

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 12, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

One guideline consistently commended to hikers is the importance of bringing along sufficient water for the journey. It is important to be refreshed and revitalized along the way, wherever our paths may take us. As we gather for worship, our gracious God refreshes us here in this place where, as American hymnist Christopher Wordsworth beautifully phrased it, “Gospel-light is glowing With pure and radiant beams And living water flowing With soul-refreshing streams” (*TLH* 9:4). As we join in worship, our cups run over with that living water. Once again, we are renewed and satisfied and made ready to journey further in the name of the Lord.

PRELUDE “I Am the Bread of Life” -John Michael Talbot

HYMN “Jesus Sinners Doth Receive” *LSB* 609

1 Jesus sinners doth receive;

Oh, may all this saying ponder

Who in sin’s delusions live

And from God and heaven wander!

Here is hope for all who grieve:

Jesus sinners doth receive.

2 We deserve but grief and shame,

Yet His words, rich grace revealing,

Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;

Here our ills have perfect healing.

Firmly in these words believe:

Jesus sinners doth receive.

3 Sheep that from the fold did stray

No true shepherd e’er forsaketh;

Weary souls that lost their way

Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh

In His arms that they may live:

Jesus sinners doth receive.

4 I, a sinner, come to Thee

With a penitent confession.

Savior, mercy show to me;

Grant for all my sins remission.

Let these words my soul relieve:

Jesus sinners doth receive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know:

Were as scarlet my transgression,

It shall be as white as snow

By Thy blood and bitter passion;

For these words I now believe:

Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace;
From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release
And my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave:
Jesus sinners doth receive. Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 34:1–3, 5, 22*

Pastor: I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

People: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

Pastor: Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!

People: Those who look to Him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God, we know and admit that we are sinners. We are conceived and born sinful, and we add on to that burden of sin throughout our lives by our heedless thoughts, careless words, and loveless deeds. Indeed, we deserve God's punishment now and eternally. When we reflect honestly on our lives, we readily see that we need repentance and renewal that can only come through our Lord, Jesus Christ. Let us then make confession to our gracious God.

People: Almighty God, we repent of our sins in thought and in word and in deed. You know too well our failings and our transgressions. Be merciful to us and for the sake of Jesus, grant us Your forgiveness so that, as Your redeemed people, we may find rest and life in You and with refreshed hearts serve You in time and in eternity.

Pastor: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

INTROIT *Psalm 84:1–4; antiphon: v. 5*

Pastor: Blessed are those whose strength is in You, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

Women: How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

Men: My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Women: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at Your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Men: Blessed are those who dwell in Your house, ever singing Your praise!

ALL: 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.

Blessed are those whose strength is in You, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: 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.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The hymns of the season of Lent and Holy Week come from many sources, from folk songs and spirituals, such as “Were You There” (*LSB* 456), to recently written narrative songs such as Jaroslav Vajda’s “When You Woke That Thursday Morning” (*LSB* 445). In the Lenten cantata, “The Crucifixion,” written in 1887, writer William J. Sparrow Simpson focused on the substitutionary nature of Christ as he affirmed that indeed Jesus was “crucified by sin for me” (*LSB* 428:2). Reflecting on how Jesus gave His life on the cross of Calvary to pay the debt we could not pay as our perfect substitute, together we sing the Lenten hymn, “Glory Be to Jesus.”

HYMN “Glory Be to Jesus” *LSB* 433

1 Glory be to Jesus,

 Who in bitter pains

Poured for me the lifeblood

 From His sacred veins!

2 Grace and life eternal

 In that blood I find;

Blest be His compassion,

 Infinitely kind!

3 Blest through endless ages

 Be the precious stream

Which from endless torment

 Did the world redeem!

4 Abel’s blood for vengeance

 Pleaded to the skies;

But the blood of Jesus

 For our pardon cries.

5 Oft as earth exulting

 Wafts its praise on high,

Angel hosts rejoicing

 Make their glad reply.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,

 Swell the mighty flood;

Louder still and louder

 Praise the precious blood!

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SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Exodus 17:1–7* (God provides water from the rock at Rephidim.) All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” And the Lord said to Moses, “Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalms 95:1–9; antiphon: v. 6*

Lector: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

ALL: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Women: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;

Men: let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

ALL: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Women: In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also.

Men: The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.

ALL: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

Women: Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,

Men: when your fathers put Me to the test and put Me to the proof, though they had seen My work.

ALL: 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.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

EPISTLE *Romans 5:1–8* (While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.) Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ

died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 4:5–26* (Jesus meets the Samaritan woman at the well.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus] came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" *LSB 427*

1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day.

4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure
 By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
 Joys that through all time abide.
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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

“CROSS” REFERENCE *LC IV 37*

Pastor: In his letter to the Romans, Paul asks his readers, “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?” (Romans 6:3). As it was at work on the cross, the grace of God is at work in Holy Baptism. In his Large Catechism, Luther writes of Baptism, “So you see plainly that there is no work done here by us, but a treasure, which God gives us and faith grasps [Ephesians 2:8–9]. It is like the benefit of the Lord Jesus Christ upon the cross, which is not a work, but a treasure included in the Word. It is offered to us and received by faith.” English hymnwriter Isaac Watts captured that sense of an appreciation of the wonderful and mysterious work of God in the crucifixion as he wrote the cherished hymn, “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross.”

HYMN “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” *LSB 426*

1 When I survey the wondrous cross
 On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
 And pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
 Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
 I sacrifice them to His blood.

3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet
 Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e’er such love and sorrow meet
 Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
 That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
 Demands my soul, my life, my all!

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OFFERING “That’s What Faith Must Be” -Michael Card

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.

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. And now we thank You that by the working of Your Holy Spirit through the Gospel, You have called us as Your own and given us eternal promises through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, as the perfect offering, has taken upon Himself the sins of the world and has, by His rising from the grave, opened to us the very gates of heaven. With all the company around the throne of the Lamb in His kingdom, we join the unending praises singing:

SANCTUS

Holy holy holy Lord

God of power and might

Heav’n and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes

In the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest

Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for all You have done for Your people in Jesus Christ, our Lord. We thank You for all of creation and for every good gift with which You bless us. Receive our praise, Lord, and grant that all who partake of Christ’s holy body and blood this day be refreshed and filled with Your heavenly peace and joy. As we receive the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, grant that we be sanctified in body and soul and spirit and finally be granted our place with all Your saints in glory. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE 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 ✠ 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 ✠ 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

Lamb of God you take away

All the sin of the world

Oh Lamb of God have mercy on us

And grant to us your peace

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

"In Christ Alone" –Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

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1. In Christ alone, my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless Babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
then, bursting forth in glorious day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine,
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from His hand;
till He returns or calls me home,
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

“Christ, the Word of God Incarnate” *LSB* 540

1 Christ, the Word of God incarnate,
Lord and Son of Abraham;
Christ, the radiance of the Father,
Perfect God, the great I AM;
Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished,
Light and life You bring to all;
Light our path with Your own presence,
Grant us grace to heed Your call.

2 Christ, the living bread from heaven,
Food for body, food for soul;
Christ, the manna daily given,
Nourish, strengthen, make us whole.
Feed us with the food of heaven,
Foretaste of the feast to be;
Quench our thirst with living water
Springing up eternally.

3 Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant
From the stump of Jesse's tree;
Christ, true vine, You nurture branches
To bear fruit abundantly.
Graft us into You, O Savior;
Prune our hearts so we remain
Fruitful branches in Your vineyard
Till eternal life we gain.

4 Christ, our good and faithful shepherd,
Watching all Your lambs and sheep;
Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold,
Never-failing vigil keep.
When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us,
Find us, lift us, bear us home;
Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us;
Let us hear Your voice alone.

5 Christ, the way that leads unfailing
To the Father's home on high,
Christ, the truth that frees the captive,
Christ, the life that cannot die.
Mediator to the Father,
Sacrifice and great High Priest:
Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions,
There to share Your wedding feast.

△ 6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega,
Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
Christ, the life and resurrection,
Christ, the Church's glorious head:
Praise and thanks and adoration
And unending worship be
To the Father and the Spirit
And to You eternally.

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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. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your great love for us is beyond comprehension. We thank You for granting us peace, pardon, and comfort at Your blessed Table where we find refreshment and renewal in Christ's body and blood. Strengthen us through what we have here received and keep us steadfast throughout our pilgrimage on earth, bringing us to the eternal banquet in Your kingdom. This we ask 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.

HYMN “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” *LSB* 576

1 My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus’ name. Refrain

ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev’ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain

3 His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev’ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain

4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain
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POSTLUDE “To God Be the Glory” -Paul and Betsy Hanson

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *Exodus 17:3* – “*But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, ‘Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?’*” Even the Israelites, who saw miracles with their own eyes, fell into unbelief and fear. From this distance we can see how foolish their worry is. How foolish will our worries appear from the distance of eternity? The Lord cared for them, and He will care for us.

THE EASTER MEMORIAL GARDEN donation insert in today’s bulletin 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.

MARCH 18TH is our next fun event as part of our 75th anniversary celebration. Please join us for an afternoon of quilt tying and game playing. All ages are invited and welcome. We have over 10 quilts to be tied so we need your hands. There will be games for the kids such as Pop the Pig, Don't Break the Ice, Hi Ho Cheerio and adult games such as Sorry, Sequence and Tri-onimoes. To join, come to church on the 18th starting at **3pm**, bring yourself, your family and an appetizer to share. Beverages will be provided. (Please sign up so we can make sure we have plenty of supplies for everyone.)

HEAR "THE LUTHERAN HOUR" on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week's broadcast: "Bad Karma vs. Good Creator" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. When bad things happen, is it "bad karma" or an opportunity for our Good Creator to be doing a greater work? (John 9:3)

2022 GIVING STATEMENTS: You will receive your contribution statement in the mail if your total contribution amount for 2022 is \$250 or more. Statements were mailed January 16. If your contribution to Emmaus was less than \$250, you did not receive the statement by early February, or you need a replacement copy of your statement please either leave a message on the Emmaus church phone or call Nancy W.

LWML SPRING RALLY: St. Paul Metro Zone invites you to the Spring Rally on April 15 at Jehovah Lutheran Church, 1566 Thomas Ave, St. Paul. Registration (fee: \$5) and refreshments are at 9 a.m. with the program from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. "A Broom Is a Gift of God" Stories and insights from the mission field with speaker Dr. Richard Carter, missionary to Hong Kong. Gifts from the Heart: Used eyeglasses for MOST Ministries, and items for Phil's Friends cancer patients (puzzle books, journals, playing cards, fuzzy socks, hats, Walmart gift cards). If you are planning to attend please notify Beth S. by April 10: leave a message at 651-631-8956 or email stpaulmetrozp@mnslwml.org.

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN HYGIENE KITS: Help John1516s youth collect items for those in Turkey and Syria that have been affected by the recent earthquake and others around the world suffering from natural disasters. The following items are needed:

Bath towels
Wash cloths
Bath-size bars of soap
Plastic soap box holders
Toothbrushes
Sturdy combs
Band-aids (1/2" or 3/4")
Small packages of facial tissues
Nail clippers
Strong ribbon or cord

Please no additions or substitutions. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ with others in need during this Lenten season.

CA 50s-THEMED AUCTION ON APRIL 22: Concordia Academy invites you to their "Happy Days" Dinner Auction on April 22. Get your letter jackets, white t-shirts, and poodle skirts ready and flash back to the 1950s! Go to www.concordiaacademy.com/auction to purchase tickets or get more information.

OFFICE NEWS: The week of March 13 Maria has jury duty and might not be in the office during regular office hours. Please call ahead or email.

Midweek Services in March

Lent Lunches at Emmaus: Following the 11:30 a.m. midweek Lent services at Emmaus in March please join us for a light lunch in the Social Hall, continuing each Wednesday through March 29. Come and enjoy good food and fellowship as we share our Lenten journey.

Lent Suppers at Bethel: Bethel Lutheran will be hosting a supper prior to their midweek 7:00 Lenten worship service. You're invited at 6:15 for a simple catered meal. \$5 per person. Please RSVP by Sunday of each week so we can order the correct amount of food. Email Bethel's office at blc@bethelstpaul.com or call 651-300-2642.