



Welcome to Worship!

February 8, 2026 —10:00 a.m.

Worship Leaders: Patti Happel, SAM; Pastor Kathryn Thompson, LuMin

Accompanist: Lynn Wegner

Order of Worship

(ELW—Evangelical Lutheran Worship—red hymnal; WOV –With One Voice—blue hymnal)

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Prayer of Confession

We confess the times we fail to involve ourselves in planting any seeds of faith in the lives of others; the times when our personal agendas become more important than yours; the times when we have denied others the opportunity to expand their faith through our lack of interest or involvement; the times when our lives become so entangled with the values of the world that we forget what you have said and done and promised.

Lord Jesus Christ, we know that when we become disconnected from you, our lives become parched and unfruitful, and our faith becomes stunted and dry.

Bless and renew our lives, we pray, so that we remain connected to you at all times and in all places, strengthening our faith to expand and, growing strongly and vigorously, to bear the fruit of your mercy, your love, your undying life. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Gathering Song

“Morning Has Broken”

ELW 556

Greeting

c: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Creating God, you have scattered the seeds of your kingdom far and wide. Give us the courage to grow wherever we’ve been scattered, trusting in your faithful presence and unconditional love as the water, sun, and soil that sustains our daily life. Empower us

to flourish, that we may become branches of justice reaching for our neighbors in need. Amen.

Children’s Message

First ReadingPsalm 23response in bold

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
**He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;**
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name’s sake.
**Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation	“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”	ELW 512
Gospel	Mark 4:26-32	
Sermon		
Hymn of the Day	“For the Fruit of All Creation”	ELW 679
Apostles’ Creed		
Prayers of Intercession	Loving God, grow new life in us.	
Peace	c: And also with you.	
Offering Song	“I Am Thanking Jesus”	

I am thanking Jesus, I am thanking Jesus, I am thanking Jesus from my heart. (repeat)

Offering Prayer	c: Amen.	
Words of Institution		
Lord’s Prayer		ELW p 112
Invitation to Communion		
Communion Hymns	“We Plow the Fields and Scatter”	ELW 680
	“For the Beauty of the Earth”	ELW 879
	“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”	ELW 659
Post Communion Blessing	c: Amen.	
Prayer after Communion	c: Amen.	

Blessing
Sending Song
Dismissal
Postlude

c: Amen.
“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”
Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

ELW 547

Announcements

Birthdays this week: Judy Casberg, Nelson Holley, Matthew Tolvstad, Bear Gates, Berkley Gates, Sonja Nelson, Donald Graham, Brayden Wanie, David Bringe, Carter Thiele, Whitney Happel, Susan Jostad

Our February Noisy Offering supports LuMin Campus Ministry. Thanks to your generosity, we collected \$46.04 last week! Today, we are excited to welcome LuMin’s Pastor Kathryn Thompson to the pulpit. Thank you for your continued support!

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make pizzas, sold pizzas, and purchased them. Pizzas are available for pick up after worship today. Thanks for helping us raise money for our youth!

This year, our Lenten worship series, **Teach Us to Pray**, will focus on the spiritual practice of prayer. Each week, our 30-minute service will include an interactive experience exploring different forms of prayer and different ways to pray. Services will be held Wednesdays at **6:30 PM beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 18**. This series is designed to deepen your prayer life and is appropriate for all ages—**from 3 to 93!** Lenten Meals will begin **February 25 at 545 PM**. Themes and sign-ups are in the gathering space. We hope you will join us!

Looking for people who enjoy knitting and crocheting for a new ministry at Halfway Creek! Contact Patti for more information! 608-317-9525 or email: pastor@halfwaycreek.org.

In Our Prayers:

We pray for friends and family of those who have recently passed: Glenn Schmidt, Bob Cottrell, Amanda Anderson, Beulah Sanders, Harvey Miller

We pray for Ron Christensen, Bill Baxter, Jackson Ammerman (grandson of Les and Susan Kolbo), Gayle "Susie" Johnson, Laurie Gillespie, Diane Jostad, Betty Bender, Stacey Fredricks, Robin Ruhbusch, Pat Martin, Laurie Noelke, Megan Sacia Ulrich, Perry Voshage, Marjorie Lee, Jean Latham, Joan Vaughn, Bridget Ferk, Thema Severson, Katie Wier, Phoebe & Bill Kitzke, Gayle Kuespert, Cary Heyer, Jenny Lee, Mary Dokkebaken, Karla Johnson, Coats family

Welcome to Worship!

Thank you for being here today. We want you to feel at home when you are here at HCLC, so please remember:

As you participate: Bolded words on the screen are for you to speak. Even though the pastor indicates when to stand up or sit down, that is not mandatory. We do not judge when it's done differently. Move around as you need to and please worship as *your* body demands it.

Offering

The offering is our way of showing that when we come to the table, we bring ourselves as well as all we have been given by God to be blessed for service in God's world.

The offering plate is passed around during the offering song.

The cake pan is for our Noisy Offering. Each month we choose a cause to support.

Offerings can also be made through our website or by using this QR code. Thank you for the many ways you support HCLC and our mission.



Holy Communion

All are welcome to the table today when communion is offered. It is not our table, but Jesus is the host. So, in this place **all** are welcome to Jesus' table.

Pre-packaged communion kits, regular and gluten-free, are available for communing in your seats or bringing them forward with you. The ushers will have them in a basket.

Communion in the front aisle will be baked bread and both wine and juice (the wine is red, juice is clear).

Kids

We welcome kids to participate fully in any part of the service! You may pass the offering plate or noisy offering, and we have activity bags as you enter church.

An **AED is available** in case of an emergency. It is located just outside the sanctuary doors.

Please join us for coffee and fellowship each week after service. Guests and members please take a moment to fill out the Welcome Card in the pew. We want to know how we can best minister to you.

Halfway Creek Lutheran Church ELCA
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Worship: Sundays at 10 a.m.

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