2026 Annual Meeting

February 22nd

After Worship please make
sure to be there to prepare
for this new year for the

MUSIC FOR FEBRUARY 15, 2026

ARISE, YOUR LIGHT HAS COME!

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AMAZING GRACE

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4;
anonymous, st. 5

Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O.
Excell, 1851-1921, alt.

BE THOU MY VISION

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.;
tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931
Music: Irish traditional

PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS

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