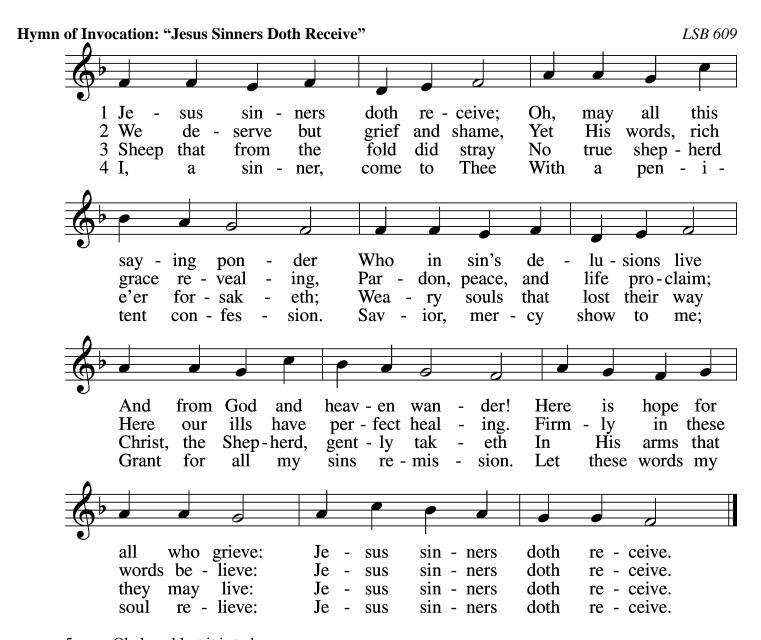
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2023 - 9:30 a.m.

Prelude "My Song Is Love Unknown" by Michael Burkhardt

Confession and Absolution



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.
- 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: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756

Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt

Text and tune: Public domain

P In the name of the Father and of the

→ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- 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.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 27:4–6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15

(The congregation will chant the verses in **bold**.)



My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*

for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:*

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his | temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble;*

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high up- on a rock.

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with | shouts of joy;*

I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

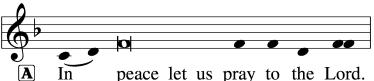
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,*

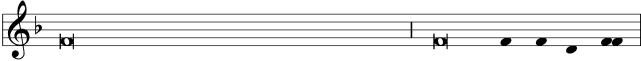
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

Kyrie LSB 152





C Lord, have mer - cy.

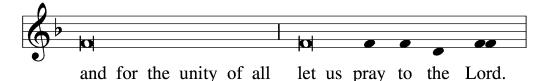


A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

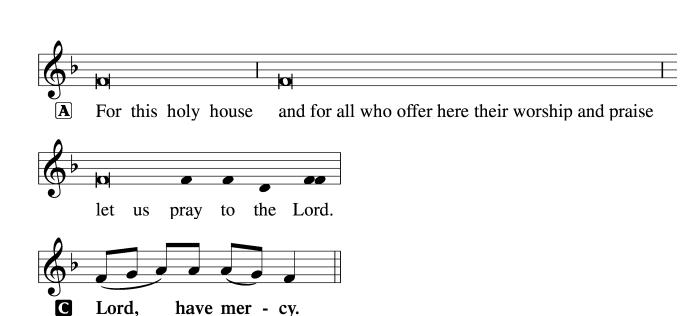


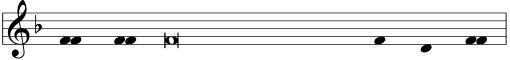


A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,









A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.



Salutation and Collect of the Day

Lent 4

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:14-21

For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? He sees many things, but does not

observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Psalm 142; antiphon: v. 5

(The congregation will chant the verses in **bold**.)

I cry to you, | O LORD;*

I say, "You are my refuge,

my portion in the land of the living."

With my voice I cry out | to the LORD;*

with my voice I plead for mercy | to the LORD.

I pour out my complaint be- | fore him;*

I tell my trouble be- | fore him.

When my spirit faints within me,

you | know my way!*

In the path where I walk

they have hidden a | trap for me.

Look to the right and see:

there is none who takes notice of me;*

no refuge remains to me;

no one cares | for my soul.

I cry to you, O LORD;*

I say, "You are my refuge,

my portion in the land of the | living."

Attend to my cry,

for I am brought | very low!*

Deliver me from my persecutors,

for they are too | strong for me!

Bring me out of prison,

that I may give thanks | to your name!*

The righteous will surround me,

for you will deal bountifully | with me.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I cry to you, O LORD;*

I say, "You are my refuge,

my portion in the land of the living."

Epistle Ephesians 5:8–14

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even

to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel John 9:1–41

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

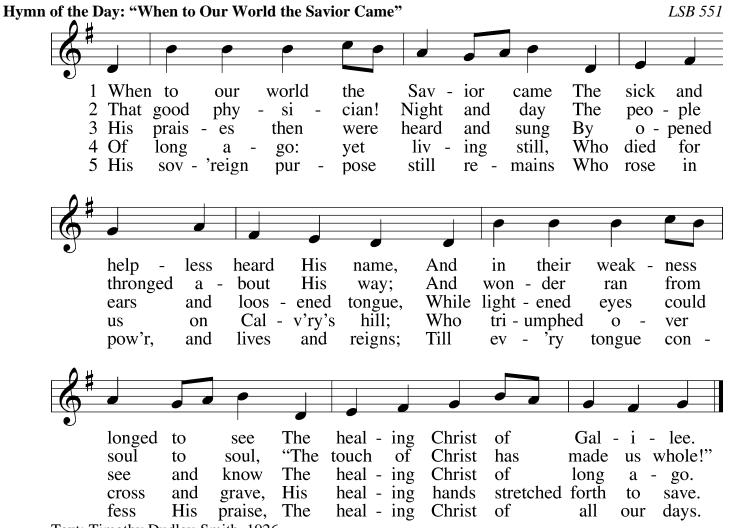
C Glory to You, O Lord.

As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, "Are we also blind?" Jesus

said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.



Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926 Tune: Robert Schumann, 1810–56

Text: © 1984 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License

Tune: 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

"Cross" Reference

Pastor: "The Great Exchange" is one of the ways that the gift of salvation given by Jesus Christ on the cross has been described. In the Solid Declaration, the Lutheran Confessions express that sacrificial gift of our Lord in this way: "Therefore, we believe, teach, and confess that the entire obedience of Christ's entire person (which He has offered to the Father for us, even to His most humiliating death on the cross) is credited to us for righteousness." Together we sing of the Lamb of our salvation, Jesus Christ.

Hymn "The Lamb" LSB 547

- The Lamb, the Lamb,O Father, where's the sacrifice?Faith sees, believesGod will provide the Lamb of price! Refrain
- ref Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own! The Lamb is reigning on His throne!
- The Lamb, the Lamb,
 One perfect final offering.
 The Lamb, the Lamb,
 Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. Refrain
- The Lamb, the Lamb,
 As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
 So still, His will
 On our behalf the Law to fill. Refrain

- 4 He sighs, He dies,
 He takes my sin and wretchedness.
 He lives, forgives,
 He gives me His own righteousness. Refrain
- He rose, He rose,My heart with thanks now overflows.His song prolong

Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. Refrain

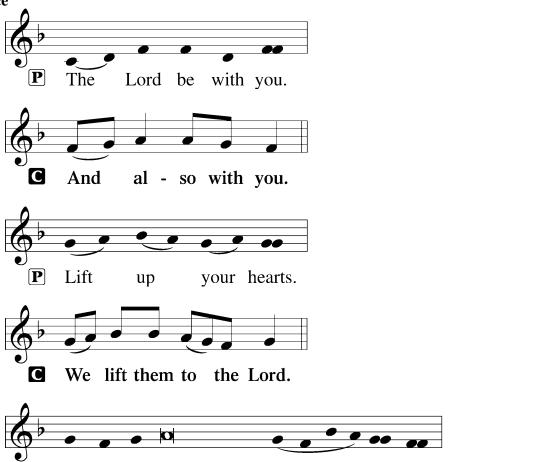
Text: © 1987 and 1997 MorningStar Music Publishers. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License

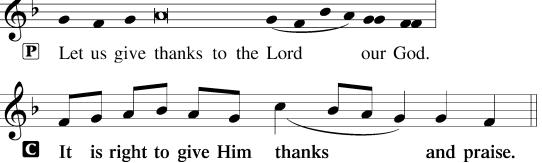
Offering "O Christ, Thou Lamb of God" by David Schack

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 LSB 160





It is truly good, right, and salutary... 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 LSB 161



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P

LSB 161

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.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

The Words of Our Lord LSB 162

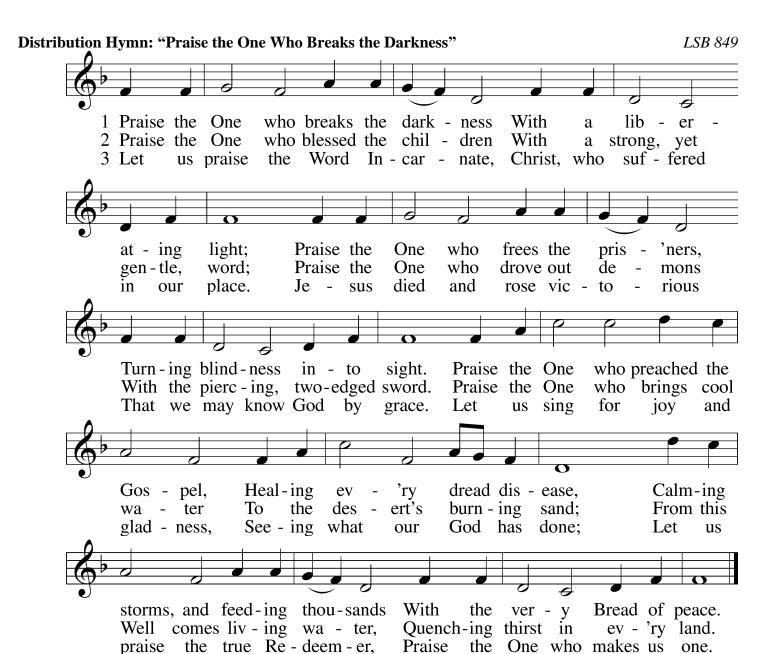
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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."



Distribution

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. You may kneel, but it is not required.

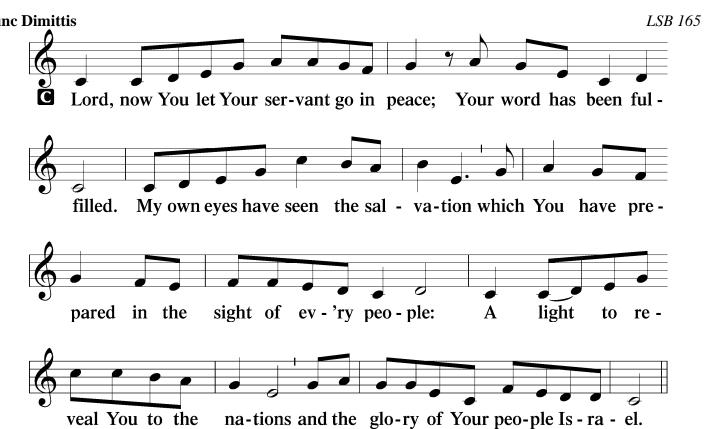


Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License

Tune: Public domain







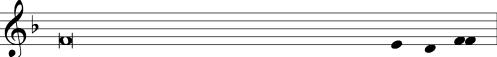
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

Let us pray. ...through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction LSB 166



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.





Text: Ronald A. Klug, 1939, alt. Tune: Dale Wood, 1934–2003

Text and tune: © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission:

LSB Hymn License

Postlude "Christ, the Life of All the Living" by J. S. Bach

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: Psalm 142:5 – "I cry to you, O LORD; I say, 'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living." The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves us through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, He is in control, so we can follow His Word in confidence.

THE EASTER MEMORIAL GARDEN donation insert 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 DECORATING: It's time to plan for our 2023 Easter decorating. The church will be decorated for Easter on Saturday, April 8, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. If you would like to participate, please sign up on the Easter Decorating Sign-Up Sheet on the table in the Narthex. It should not take more than two hours. If you can spare the time, we would appreciate your help. Let us know if you have any questions. Thank you, Chris and Mark

SPRING FUNDRAISER: We are doing a spring fundraiser through Gertens garden center to raise money for replacing the carpet in the main entrance. Any additional funds will be allocated to other church maintenance needs. This is all done online, where you can place your orders and pay through the website Gertens has set up for us. The ordering period will be from 3/13-4/6. April 6th is a firm date, so please get all your orders submitted by then. This is a great way to buy plants for Mother's Day. Chris G is coordinating this, and will receive a list of all items purchased on the website for distribution. Your orders will be ready for pickup the Sunday before Mother's Day, or 5/7 after church. Our profit is 30% on the plants and 15% on Plant Cards, less the delivery fee. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Chris G. Thank you!

Go to www.gertensfundraising.com

Enter the Store ID code 805 in the text field and click 'Enter ID to Continue'

HEAR "THE LUTHERAN HOUR" on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week's broadcast: "Is God Missing in Action?" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes. Is God "missing in action?" Not if we see things from God's eternal perspective. (John 11)

EASTER BREAKFAST POTLUCK: We hope you and your family/friends can come to the Easter Breakfast potluck which will take place after the Easter service in the Social Hall downstairs. Bring an egg dish, sweet rolls, donuts, fruit, or fruit juice to share. Sign up on the poster in the narthex for what you want to bring and if you can help set up, serve, or clean up. See you there!

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

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

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.

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.

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.