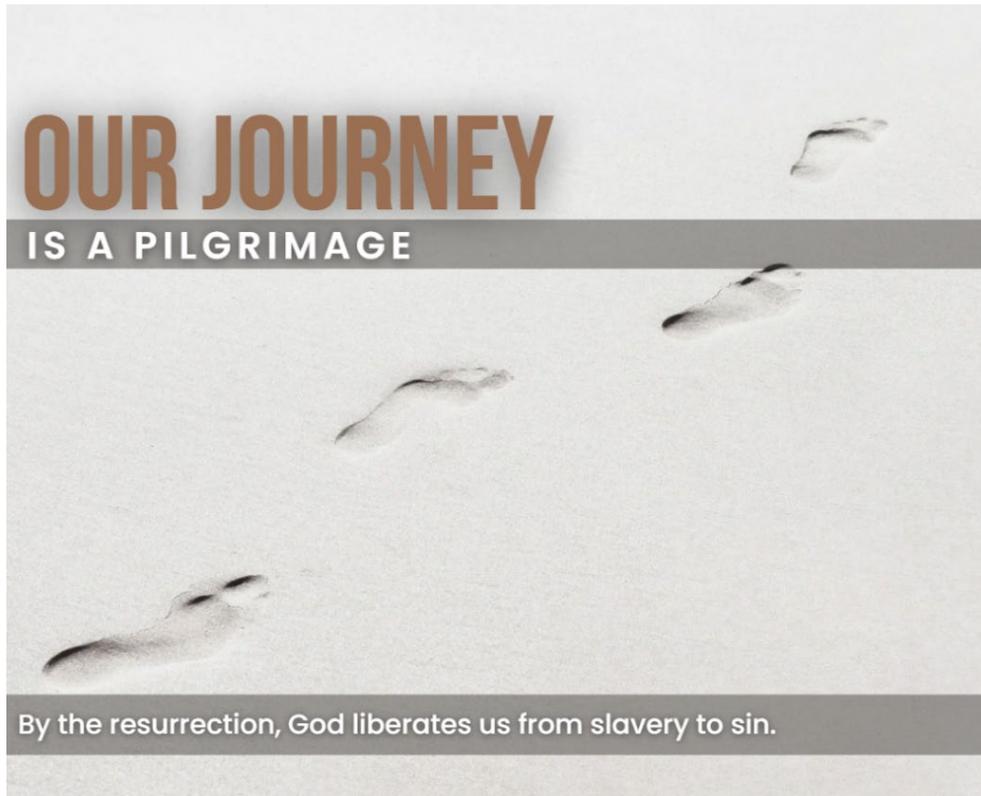


**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of Lent**  
Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026

*Our journey is a pilgrimage, like the Israelites' deliverance at the Red Sea - In this archetypal story, God vanquishes evil and liberates the oppressed. By the resurrection, God liberates us from slavery to sin and brings us through the waters of baptism to safety.*



*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

Council Secretary: Kay Michaelson 712-540-5368  
Pastor Paige McGrath: [pastor@livingfaithlemars.com](mailto:pastor@livingfaithlemars.com)

712-541-3782 | [www.livingfaithlemars.com](http://www.livingfaithlemars.com)

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### OPENING DIALOGUE

Behold, now is the acceptable time;  
**now is the day of salvation.**

Turn us again, O God of our salvation,  
**that the light of your face may shine on us.**  
May your justice shine like the sun;  
**and may the poor be lifted up.**

#### HYMN OF LIGHT

*We Are Marching in the Light*

ELW 866

**v. march, sing, pray**

#### 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.**

#### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Holy One, **we confess that we have wandered far from you:**  
**we have not trusted your promises,**  
**we have ignored your prophets in our own day,**  
**we have squandered our inheritance of grace,**  
**we have failed to recognize you in our midst.**  
**Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you.**  
**Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love,**  
**and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, the Word... teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

#### READING: Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### MOSES' SONG: Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18

<sup>1b</sup>I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously;  
throwing horse and rider into the sea.

<sup>2</sup>**The Lord is my strength and my might,**  
**and has become my salvation;**  
this is my God—this God I will praise;  
my father's God—this God I will exalt.

<sup>3</sup>**The Lord is a warrior;**  
**the Lord is his name.**

<sup>4</sup>The Lord hurled Pharaoh's chariots and army into the sea;  
his picked officers were sunk in the Red Sea.

<sup>5</sup>**The floods covered them;**

**they went down into the depths like a stone.**

<sup>6</sup>Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power—  
your right hand, O Lord, shattered the enemy.

<sup>7</sup>**In the greatness of your majesty  
you overthrew your adversaries;  
you sent out your fury, it consumed them like stubble.**

<sup>8</sup>At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up,  
the floods stood up in a heap;  
the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.

<sup>9</sup>**The enemy said, “I will pursue, I will overtake,  
I will divide the spoil,  
my desire shall have its fill of them.  
I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.”**

<sup>10</sup>You blew with your wind, the sea covered them;  
they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

<sup>11</sup>**“Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods?  
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,  
awesome in splendor, doing wonders?”**

<sup>12</sup>You stretched out your right hand,  
the earth swallowed them.

<sup>13</sup>**In your steadfast love you led the people whom you redeemed;  
you guided them by your strength to your holy abode.**

<sup>17</sup>You brought them in and planted them  
on the mountain of your own possession,  
the place, O Lord, that you made your abode,  
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hands have established.

<sup>18</sup>**The Lord will reign forever and ever.**

**POEM:** *“a preface in verse – the burning bush”*

written by Charles Lattimore Howard

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**ELW 459**

*Wade in the Water*

## **DISCUSSION**

1. Where is God? – What is God up to?
2. What does God call humans to do or be?
3. Describe the relationship in the reading(s).

## **PILGRIMAGE PRAYER**

**ELW 635 & 770**

## **LORD’S PRAYER**

### **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **SENDING SONG**

**ELW 326**

*Bless Now, O God, the Journey*

## **BENEDICTION**

## **PEACE**

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,  
be with you always. **And also with you.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Holy Ground*

*Words and Music by Geron Davis, arr. By Phillip Keveren*

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**Thank you, worship leaders!**

Greeter/Usher: Tim Kass

Accompanist: Travis Balt

Reader: Dakota Utesch

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