Third Sunday in Lent March 3, 2024

As We Gather - We focus our attention on Christ crucified. The apostle Paul tells us that this is a stumbling block and foolishness to some people. Yet Paul also reminds us that for us who are being saved, Christ crucified is the power and wisdom of God. We may face people in our lives who view us as foolish. God in His wisdom sent Jesus to die for you.

Offering and Registry of Worship Cards: Please fill out a Registry of Worship Card found in the pew racks. We ask that you print the names of every person in your family, indicating if they take communion. One side of the card is for members and the other side for guests. As the offering is collected, pass the cards to the center aisle so our ushers can gather them.

Saturday Worship: Offerings and Worship Cards will be received in the offering plates at the rear of the church either upon entering or when leaving. Thank you for your gift to the work of the Lord.

About Protecting the Healthy: To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

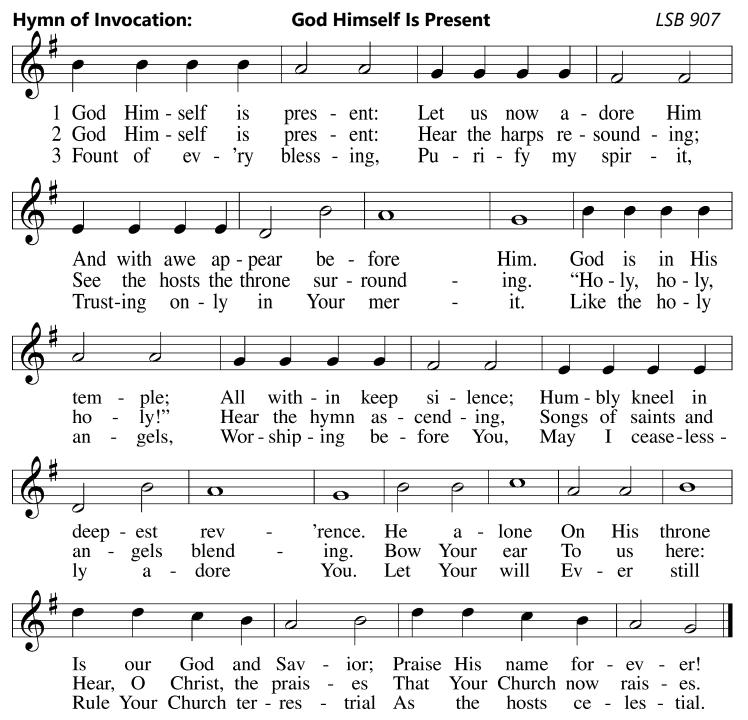
GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.

Prelude and Meditation: Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

Prelude:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Greeting and Sharing of Peace (stand)

Confession and Absolution



Text: Gerhard Tersteegen, 1697–1769, abr.; tr. Frederick W. Foster, 1760–1835, alt.; tr. John Miller, 1756–90, alt. Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **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.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **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.
- P 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.
- Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 69:9, 14-16

- For zeal for your house has con- | sumed me,* and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fall- | en on me.
- Deliver me from sinking | in the mire;*

 let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep | waters.
- Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swal- | low me up,* or the pit close its mouth | over me.
- Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast | love is good;* according to your abundant mercy, | turn to 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.

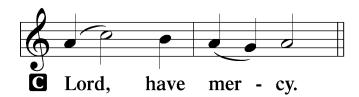
For zeal for your house has con- | sumed me,* and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fall- | en on me.

Kyrie LSB 168

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



P 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.



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



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



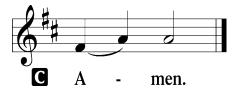
Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



P 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.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

¹And God spoke all these words, saying,

²"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

³"You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me

and keep my commandments.

⁷"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

⁸"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹²"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³"You shall not murder.

¹⁴"You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵"You shall not steal.

¹⁶"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

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

Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:18–31

¹⁸The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what

is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

Stand

Holy Gospel John 2:13–22

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

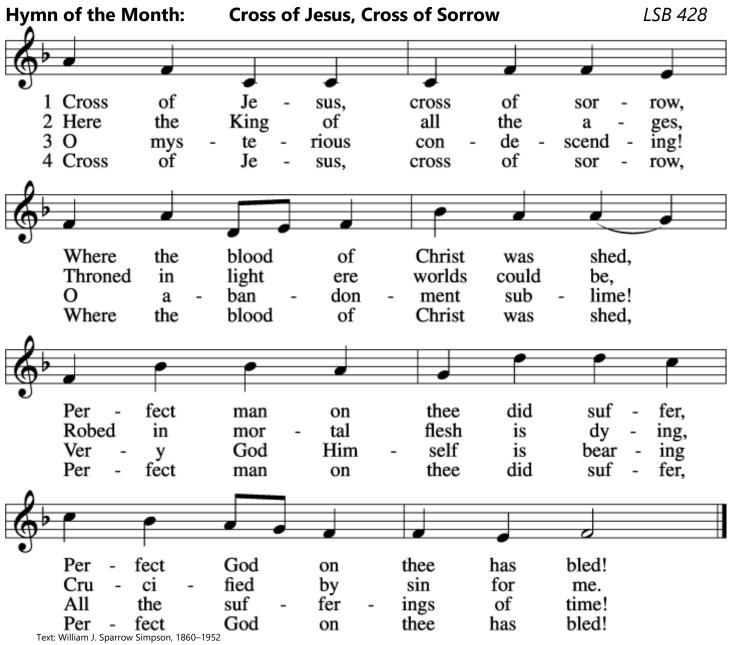


¹³The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. ¹⁵And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

¹⁸So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking about the temple of his body. ²²When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.





Tune: John Stainer, 1840–1901 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon: "The Wisdom of the Cross"

I Corinthians 1:18-31

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Choir Anthem: *(Sunday Only)* "Footprints in the Sand" Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings

Registry of Worship Cards – *Please pass your completed cards to the center aisle.*

Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 177

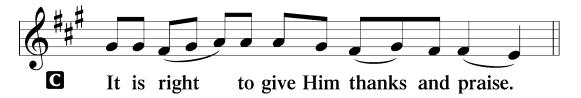
P The Lord be with you.



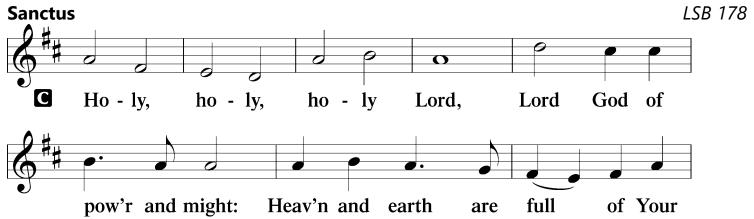
P Lift up your hearts.

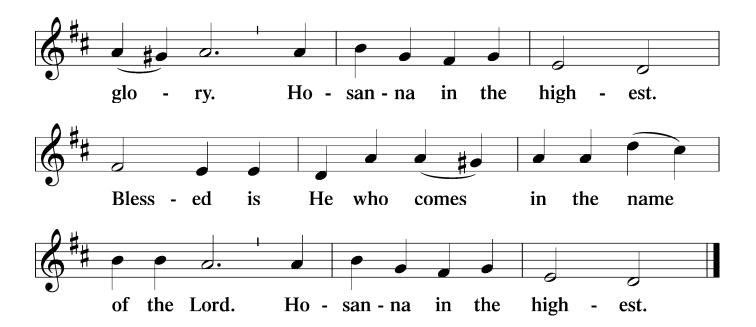


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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 singing:





Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

P 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.

The Words of Our Lord

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

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- 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:

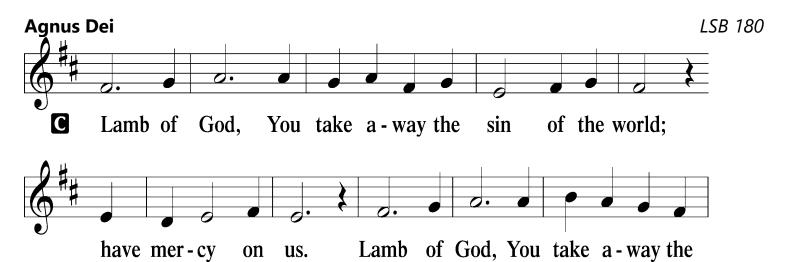
Lord's Prayer

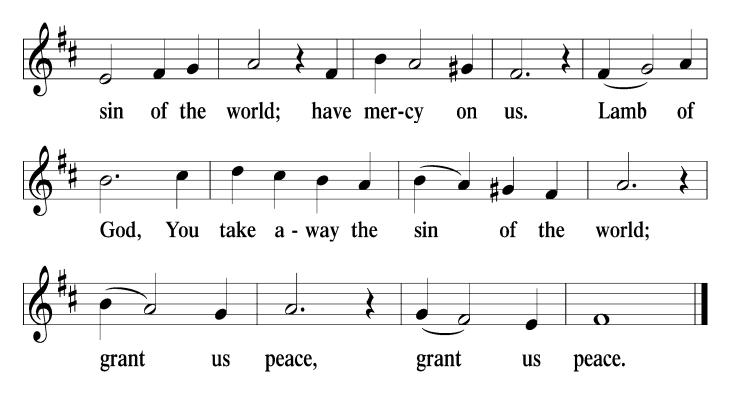
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Pax Domini LSB 180

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.





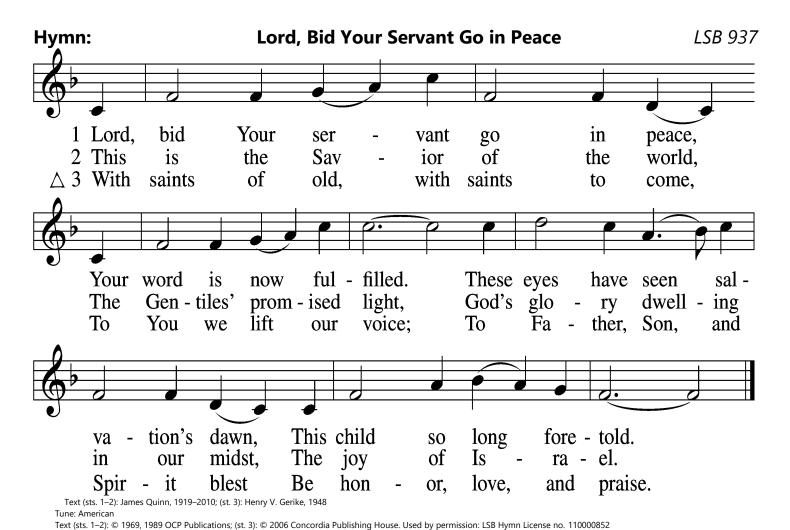


Sit

Distribution:

Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)

LSB 427 In the Cross of Christ I Glory LSB 624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born



Post-Communion Collect (Saturday)

Tune: Public domain

- P Let us pray together.
- I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

(Sunday)

P Let us pray.

 \mathbf{C} A

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

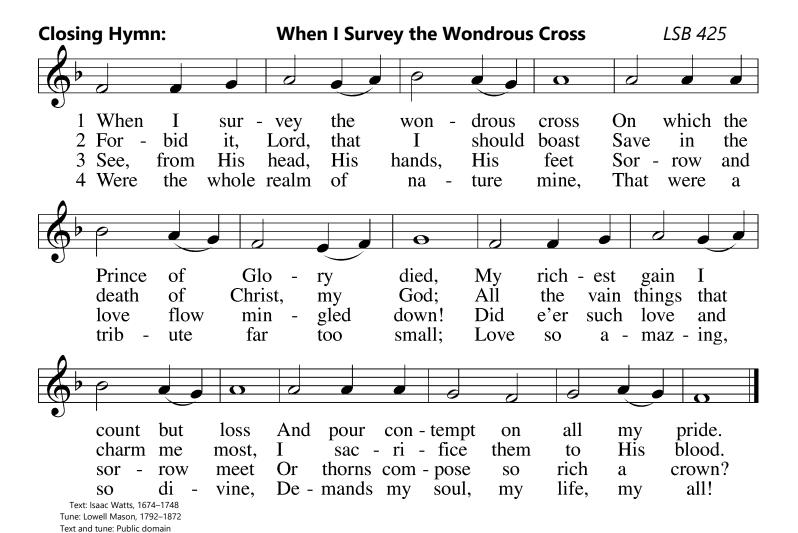


Benediction LSB 183

P 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.





Postlude:

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor	Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist	Elena Miraztchiyska
	, and the second se
Saturday	
Elder	George Czanko
Lector	Rick Smith/Gerie Slaten/Stacey Orellana
Audio	Lee Crapo/Robin Fox/Taniqua Jackson

Sunday Elder Steve Rosane Greeter.......Joann Shepker AudioKyle Welch Video TD: Kris Welch GFX/ Stream: Robin Fox **LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY Organist** Elena Miraztchiyska **Elder**.....Lee Crapo Greeter...... AudioMaria Hazzard Video TD: Josiah Hazzard GFX: / Stream: Andrea Hazzard Altar Guild Alfred and Barbra Miller ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK Ash Wednesday Service45 Saturday Worship Attendance..... Sunday Worship Attendance......107 Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings\$0 Simply Giving/Vanco.....\$0 Paypal Offerings\$0 Website (ShareFaith)......\$0 Total of Offerings Received \$0 Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts.....\$0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH - Lent III – The Lord God closely associates life and family. He stands commands about parenting and marriage on either side of the prohibition against killing (Exodus 20:12-14). He holds human life as highest priority and will not accept any other creatures as replacement (John 2:15-16). Body and sexuality serve to enrich life – our own as well as one another's – and not to eliminate it.

FLOWER SPONSOR – Rick and Debbie Smith, in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

BULLETIN SPONSOR – No Bulletin Sponsor this week...

FELLOWSHIP HOUR *(SUNDAY)* – Team 3 is serving today; team 4 will serve next week. Everyone is invited. There is no charge and a freewill offering is voluntary. March free-will offering will go to VISTE.

LENT SERVICES - Service times are at 6:30 pm each Wednesday. The Lenten theme this year is "Guided to the Cross". The pastors of the Winter Haven Circuit will once again join in a round robin during the season.

ELDERS MEETING – The Elders will meet today, Sunday, March 3rd, after service.

OUTREACH MEETING – The Outreach Committee will meet this Tuesday, March 5th, at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRIES TOUR – There will be a tour of the Lighthouse Ministries on Tuesday, March 5th, at 10 AM. If you are interested, please sign-up on the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Blake Albright.

MARY MARTHA ACCESSORIES SALE - Mary Martha will hold their annual Purse/ Accessories/ Jewelry store on Saturday, March 9th and Sunday, March 10th! Please bring your contributions to our box in the narthex on Sunday mornings! Proceeds from this mission shall go to "Peace the comfort dog".

MARY MARTHA SPRING LUNCHEON – Mary Martha will host their annual spring luncheon on Wednesday, March 13th. Our regular monthly meeting will begin at 10:00 am followed by our luncheon at approximately 11:30 am, at the 1916 Irish Pub; 2900 Buckingham Avenue, Lakeland, inside the Cleveland Heights golf club. The clubhouse faces Edgewood Drive. We will order off the menu: Cost about \$15-20. All ladies of the congregation are invited to join us!

LWML ZONE RALLY – The Winter Haven Zone Rally will be held here at Christ Lutheran church on Saturday, April 13th. The Gift from the Heart is boys and girls socks and underwear for the Honduras Orphanage. Cost is \$10 with an optional \$3 offering to Young Women Rep. A lite breakfast and lunch will be served.

MARY MARTHA QUILTERS – The Mary Martha Quilters meet each Tuesday morning from 10 AM – Noon. Anyone who would like to join them is welcomed.

SATURDAY LECTORS NEEDED – If you would be willing to volunteer to serve as a lector during the Saturday Service, please contact the church office at 682-7802.

USED HEARING AIDS: Used hearing aids can be donated. Place them in the Munz mailbox in the church mailroom. Pastor Jerry Munz collects them and takes them to the Lakeland Hearing Center. If you want a tax receipt be sure to ask Pastor Jerry to get one for you.

DREAM CENTER VOLUNTEERS – Volunteers are needed to help check- in and sort items here at Christ Lutheran for the Dream Center. Please see or contact Robin Fox at 863-513-4774 to schedule a day and time to volunteer.

RECIPES WANTED - Mary Martha is collecting favorite recipes for the Church Cookbook. If you have a favorite recipe and would be willing to share it, please write it legibly, sign your name on it and put it in the box located in the Narthex. There is no limit to number of recipes you can submit.

CHECK YOUR MAILBOX – Please check your mailbox in the narthex.

CHURCH DIRECTORY – For those that are not aware, our church member directory is now available online. Please see the flyer sheets in the narthex for more information or email Kim Kaniecki at stewardship@clclakeland.org.

TRUSTEE VOLUNTEER DAY – Every Tuesday from 9 am - 1 pm. If you would like to help with the various needs of the church, come join us. A job, whether large or small can be found to help with. If you notice something you think needs attention, come let us know. Thanks for helping.

GREETERS NEEDED – Volunteers are needed to be Greeters in the Narthex to welcome guest and members as they enter for service. If you are interested, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board.

NAMETAGS – We would like to encourage all our members to please wear their nametags to church. If you can't find your nametag or don't have one, please sign-up for one on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - John 2:16 – "And he told those who sold the pigeons, 'Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade.'" The Lord's house is not a place to sell, but a place to receive and a place to give. It's not a place for our schemes and plans. Instead, the church is a place for the Lord's gracious giving and our faithful sacrifices in response.

THANK YOU - Christ Lutheran donated \$311 to Senior Orphans for the month of February from the Fellowship Free-will offerings. Thank you for your generosity!

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Monday Tuesday	Baseball Parking Trustee Workday @ 9 am Quilters @ 10 am
	Outreach Committee @ 5:30 pm
Wednesday	•
•	Private Communion @ 1:30 – 2:30 pm
	Lent Service @ 6:30 pm
	Jr. Confirmation @ 7 pm
	Choir @ 7:30 pm
Thursday	In Person & Zoom Bible Study @ 10 am
	Baseball Parking (Evening game)
Friday	Church Office closed, Pastor's Day Off
Saturday	Baseball Parking
	Bible Study @ 4 pm
	Worship @ 5:30 pm
	Mary Martha Purse Sale
Sunday	Bible Study @ 8:30 am
	Worship Service @ 10 am
	Mary Martha Purse Sale