

# Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE WITHOUT HOLY COMMUNION (LSB 184)

FOR JUDICA, THE 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, March 29, 2020

## Invocation

*In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. .... Amen!*

## + The Office of Confession of Sins and Absolution +

*Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father; beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.*

*Our help is in the name of the Lord ..... Who made heaven and earth.*

*I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord. .... And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.*

*Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all. .... Amen.*

## Introit of the Day



[ Antiphon ] *Precious in the sight | of the Lord || is | the death of his | saints. || I | love the Lord, || because he has heard my voice and | my •pleas for• mer-\_\_ | cy.*

Verse 1: **Because he inclined his | ear to me, || therefore I will call on him | as long as I | live. || The snares of death en- | com- passed me; || the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered dis- | tress and\_\_ an-\_\_ | guish.**

Verse 2: *Then I called on the name | of the Lord: || “O Lord, I | pray de- •liver• my | soul!” || For you have delivered my | soul from death, || my eyes from tears, | my •feet from• stum-\_\_ | bling;*

[ Antiphon ] **Precious in the sight | of the Lord || is | the death of his | saints. || I | love the Lord, || because he has heard my voice and | my •pleas for• mer-\_\_ | cy.**

## Kyrie



Salutation

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir— it.

**Collect for the Fifth Sunday in Lent:** *Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



A ——— men!

**Collect for Lent:** *Merciful and everlasting God, who did not spare Your only Son, but delivered Him up for us all that He might bear our sins upon the cross, grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



A ——— men!

+ The Office of the Word of God +

**Old Testament Reading** ..... **Ezekiel 37:1-14**

[ After the reading ] *This is the word of the Lord.* ..... **Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle of the Day** ..... **Romans 8:1-11**

[ After the reading ] *This is the word of the Lord.* ..... **Thanks be to God.**

Tract



[ Deacon ] *I am the | res- ur- • rection • || and \_ the \_ | life. || Whoever be- | lieves in me, || though he | die, yet \_ shall he | live.*

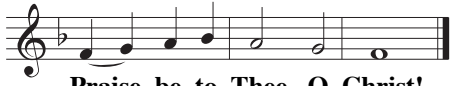
**All:** **O come, let us fix our | eyes on • Jesus •, || the founder and per- | fec- tor of our | faith. || who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame || and is seated at the right hand | of the \_ throne of | God.**

**Holy Gospel** ..... **St. John 11:17-27, 38-53**

[ The Gospel is announced. ] [ The Gospel is proclaimed. ]



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord!



Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

Confession of Faith (The 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.

Hymn of the Day ..... Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense ... Burgundy Hymn 741  
[ Stanzas 1-5, 8. ]

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs: ...

[ After each petition ]: Lord, in Your mercy: ..... Hear our prayer.  
[ After the final prayer ]:..., one God, now and forever ..... Amen.

Salutation

The Lord be with you.



Bless we the Lord.



Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✝ give you peace.



Recessional Hymn ..... If God Himself Be for Me .....Burgundy Hymn 724  
[ All sing stanzas 1, 2, 4, 5, & 10 - OMIT stanzas 3 and 6 - 9. ]

## Readings for the Fifth Sunday in Lent

### The Old Testament Reading is Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

### The Epistle is Romans 8:1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

## **The Gospel is John 11:17-27, 38-53**

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." ...

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

## Hymns for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

### LSB741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

1. Jesus Christ, my sure defense And my Savior, now is living!  
Knowing this, my confidence Rests upon the hope here given,  
Though the night of death be fraught Still with many an anxious thought.
2. Jesus, my Redeemer, lives; Likewise I to life shall waken.  
He will bring me where He is; Shall my courage then be shaken?  
Shall I fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His members dead?
3. No, too closely am I bound By my hope to Christ forever;  
Faith's strong hand the Rock has found, Grasped it, and will leave it never;  
Even death now cannot part From its Lord the trusting heart.
4. I am flesh and must return To the dust, whence I am taken;  
But by faith I now discern That from death I shall awaken  
With my Savior to abide In His glory, at His side.
5. Glorified, I shall anew With this flesh then be enshrouded;  
In this body I shall view God, my Lord, with eyes unclouded;  
In this flesh I then shall see Jesus Christ eternally.
8. O, then, draw away your hearts From all pleasures base and hollow;  
Strive to share what He imparts While you here His footsteps follow.  
As you now still wait to rise, Fix your hearts beyond the skies!

### LSB724 If God Himself Be for Me

1. If God Himself be for me, I may a host defy;  
For when I pray, before me My foes, confounded, fly.  
If Christ, the head and master, Befriend me from above,  
What foe or what disaster Can drive me from His love?
2. I build on this foundation, That Jesus and his blood  
Alone are my salvation, My true, eternal good.  
Without Him all that pleases Is valueless on earth;  
The gifts I have from Jesus Alone have priceless worth.
4. He canceled my offenses, Delivered me from death;  
He is the Lord who cleanses My soul from sin through faith.  
In Him I can be cheerful, Courageous on my way;  
In Him I am not fearful Of God's great Judgment Day.

5. For no one can condemn me Or set my hope aside;  
Now hell no more can claim me; Its fury I deride.  
No sentence now reproves me, No guilt destroys my peace;  
For Christ, my Savior, loves me And shields me with His grace.
10. My heart with joy is springing; I am no longer sad.  
My soul is filled with singing; Your sunshine makes me glad.  
The sun that cheers my spirit Is Jesus Christ, my King;  
The heav'n I shall inherit Makes me rejoice and sing.



# What Doctor Luther Says:

## *About the Fleshly and the Spiritual, Sinful and Godly*

It is evident that sin remains in the baptized and the saints as long as they are flesh and blood and live on earth ... Let us add further evidence. St. Paul says in Rom. 7 [:22], "I delight in the law of God, in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin which dwells in my members." St. Paul confesses here that he finds a good law and will in his spirit, and also an evil law and will in his members. How is it then possible to deny that sin remains in a holy baptized man? If it is not sin which is at war with the good spirit and the law of God, then I should like to be told what sin is. What is the cause of this strife of the evil against the good within us, if not our physical birth as children of Adam? This remains even after the good Spirit has begun [his work] in baptism and repentance until it is overcome by the grace of God and the resistance and growth of the Spirit and at last strangled by death and driven out. ...

One and the same man finds in himself two things[.] Through the spirit, he wills the good and serves the law of God and is godly. He even takes pleasure and delight in this service. But with the rebellious flesh, he wills evil, and takes pleasure and delight in the service of evil. And since flesh and spirit are one man, he is held accountable for both aspects of his nature, work, love, and desire, even though they contradict each other. Because of the spirit, this man is godly; because of the flesh, he is a sinner, as St. Paul says in Rom. 6 [8:10], "The spirit is alive in the sight of God because of its righteousness but the flesh is dead before him because of its sin." And since the noblest, best and most important part of man, the spirit, remains by faith godly and righteous, God does not charge the sin which remains in the lesser part, the flesh, toward his condemnation.

*Luther's Works, 32:20-1.*



## Easter Flowers Update

Things have been changing daily with our flower provider for Easter plants, and now with church itself.

There will be no Easter lilies available, and we have had to reevaluate and adjust our order.

At this time we have on order the following plants:

**12 Tulips**—1 has already been paid for by a member, leaving 11 available

**12 Hyacinth**—none have been paid for yet leaving 12 available

**10 Daffodils**—3 have been paid for by members leaving 7 available

### ORDER YOUR EASTER FLOWERS NOW

Please call the church office at 744-1389 or use this form to send your order and check in to the office.

Deadline is Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> to have your dedication included in the bulletin.

Pray that this cup may pass from us quickly, and that we'll be able to hold Easter services at Zion on April 12<sup>th</sup>. You may then pick up your flowers after the 9 am service on Easter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Given in Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Dedication: \_\_\_\_\_

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6" Tulip -\$15 each-

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

6" Hyacinth-\$15 each-

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

7" Daffodil-\$18 each-

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

## For the family of God's Priestly People at Zion

God calls His own people a "Royal Priesthood." God makes us kings and queens, princes and princesses who are bound together by the Holy Spirit in Baptism for the Christian benefit of each other. Priests **PRAY** -- They talk to God about their neighbor! Priests **TEACH** -- They talk to their neighbor about God! Priests **OFFER SACRIFICES** -- They offer to God the sacrifice of broken and contrite hearts; they offer their bodies and work as holy services to God for their neighbors. Join in this priestly work of prayer with your fellow members.

### Morning Prayer

John 11:17-27, 38-53

Mark 14:32-52

Mark 14:53-72

Mark 15:1-15

Mark 15:16-32

Mark 15:33-47

Mark 16:1-20

### DAILY LECTIONARY

#### The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

### Evening Prayer

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Exodus 2:1-22

Exodus 2:23-3:22

Exodus 4:1-18

Exodus 4:19-31

Exodus 5:1-6:1

Exodus 7:1-25

### THE DAILY PETITIONS OF THE CHURCH

[Daily] **O Lord, have mercy upon us. O Christ, have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy upon us.** Let us pray:

[S] For the joy of the Resurrection among us; for true and godly worship throughout the world; for diligent preaching and hearing of God's Word of Law and Gospel; for our pastors; for the teachers and students of our Sunday School; for our Bible Class leaders and their students; for our catechumens; Lord, in Thy mercy, .....**hear our prayer. Amen!**

[M] For workers; for the unemployed; for farmers; for seasonable weather; for businesses small and large; for our leaders, federal, state and local; for the economic welfare of the nations on earth; for peace in our world; Lord, in Thy mercy, .....**hear our prayer. Amen!**

[T] For the tempted; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for the lonely; for the sick, the hospitalized, and the needy; Lord, in Thy mercy, .....**hear our prayer. Amen!**

[W] For fathers, mothers, and families; for those adults who must rear their children alone; the teachers and students of Lutheran South Unity School and Concordia Lutheran High School; Lord, in Thy mercy, .....**hear our prayer. Amen!**

[T] For the Church and her pastors; for the training of ministers of the Word; for missionaries of the Church; for the leaders of the Church, including Matthew, our synod president, and Daniel, our district president; for those who have not heard the Gospel; for the fruitful use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; Lord, in Thy mercy, .....**hear our prayer. Amen!**

[F] For the preaching of the Cross; for those persecuted for the sake of the Gospel; the confession of the orthodox Lutheran faith in our community; Lord, in Thy mercy, .....**hear our prayer. Amen!**

[Sat] For faithfulness unto life's earthly end; for the revival of those who have withered in the faith or fallen away; for the dying; Lord, in Thy mercy, .....**hear our prayer. Amen!**

[Daily]

**The Our Father**

### TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

#### Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Philippians 2:5-11 John 12:20-43 & Matt. 26 & 27

## The Fifth Sunday in Lent



## Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

2313 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46803 260-744-1389

[pastor@zionfw.org](mailto:pastor@zionfw.org), [church@zionfw.org](mailto:church@zionfw.org) | website: [www.zionfw.org](http://www.zionfw.org)

The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is to be the body of Christ gathered at Hanna and Creighton in Fort Wayne, Indiana to:

- Receive Christ's gifts in baptism, preaching, teaching, and the Eucharist;
- Reach out to those who do not know the love of God in Christ;
- Reveal Christ's love for the world through acts of kindness and mercy toward all.

### The Pastoral Ministry At Zion

Senior Pastor

Rev. Douglas D. Punke, MDiv (341-5397)

Field Workers:

Kyle Nelson, Peter Wagner

### The Teaching Staff At Lutheran South Unity

Sheila Nehrenz, Acting Principal (744-0459)

Gene Koch, Yvonne Schwantz, Barry Chrzan,

Danielle Ramsey, Susan Mittelstaedt, Merideth Tourney,

Dawn Gill, Hannah Maresh, Cathie Wakeland, Natalie Reynolds

### The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music:

Michael Hollman, MM

Church Office Manager:

Melvia Culpher

## PRAYERS FOR TODAY

- + For the church and those experiencing persecution around the world; for the leaders, pastors, church workers, for those preparing for the Holy Ministry, and for Bethlehem Lutheran, calling a new Senior Pastor.
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially Rev. Steve and Cindy Schumacher in Ghana.
- + For our nation, under duress because of COVID-19, for our leaders and our military
- + For our schools, especially Lutheran South Unity School, Concordia Lutheran High School, and Concordia Theological Seminary, and school families
- + For those who travel
- + For the aged and the homebound, including MaryLou Graham, Juanita Moore, Helen Russell, Jackie Schieferstein, Cheryl Silvers, and Doris Yerger
- + For those who are near death
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Deloris Beck, Gloria Gonzalez, Rose & Willie Manning, Charlene Young, Lucille Brandt, Marilyn Shafter, Shirley Bohner, Everett Beck, Donna Scott, Willodean Bates, Jill Stokes, Connie & Rick Meyer, Dick Hollman, Miranda Krider, Ron Rastl, Marlow Hogan, and Claudia Southerland
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages
- + For the gift of life and length of days
- + For the gift of rebirth by water and the Spirit
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones
- + For the faithful departed
- + For our communicants and for a fruitful use of the most Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood

## IN THE SERVICE TODAY

Today is the Fifth Sunday in Lent. Please complete an attendance/communion card, including the names of all children, and indicate if you are communing. Non-members, please read the back of the card.

## CALENDAR

### **March 29, 2020 thru April 4, 2020**

<b>SUN.</b>		<b>Divine Service ONLINE</b>	<b>Church</b>
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Study CANCELLED	Bauer Hall
<b>MON.</b>			
<b>TUES.</b>			
<b>WED.</b>		Men of Zion SUSPENDED	
		Lenten Supper CANCELED	
		<b>Lenten Vespers ONLINE</b>	<b>Church</b>
<b>THURS.</b>			
<b>FRI.</b>			
<b>SAT.</b>	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church
	TBD	Taping Divine Service	

### **April 5, 2020**

<b>SUN.</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Divine Service ONLINE</b>	<b>Church</b>
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Study CANCELLED	Bauer Hall

## ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

**EDUCATION HOUR:** Canceled for now .... When we return, Dr. Voelz will continue with the study of the Gospel according to St. Mark. What kind of social distancing will be required, we'll have to see!

**CONTINUE YOUR FERVENT PRAYERS** for our country, for the world, and for each other in the face of this pandemic. Easter is not far off. President Trump wants churches to be able to celebrate Easter. We want it, too!

**GOVERNOR HOLCOMB'S DIRECTIVE FOR HOOSIERS TO STAY AT HOME** (Executive Order 20-08) identifies "Religious Entities" on the list of "Essential Businesses and Operation," specifically "Religious facilities, entities and groups, and religious gatherings, provided they adhere to the CDC's guidance on social gatherings." Gladly, the Allen County Health Commissioner amended her order to expire at midnight March 24<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, we will be able to gather in a modified way (no more than 10, p. 3) for the next couple weeks. The governor's directive goes until April 6<sup>th</sup>, midnight, unless, of course, it is amended. We need to remain vigilant; we need to remain flexible.

**YOUTUBE AND FACEBOOK:** The services as posted on the YouTube channel ([zionfw.org](http://zionfw.org) and click on the YouTube icon in the upper right corner), with access through Facebook (search for Zion Lutheran Church-Mo Synod in your browser), I acknowledge, are hard to understand. We're working on that. The organ sounds great, but the voice in that big space sounds hollow and muddled. We're working on it. We're posting on Facebook these announcements, and also the Scripture texts and What Luther Says inserts, and other items that would normally be in the bulletin. So, please, for now read along with the texts if you're having a difficult time understanding. Also, the Sunday sermon manuscripts are always posted on our website ([zionfw.org](http://zionfw.org)) under the "Sermons" tab. Click on the appropriate sermon and follow along with that, too. We're putting Wednesday Vespers services up, too, (without the aids, so far). It is still Lent.

**MORE ON FACEBOOK:** I've had Melvia post other things, too: a daily devotional calendar from CPH, a letter from me, video from President Harrison, etc. Check that out. Check out my letter from last Monday regarding some of the needs that have become clear with this crisis: email addresses and a way to send out blast messages, for example. We're also asking members to step up and check on others, elderly, shut in, needy, etc. Please call the office to see how you can help.

**CHURCH FINANCES:** Life continues in the essential work of the church; it has changed for now, but it continues. That work needs to continue to be supported, but how do you do that if we're not gathering together? There are several ways: 1) you can mail your regular contribution in; we've received some that way; 2) you can get online and go to your bank website, and set up a regular payment schedule (the bank probably calls it "bill pay," but it's still your offering for the work of the Lord; 3) you can write your weekly check and put it in an envelope and drop it in the offering plate when we next meet. *Regardless, it's important to continue your regular giving. I pray you will. Also, don't forget about Easter flowers. See the Flower order form on Facebook.*

**THE NEXT FEW SUNDAYS:** So, this Sunday (Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 29), I plan to do an online service only, taped on Saturday so that it is up and ready for viewing Sunday morning. Then for Palm Sunday, I'll do the same for the service of the Word, but I'll offer small group Divine Services (45 minutes) on the Thursday and Friday before Palm Sunday. You can sign up for that by visiting: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040845A4A92EA3FB6-palm>. See it on Facebook, too.