

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

March 9, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

The cross has always been an offense. To this day, the same mystery stands: His royal throne is but a frightful cross of crucifixion—His kingdom hidden to the eyes. When confronted with the facts of God's Word, many cannot see past this mystery. Yet it is the power of God's Word that gives people the gift of faith and new eyes to see what was incomprehensible and secret now revealed by the Spirit of God. God's truth is that in the death of Christ, redemption and forgiveness of sin now avails for the entire world. Sinners are delivered, justified before God by faith in the blood of Jesus shed on the cross and given the ability to repent and believe and become children of God for eternity. For sinful mankind, this life-giving truth is impossible to believe or understand. Only because of the mighty Word of God proclaimed to the world by His church and by the power of the Spirit is that otherwise mysterious Word actually easy and powerful to understand and to believe.

PRELUDE "Here I Am to Worship"

HYMN "God Loved the World So That He Gave" *LSB* 571


1 God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive.

2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone.

3 God would not have the sinner die;
His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.

4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus' blood,
Your Baptism grants the highest good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.

 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!
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INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 124:8; Romans 10:13, 10*

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

People: For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 91:9*

Pastor: Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith and confess our sins unto God our Father, that we may receive His forgiveness.

People: O God, we believe Your Word is true for it reveals our sin for which we deserve Your rebuke and judgment. Yet even more, we believe in Your promise of mercy and forgiveness for the sake of Christ. We therefore confess to You all our sins. We plead the suffering and sacrifice of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, as the all-sufficient price of our redemption, and beg Your grace and forgiveness because of our Savior. Hear us in Your mercy and according to Your promise in Christ, our Lord.

Pastor: Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and 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 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16*

Pastor: When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.

People: Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place— the Most High, who is my refuge—

Pastor: no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.

People: For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

Pastor: On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

People: You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

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.

Pastor: When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land. Guide the people of Your church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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 *Deuteronomy 26:1–11* (Moses prepares Israel for entrance into the Promised Land.) “When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the

place that the Lord your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our fathers to give us.’ Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God. And you shall make response before the Lord your God, ‘A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. Then we cried to the Lord, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me.’ And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God. And you shall rejoice in all the good that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 91:1–13; antiphon: v. 1*

Leader: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

People: I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”

Leader: For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

People: He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

Leader: You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,

People: nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

Leader: A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

People: You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.

Leader: Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—

People: no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.

Leader: For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

People: On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

Leader: You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

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.

Leader: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

EPISTLE *Romans 10:8b–13* (The message of salvation to all) “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 4:1–13* (The temptation of Jesus)

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

People: Glory be to You, O Lord.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’” And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’” And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’” And Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” *LSB 657*

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,
 A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor’s rod
 And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
Has sworn to work us woe.
 With craft and dreadful might
 He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might.
 We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
 Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is He,
 Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
 God’s only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
 All threat’ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
 They cannot overpow’r us.
Let this world’s tyrant rage;
In battle we’ll engage.
 His might is doomed to fail;
 God’s judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,

 No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side
 With weapons of the Spirit.

Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
 Though life be wrenched away,
 They cannot win the day.

The Kingdom's ours forever!

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SERMON

THE HOLY BAPTISM OF Maddox Andrew Roper

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

CONG: Amen.

Pastor: Our Lord commanded Baptism, saying to His disciples in the last chapter of Matthew: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.” The holy apostles of the Lord have written: “The promise is for you and for your children,” and: “Baptism now saves you.”

We also learn from the Word of God that we are all conceived and born sinful and so are in need of forgiveness. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son, Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Receive the sign of the holy cross upon your forehead and upon your heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

Hear how our Lord Jesus Christ has opened the kingdom of God to little children: “People were bringing little children to Jesus to have Him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, He was indignant. He said to them, ‘Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.’”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

CONG: Praise to You, O Christ.

Pastor: Dear parents and sponsors: It is your task as parents and sponsors to confess with the whole Church the faith in our God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in whose name this child is to be baptized. After this child has been baptized, you are at all times to remember him in your prayers, put him in mind of his Baptism, and faithfully bring him to the services of God's house. As he grows in years, you should place in his hands the Holy Scriptures, provide for him further instruction in the Christian faith, and teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, that living in the covenant of his Baptism and in communion with the Church, he may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ. This, then, you intend gladly and willingly to do?

Parents and Sponsors: Yes.

Pastor: God enable you all to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do. In order to implore the blessing of our Lord Jesus Christ upon the gathering of this child into the family of our Father, let us with all the family pray the prayer he gave us.

CONG: 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.

Pastor: The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even forevermore.

CONG: Amen.

Pastor: Because this child cannot answer for himself, we shall all, together with his parents and sponsors, faithfully speak on his behalf in testimony of the forgiveness of sin and the birth of the life of faith which God our Father bestows in and through Baptism.

Pastor: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

CONG: I do renounce them.

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

CONG: Yes, I believe 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.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

CONG: Yes, 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.

Pastor: Who brings this child to be baptized?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: How is this child named?

Parents: Maddox Andrew Roper

Pastor: Maddox Andrew Roper, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CONG: Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting. Peace be with you.

CONG: Amen.

Pastor: Receive this burning light. Live always by the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him to the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

Let us pray: Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Maddox Andrew the new birth in Holy Baptism and made him a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as he has now become Your child, You would keep him in his baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure he may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

CONG: Amen.

Pastor: Through Baptism, God has added Maddox Andrew to his own people to declare the wonderful deeds of our Savior, who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

CONG: We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, to work with us in His kingdom.

Pastor: And you, Maddox Andrew, the Lord bless you in all your ways from this time forward and even forevermore. Peace be with you.

CONG: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING "To God Be the Glory"

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 enter the sanctuary, or as the offering plates are passed at this time.

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

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, 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.

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."

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.

Communion is offered in two ways: the individual cup and the common cup. If you would like the individual cup, please partake as the assistant minister passes by after Pastor gives the bread. If you would like the common cup, let the assistant minister pass by, open your hands palm up, and Pastor will return to give you the common cup.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“On Eagles’ Wings” LSB 727

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: “My refuge,
My rock in whom I trust!” Refrain

ref And He will raise you up on eagles’ wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His hand.

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield. Refrain

3 You need not fear the terror of the night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you,
Near you it shall not come. Refrain

4 For to His angels He’s given a command
To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone. Refrain

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“Just as I Am, without One Plea” LSB 570

1 Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd’st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2 Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3 Just as I am, though tossed about
With many_a conflict, many_a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” *LSB* 655

1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.

2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.

3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

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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: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

People: and His mercy endureth forever.

Pastor: We give thanks to You, almighty God, both for Your command to believe and for the faith to receive this salutary gift, and we pray that as Christ's redeemed people we may show forth the light of Your grace and love to our neighbors; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Bless we the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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 “God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven” *LSB 877*

1 God, who made the earth and heaven,
 Darkness and light:
You the day for work have given,
 For rest the night.
May Your angel guards defend us,
Slumber sweet Your mercy send us,
Holy dreams and hopes attend us All through the night.

2 And when morn again shall call us
 To run life's way,
May we still, whate'er befall us,
 Your will obey.
From the pow'r of evil hide us,
In the narrow pathway guide us,
Never be Your smile denied us All through the day.

3 Guard us waking, guard us sleeping,
 And when we die,
May we in Your mighty keeping
 All peaceful lie.
When the last dread call shall wake us,
Then, O Lord, do not forsake us,
But to reign in glory take us With You on high.

△ 4 Holy Father, throned in heaven,
 All-holy Son,
Holy Spirit, freely given,
 Blest Three in One:
Grant us grace, we now implore You,
Till we lay our crowns before You
And in worthier strains adore You While ages run.
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POSTLUDE “I Will Call upon the Lord”

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship 9:30 a.m.

You are encouraged to take a walk this week with the Lord by reading Galatians. May the Lord make your heart burn with joy at the Good News and your place in His Kingdom!

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *Luke 4:8 – “And Jesus answered him, ‘It is written ...’”* Isn’t it interesting that Jesus does not defeat Satan with His power as God, but rather by His perfect obedience in His perfect humanity? Jesus defeats Satan not by miracles, but by quoting the Scriptures and living according to it. This should cause us great joy for two reasons. First, because we see Jesus win the victory for us. Second, because here Jesus shows us how to stand in that victory: on the Word of God alone. Let us build our lives on the sure rock of this Word!

LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES: Wednesdays in Lent, Emmaus will host the 11:30 service and the evening service will be at Jehovah.

LENTEN MEALS: We are going to try to serve simple Lenten meals after the 11:30 services again this year starting with March 12. If you are willing to help out by providing food and set up, or clean up, please sign up in the narthex. We appreciate any help you can give. If you have questions, feel free to call or text Pam N.

CARPET PROJECT HELP: We need your help. We are planning on removing the carpeting in the Sunday School area the weekend of March 22-23. On Saturday starting at 9:00 a.m. we are going to pack up all the items in the various cabinets in the area and move all items in the area into the old Nursery. Sunday after Bible Study we will be ripping up the old carpet and disposing of it in the dumpster. If you are able to join us either of these days that would be great. Saturday we would need boxes to pack items in and Sunday we would need ice scrapers (to scrape glue off the floor), masks, utility knife and duct tape. Thank you.

LWML SPRING GATHERING AT EMMAUS: All are welcome to join us for a morning of fellowship, refreshments, singing, speaker, Bible Study and LWML news at the Spring Gathering hosted by the St. Paul Metro Zone LWML Lutheran Women in Mission on Saturday April 5, 2025. The morning begins at 9:00 a.m. with registration and refreshments, and ends at 11:00 a.m. Emmaus Lutheran Church will be hosting, and Pastor Vue Lee will be the speaker. We are looking for some volunteers to help with registration and refreshments for the event, so please talk with Pastor Kooi. Please also note we will be collecting “Gifts from the Heart,” food shelf items: kid-friendly snacks – granola bars, Goldfish crackers, fruit snacks etc.; baking supplies – flour, sugar, oil, dessert mix; condiments – mayonnaise, salsa, peanut butter, etc.; meals – mac and cheese cups, chili, stew, soups etc.

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT: On April 12 at 10:30 a.m., we will be doing a community Easter Egg Hunt to share the Easter message and to serve our neighborhood. At this stage, we are looking for people who are interested in helping with some of the planning and implementation of it. Later we will need help stuffing eggs, setting up, cleaning up, and running the event. If you would like to help with this, please talk with Pastor Kooi.

LENTEN READING PLAN: For the season of Lent, a historic tradition is to give up something. This season, let's try something different: adding something. And what would that be? The Word of God! From Ash Wednesday until Easter, we will be going through a reading plan that highlights key Old Testament passages, goes through six letters of Paul, and two Gospels. If you have any questions on the readings, please reach out to Pastor Kooi, or bring them to Bible class on Sunday morning. Copies are available on the bulletin board near the restrooms.

HEAR "THE LUTHERAN HOUR" on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week's broadcast: "Light of the World" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Jesus is the Light of the world. However, He sometimes keeps that light out of the visible range. We can't see it, but it changes what we see. (John 8:12)

CA MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK REGISTRATION: Students in Grades 5-8 are invited to participate in Concordia Academy's BEAMS track program, which includes short sprints, long-distance running, throwing, jumping, and hurdling. Visit www.concordiaacademy.com/beams to get details and register.

CA SUMMER CAMPS: Looking for unforgettable summer fun? Students entering Grades 1-12 can unleash creativity, develop skills, and have a blast at Concordia Academy Summer Camps. With more than 30 athletics, arts, and STEM camps for students entering Grades 1-12, there's something for everyone. Get all the details and register at www.concordiaacademy.com/camps.

THIS WEEK AT EMMAUS:

Today: 9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

Tues: Limited office hours

10:30 a.m. Worship Meeting

6 p.m. Spiritual Life Meeting

7 p.m. Council Meeting

Wed: Bulletin Deadline

11:30 a.m. Worship followed by lunch

Thurs: 1 p.m. Emmaus Quilters (SH)

4 p.m. Quilting Queens (SH)

6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Fri: Office closed – call Pastor in emergencies

Quilting Queens (SH)

Sat: Quilting Queens (SH)

12-5 p.m. Organist Rehearsal

Next Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

SERVING OUR WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY:

PASTOR: Rev. Nick Kooi

ALTAR GUILD: Jean G

MUSIC LEADER: Paul H

SOUND TECH: Marilyn P

VIDEO TECH: Micah G

WORSHIP ASSISTANT: Mark G

USHERS: Alan M, Christine S

COUNTERS: Jenny H, Gary B

LECTOR: Chris G

GREETER: Dean P

ACOLYTE: Elizabeth G