



# Halfway Creek

LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Welcome to Worship*



*March 16, 2025 10:00 a.m.*

*Second Sunday of Lent and Holy Baptism of Tate Grant Burnikel*

*Pastor Jim Arends, presiding—Worship Accompanist: Lynn Wegner*

*We welcome the Burnikel family as they present Tate for Holy Baptism.*

*Thank you, God, for the gift of baptism, which affirms our faith, washes us clean with God's love and forgiveness, welcomes us to the vast community of siblings in Christ and grants us a new life of service and sharing the gospel wherever we go. Amen.*

## Order of Worship

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

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering

Prayer of Confession

*We hear the call to trust in God always,*

**c: But honestly, some days our stresses and doubts are even more real to us than God, and trust is elusive.**

*We remember how Abram dared to believe in God's promises,*

**c: But belief like that is hard to come by. We are often inclined to think, "God helps those who help themselves," instead of daring to rely on the word of our Creator.**

*When the world seems filled with dangers, we can be quick to protect ourselves, And we forget the wisdom of scripture, which reminds us that we find traces of evil both outside and inside of ourselves. With God's help, we confront our fears and struggles, and we call upon a power greater than our own to resist their pull.*

**c: Hear us, Holy One, as we confess our frailty and failings.**

*Silent prayers of confession*

Words of Assurance

**c: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Gathering Song

*"Around You O Lord Jesus"*

ELW 468

Greeting

**c: And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

**God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Presentation & Baptism*

*see insert*

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Gospel Acclamation

*"Let Your Steadfast Love Come to Us O Lord"* setting 8

Gospel

Luke 13:31-35

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

*"Thy Holy Wings"*

ELW 613

Prayers of Intercession

God, in your mercy, **c: receive our prayer.**

Peace

Offertory Song

*"Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God"*

ELW 188

Offering Prayer

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

ELW pg. 191

Invitation to Communion

Communion	“Wonderful, Merciful Savior”	see insert
Post Communion Blessing	<b>c: Amen</b>	
Prayer after Communion	<b>c: Amen</b>	
Blessing	<b>c: Amen</b>	
Sending Song	“God of Grace and God of Glory”	ELW 705
Dismissal & Postlude		

## Announcements

Birthdays this week: Lyza Yahnke, James Dokkebaken, Collin Noel, Jesse Oines, Brian Wille, Marc Jandt

Noisy Offering: Our noisy offering for the month of March is for the Coulee Region Immigration Task Force. The mission of the Coulee Region Immigration Task Force is to welcome, advocate, and educate in the service of new, recent, and established immigrants. Last weekend you gave \$73.09 for a total of \$118.41 so far. Let’s keep making some noise!

Confirmation Service Project: We will meet Wednesday, **March 19 at 6:30 p.m.** for our **Little Hearts Service Project.** Families are encouraged to attend as well.

### Upcoming Worship & Events—MARCH

**19 & 26**—5:45 p.m. Wednesday Lenten Meal 6:30 p.m. Service followed by reflection and conversation

**23**—10:00 a.m. worship with Pastor Kuespert

**30**—10:00 a.m. worship with Pastor Wayne  
Easter flower orders due; drop off cookies for LuMin—Cookies on Campus.

Mid-week Lenten meals and service: We’ll gather on Wednesdays during lent through April 9 at 5:45 p.m. for our meal and 6:30 p.m. for service followed by a short time of

reflection and conversation. Topics will come from the book “*The Great Spiritual Migration*” by Brian D McLaren. It is not necessary to read the book to participate in these conversations. If you would like us to order a copy, contact Shari or you may purchase a copy on your own. *Sign up sheets for the Lenten meals may be found in the gathering space.*

Planning ahead for Holy Week and Easter:  
Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 6:30 p.m.  
Good Friday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m.  
Easter Sunday, April 20 at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

### **In Our Prayers:**

**We pray for** friends and family of those we have lost: Ray Cook, Charles Severson, Madilyn Vang, Jeff Rose, Ron Hanson, Rod Sutherland, Curt Nedoba, Judy Campbell, Mike Nedoba, Raymond Lee, Marie Jezova

**We pray for** Laurie Noelke, Brooklynn Cook, Megan Sacia Ulrich, Perry Voshage, Owen Gilbertson, Adisyn Rhyme, Kannon Happel, Marjorie Lee, Jean Latham, Bob Loper, Joan Vaughn, Bridget Ferk, Thelma Severson, Lisa Herrera Evans, Katie Wier, Phoebe Kitzke, Gayle Kuespert, Beulah Sanders, Cary Heyer, Eric Erdman, Dawson Reed, Jenny Lee, Mary Dokkebaken, Karla Johnson, Alice Fonfara, the 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 with you as you come forward.

**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**  
**W6016 County Rd W, Holmen, WI 54636**  
**Phone: 608-526-3701**  
**Website: [halfwaycreek.org](http://halfwaycreek.org)**  
**Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thu: 9 a.m.–3 p.m.**  
**Worship: Sundays at 10 a.m.**

**Synod Authorized Minister:** Patti Happel  
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**HCLC Vision Board Members:**  
*President: Bette Pedretti*  
*Vice President: Nicole Stumlin*  
*Secretary: Amy Noel; Treasurer: Carrie Payne*  
Members: Nancy Holley, Michelle Olson,  
Wayne Atchley, Ema Nedoba, Oliva Nedoba

# Baptism

## PRESENTATION

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

*Sponsors:*

**I present *Tate Grant Burnikel* for baptism.**

*Kyle and Paige*, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have *Tate* baptized into Christ?

***Response: I do.***

As you bring *him* to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with *him* among God's faithful people, bring *him* to the word of God and the holy supper, teach *him* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in *his* hands the holy scriptures, and nurture *him* in faith and prayer, so that *your child* may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help *your child* grow in the Christian faith and life? ***Response: I do.***

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture *Tate* in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church? ***Response: I do.***

People of God, do you promise to support *Tate* and pray for *him* in *his* new life in Christ? **We do.**

I ask you, with the whole assembly, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

***Response: I renounce them.***

## 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.**

*We prepare the font by giving thanks for the waters of baptism, the water used here, and the promise of God to which it ties us.*

## THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth.

**We thank you for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried, sharing in Christ's death. By it we share also in Christ's resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit as your children.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit and breathe new life into those who are here baptized. By your Spirit adopt us all as your children, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **BAPTISM**

*Tate Grant Burnikel, child of God,* you are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Let us pray.*

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain *Tate* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

*Tate,* child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

### **WELCOME**

“Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

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COMMUNION -“Wonderful, Merciful Savior”

Wonderful, merciful Savior  
Precious Redeemer and Friend  
Who would have thought that a Lamb  
Could rescue the souls of men  
Oh you rescue the souls of men

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper  
Spirit we long to embrace  
You offer hope when our hearts have  
Hopelessly lost the way  
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way

*Chorus*

You are the One that we praise  
You are the One we adore  
You give the healing and grace  
Our hearts always hunger for  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for

Almighty, infinite Father  
Faithfully loving Your own  
Here in our weakness You find us  
Falling before Your throne  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne

Chorus x2