

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 27, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

Throughout biblical history, God used prophets to call His people to repentance with the promise of mercy. God's mercy should encourage us to return to Him, but too often, the people of God have refused His care. That is the story of Jeremiah, who was sent by the Lord to speak His Word, warn His people of disaster if they refused Him, and promise mercy to all who repent. It is also our story. The Law warns us of the failure to confess our sins and the Gospel promises forgiveness to all who confess and believe in our Lord Jesus Christ. Today, we pray the Lord to grant us hearts willing to hear His Word, confess our sins, believe in the forgiveness of Christ, and rejoice in this blessing all our days.

HYMN "O Mighty Cross" -David Baroni and John Chisum; arr. Tom Fettke ©1994 Integrity's Hosanna! Music and Integrity's Praise! Music. Used by permission. CCLI #589180

1. O mighty cross, love lifted high,
The Lord of life raised there to die;
His sacrifice on Calvary,
Has made the mighty cross a tree of life to me.

2. O mighty cross, what throne of grace,
He knew no sin, yet took my place;
His sacrifice on Calvary,
Has made the mighty cross a tree of life to me.

3. O mighty cross, O Christ, so pure,
Love held Him there, such shame endured;
His sacrifice on Calvary,
Has made the mighty cross a tree of life to me.

4. O mighty cross, my soul's release,
The stripes He bore, have brought me peace;
His sacrifice on Calvary,
Has made the mighty cross a tree of life to me.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 74:1*

Pastor: O God, why do You cast us off forever?

People: Why does Your anger smoke against the sheep of Your pasture?

Pastor: May the Lord direct us to the ruins of our righteousness

People: that we may learn repentance.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

Pastor: O Lord,

People: we poor sinners cry to You and beg Your mercy. We confess that we have lived as if You did not matter and as if we mattered most of all. Our Lord's name we have not honored as we should; our worship and prayers have faltered. We have not loved God above all things, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done the good Your Word desires and have done the evil Your Word

forbids. May God be merciful to us, forgive us all our sins, and strengthen our faith for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

INTROIT *Psalm 74:1–3; antiphon: Psalm 69:9*

For zeal for your house has consumed me, and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me. O God, why do you cast us off forever? Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?

Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old, which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage! Remember Mount Zion, where you have dwelt. Direct your steps to the perpetual ruins; the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctuary! **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. Amen.** For zeal for your house has consumed me, and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me.

LITANY

Pastor: O God, the Father in heaven,

People: have mercy upon us.

Pastor: O God, the Son, Redeemer of the world,

People: have mercy upon us.

Pastor: O God, the Holy Spirit, sanctifier of the faithful,

People: have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Remember not our offenses, but forgive us, O Lord,

People: whom You have redeemed with Your most precious blood.

Pastor: From all blindness, hardness of heart, and impenitence,

People: good Lord, deliver us.

Pastor: From all pride, hypocrisy, anger, hatred, and greed,

People: good Lord, deliver us.

Pastor: From the deceit of the devil, from the lure of the world, and our own flesh,

People: good Lord, deliver us.

Pastor: In time of danger, in the hour of trial, and in the day of judgment,

People: good Lord, deliver us.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Save us, O Lord, for the sake of Your name. Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BELL CHOIR “Sacred Silence” -Karissa Dennis

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY

Pastor: On this Sunday in Lent, we are reminded that the Lord is rich in mercy and willing to forgive our sins and save us by His grace, but we are not always ready to approach Him in the humility of faith and with a heart of repentance. From the prophet Jeremiah comes the story of how the Word of the Lord was met with rejection, anger, and rebellion. In Philippians, a sorrowful Paul recounts the story of those who once believed but now walk as enemies of the Lord. In the Gospel, we hear the lament of the Lord who wanted to gather His people under the arms of His mercy, but they would not.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 26:8–15* (The Lord has sent me to speak all these words in your ears.) When Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the Lord had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! Why have you prophesied in the name of the Lord, saying, ‘This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant’?” And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the Lord. When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king’s house to the house of the Lord and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the Lord. Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears.” Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, “The Lord sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the Lord your God, and the Lord will relent of the disaster that he has pronounced against you. But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the Lord sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 4; antiphon: v. 8 (The congregation joins on the bold verses.)*

Antiphon: In peace I will both lie down and sleep;

for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

You have given me relief when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

² O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?

How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?

³ **But know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself;**

the Lord hears when I call to him.

⁴ Be angry, and do not sin;

ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.

⁵ **Offer right sacrifices,**

and put your trust in the Lord.

⁶ There are many who say, “Who will show us some good?

Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!”

⁷ **You have put more joy in my heart**

than they have when their grain and wine abound.

⁸ In peace I will both lie down and sleep;

for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit

as it was in the beginning

is now, and will be forever. Amen

In peace I will both lie down and sleep;

for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

EPISTLE *Philippians 3:17–4:1* (Paul laments those who lose their faith and become enemies of the Gospel.) Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 13:31–35* (Jesus would gather His people like a hen gathers her chicks.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” And he said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course. Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.’ O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “Chief of Sinners Though I Be” *LSB 611*

1 Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high,
Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.

2 Oh, the height of Jesus’ love,
Higher than the heav’ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me—wondrous thought!
Found me when I sought Him not.

3 Only Jesus can impart
Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv’n,
Joy that lifts the soul to heav’n,
Faith and hope to walk with God
In the way that Enoch trod.

4 Chief of sinners though I be,
Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known,
All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life
Safe with Him from earthly strife.

5 O my Savior, help afford
By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray,
Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply
While I live and when I die.
Text: Public domain

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you leave the sanctuary.

For meditation, from Luther's Small Catechism, The Lord's Prayer:

The Conclusion: "For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen." What is meant by the word "Amen"? That I should be certain that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us so to pray, and has promised to hear us. Amen, Amen, that is, Yea, yea, it shall be so.

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

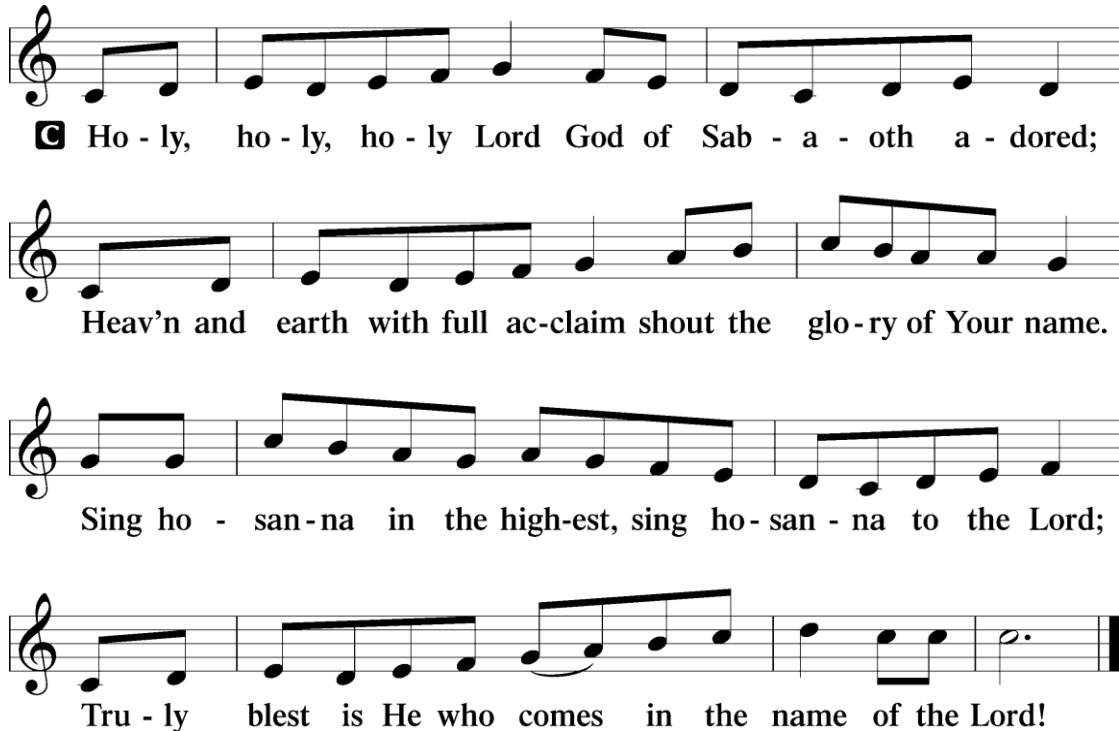
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the

paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Divine Service, Setting Four from *Lutheran Service Book* © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us.

To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My \times body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My \times blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9-13*

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.

PAX DOMINI

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Divine Service, Setting Four from *Lutheran Service Book* © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission.

You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “At the Cross” –Randy and Terry Butler
©1993 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing. Used by permission. CCLI #589180

I know a place, a wonderful place
Where accused and condemned find mercy and grace
Where the wrongs we have done and the wrongs done to us
Were nailed there with Him, there on the cross.

At the cross (echo)
He died for our sins
At the cross (echo)
He gave us life again

(Repeat)

“There Is a Redeemer” -Melody Green-Sievrigh
© 1982 Birdwing Music. Used by Permission CCLI #589180

1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s own Son;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Refrain: Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

2. Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain. *Refrain*

3. When I stand in glory, I will see His face;
There I’ll serve my King forever in that holy place. *Refrain*

BLESSING

Pastor: May our Lord’s body and blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace and with joy.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN “Children of the Heavenly Father” LSB 725

1 Children of the heav’nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e’er was given.

2 God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;
In His mighty arms He bears them.

3 Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

4 Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne’er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.
Text: Public domain

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2021 Concordia Publishing House.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *Luke 15:12 – “And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them.”* This prodigal son only sees the father as a source of wealth. Give me my inheritance now! Which is to say, “You are better off dead in my eyes.” This is the sin at the heart of all greed, valuing things over people. This parable calls us to “come to our senses” as well. It calls us to see God as the loving Giver of all good, the true Father to be valued above and beyond all the things of this world.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES: Join us on Wednesdays through April 6 at 11:30 a.m. We will not be having luncheons this year. An evening service will be held at 7:00 at Bethel Lutheran Church (670 Wheelock Pkwy W, St. Paul).

THE EASTER MEMORIAL GARDEN donation slip in the narthex provides an opportunity to remember departed loved ones and contribute toward the cost of Easter decorations. Complete the slip, enclose it in the envelope provided along with your donation and drop in the collection plate or hand to an usher. Those who wish to pick up their Easter lilies may do so after the 9:30 am Easter service.

EASTER BREAKFAST – TO-GO: And help with the Federwitz family’s moving fund! Easter Breakfast to-go will be available on Easter Sunday. Yummy Easter treats will be part of a bag/box to go on Easter Sunday after our worship service. A free will offering will be taken that will go towards the Federwitz family’s moving fund. A Thrivent Action grant is funding the meals. Please contact Maria in the Emmaus office with an RSVP if you would like a bag. Extra bags will be available, but an RSVP will help determine how many bags should be made.

MAIL, MUFFINS, FUN & FELLOWSHIP: Members of *all* ages, join us the morning of Saturday, April 9th, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. in Social Hall to write personalized Easter greetings to be mailed to all members and friends of our congregation. Cards (with original artwork by fellow congregant Bea Haagenson), supplies, and stamps will be provided. Come prepared to write a note or draw a picture. Many hands make light work, and what a blessing to gather together again! Sweet and savory muffins will be served along with juice and coffee. Supplies and treats will be provided through a Thrivent grant and free-will offering. See you there!

JEENA'S BUSINESS is now open! You can visit Namaste Brows & Boutique at 1718B Lexington Ave N in Roseville. Brochures are available in the office. www.namastebrowsandboutique.com

FEDERWITZ FAMILY: The Federwitz family is moving back to the USA this June. With that comes the expense of shipping their belongings. In June Jonathan will take a new assignment at the Jaars mission aviation headquarters in Waxhaw, NC. Wycliffe Bible Translators has established a special launch expense account that can be used to help meet the financial needs associated with shipping things from PNG to the USA, purchasing a vehicle, and setting up a home. The budget set for this account is \$25,000. If you would like to give to the special launch expense account, please send your gift to Wycliffe Bible Translators, P.O. Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862 and include a separate note stating "Preference for the Launch Expense Account of Jonathan & Carrie Federwitz # 359951 - LE." (Note: Gifts for the launch expense account should go to Wycliffe, not to LBT.) You can also give to the launch expense account online: www.wycliffe.org/partner/jcfederwitz. On the page that opens, find the drop-down box that says "Wycliffe Ministry Budget" and change it to "Launch Expense Account." Then enter an amount and click "Give." The launch expense account will be open through June. Please contact Jonathan if you would like more details. Jonathan_Federwitz@wycliffe.org.

HEAR "THE LUTHERAN HOUR" on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week's broadcast: "This Is the Feast" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. A costly and extravagant meal prepared by a master chef symbolizes the meal Christ serves to His people, the Church. (Luke 22:27)

CONCORDIA NEBRASKA BAND CONCERT ON APRIL 10: The St. Paul area is privileged to have the Concordia University-Nebraska Band, directed by Kurt von Kampen, stopping at Concordia Academy on their spring tour. On Palm Sunday, April 10, they will be presenting a concert at 7:00 p.m. in the CA Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public; a free-will offering will be gathered. Following the concert, the band is looking for host homes. If you are interested in hosting a pair of college musicians, please contact Rebecca Fritz at rebecca.fritz@concordiaacademy.com or 651-796-2663.

CA "ROARING 2020S" AUCTION ON APRIL 9: Celebrate Concordia Academy at the annual CA Dinner Auction on April 9 at 5:00 p.m. This event includes silent and live auctions, games, dinner, music by the Riverside Swing Band, dancing, and so much fun! Get details and purchase your tickets at www.concordiaacademy.com/auction.