

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR OCULI, THE 3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

9:00 am Sunday, March 8, 2026

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- (a) who have been **baptized** in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- (b) who have been **instructed** in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, who have been **confirmed** in this Lutheran faith, and who now confess the same doctrines that are taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
- (c) who **believe that in this sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them**, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services, before receiving the sacrament, are requested to affirm these facts with one of our pastors. Thank you for honoring our practice. If you are looking for a church home, would like to be a member of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.

✠ = *appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross*
When "rise" or "kneel" is indicated, it is appropriate to sit if needed

Greeting And Announcements: *The Lord be with you!* **And also with you!**

[Rise] **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.

[Kneel]

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.

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto 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. Amen!

The Congregation rises, turns towards the entrance of the nave, and faces the Cross of Christ, the reminder of Christ's promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.

Introit of the Day



[Antiphon] *Blessed are those whose strength | is in you, || in whose heart are the | high-
ways to | Zi- on. || They go from | strength to strength; || each one appears | be-
fore God in | •Zion•.*

Verse 1: **How lovely is your | dwell- ing place, || O | LORD_ of_ | hosts_! || My soul
longs, yes, faints for the courts | of the Lord; || my heart and flesh sing for
joy | to the liv- ing | God.**

Verse 2: *Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may
| lay her young, || at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my | King_ and my | God_. ||
Blessed are those who dwell | in your house, || ever | sing-__ ing your | praise!*

Gloria: **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son: || and | to the Ho- ly | Spir- it; || As
it was in the be- | •ginning•, is now, || and will | be for- •ever•. A- | men!**

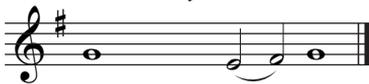
[Antiphon] **Blessed are those whose strength | is in you, || in whose heart are the high-
__ ways to | Zi- on. || They go from | strength to strength; || each one appears
| be- fore God in | •Zion•.**

Kyrie



Salutation

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir— it.

Collect for the Third Sunday in Lent: *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.*



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!

[Be Seated]

+ The Office of the Word of God +

Old Testament Reading..... Exodus 17:1-7

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

Epistle of the Day Romans 5:1-8

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

[Rise] **Tract**



[Deacon] *But the | hour is •coming•, || and | is __ now __ | here __, || when true | wor-ship-ers || will worship the Father in | spir-__ it and | truth.*

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 4:5-30, 39-42

[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 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

[Bow] **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 worshipped 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!

[Be Seated] **Hymn of the Day..... May God Bestow Burgundy Hymn 823**

[Rise for stanza 3.]

Sermon

[Rise] **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.**

[Be Seated] **Offerings, Voluntary**

[Rise] **Offertory Hymn Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God**



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres- ence, and



take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of

Thy sal - va - tion; and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

Preface

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

And with thy spir - it.

We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface for Lent, Sanctus

It is truly meet, right and salutary ever more praising You and saying:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry; Ho - san - na Ho - san - na, Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He, Bless - ed is He, Bless - ed is He that
 com - eth in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the highest.

[*Kneel*] **Lord's Prayer**

[*Pastor chants:*] *Our Father who art in heaven; but deliver us from evil.*

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glo - ry for -
 ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

A - men.

Agnus Dei



1-3. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world,



Stanzas 1 and 2 | Stanza 3

have mer-cy up - on us. Grant us Thy Peace. A - - - men!

[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymns I Heard the Voice of Jesus Burgundy Hymn 699
 Rock of Ages Burgundy Hymn 761

Eucharistic Benediction

The Body and Blood of Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting! ✠ Depart in Peace! Amen!

Post-Communion Canticle The Nunc Dimittis



1. Lord now— lettest Thou Thy
 servant, de-part— in — peace, ac-cord-ing to Thy Word.
2. For mine__ eyes have seen
 Thy Salvation,
 which Thou hast pre-pared__ be— fore the face of all__ people.



3. a Light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the Glo- ry of Thy peo-ple Is - - - ra-el.



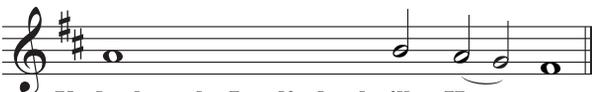
4. Glo— ry__ be to the
 Father, and to__ the__ Son, and to the Ho- ly Ghost.



5. As it__ was in the
 beginning, is
 now, and e- ver shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post Communion Rite

As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup:



Ye do show the Lord's death till He__ come.

Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.



A — men.

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.



During the Recessional, the Congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross, the symbol of Christ's promise to remain with and lead His people as they now go and live in the world in His name.

Recessional Hymn How Wide the Love of Christ Burgundy Hymn 535

Postlude

Holy Week Schedule

✠ ✠ ✠

Palm Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday Divine Service, 9:00 a.m.

✠ ✠ ✠

The Triduum: The Three Day Vigil

✠ ✠ ✠

Part I: Holy Thursday, April 2

Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

✠ ✠ ✠

Part II: Good Friday, April 3

Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

✠ ✠ ✠

Part III: Holy Saturday, April 4

The Great Vigil of Easter

Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

✠ ✠ ✠

The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord

Sunday, April 5

Easter Breakfast 7:45 a.m.

Festival Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

(No Sunday School and Adult Bible Class this Sunday)

✠ ✠ ✠

Liturgical texts and musical settings: from Lutheran Service Book, copyright © 2006 by Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. License #000012381.

Psalm Tone for Introit and Tract: from The Anglican Chant Psalter, copyright © 1987 by The Church Hymnal Corporation; used by permission.

Readings for the Third Sunday in Lent

The Old Testament Reading is Exodus 17:1-7

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

The Epistle is Romans 5:1-8

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

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

The Gospel Lesson is John 4:5-30, 39-42

[Jesus] came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy

food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.” The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?” So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” They went out of the town and were coming to him. ...

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.”

Hymns for the Third Sunday in Lent

LSB823 May God Bestow on Us His Grace

Martin Luther

1. May God bestow on us His grace, With blessings rich provide us;
And may the brightness of His face To life eternal guide us,
That we His saving health may know, His gracious will and pleasure,
And also to the nations show Christ's riches without measure
And unto God convert them.
2. Thine over all shall be the praise And thanks of ev'ry nation;
And all the world with joy shall raise The voice of exultation.
For Thou shalt judge the earth, O Lord, Nor suffer sin to flourish;
Thy people's pasture is Thy Word Their souls to feed and nourish,
In righteous paths to keep them.
- △ 3. O let the people praise Thy worth, In all good works increasing;
The land shall plenteous fruit bring forth, Thy Word is rich in blessing.
May God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit bless us!
Let all the world praise Him alone, Let solemn awe possess us.
Now let our hearts say, "Amen!"

LSB699 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Horatius Bonar

1. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto Me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down Thy head upon My breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, So weary, worn, and sad;
I found in Him a resting place, And He has made me glad.
2. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one, Stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, And now I live in Him.
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light.
Look unto Me; thy morn shall rise And all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found In Him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk Till trav'ling days are done.

LSB761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Augustus M. Toplady

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

2. Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill Thy Law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.
3. Nothing in my hand I bring; Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress; Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die.
4. While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee.

LSB535 How Wide the Love of Christ

Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.

Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc.; Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

1. How wide the love of Christ! It knows not class or race
But holds our one humanity Within its broad embrace.
2. How long the love of Christ! Its patience will not cease
Until this broken world is bound In everlasting peace.
3. How high the love of Christ! Beyond all thought it soars,
And yet upon our passing lives Unmeasured mercy pours.
4. How deep the love of Christ, Descending to a cross!
He bears within His wounded hands All human pain and loss.
5. All praise to You, O Christ, For love whose depth and height,
Whose length and breadth fill time and space With endless life and light!

The Third Sunday in Lent



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

pastor@zionfw.org, church@zionfw.org | website: www.zionfw.org

Zion Lutheran Church is the body of Christ at Hanna and Creighton in Fort Wayne, Indiana that:

- Receives Christ's gifts in Word and Sacraments; and
- Responds to God's love in Christ by
 - Reaching out to those who do not know His love; and
 - Revealing His love in acts of kindness and mercy.

The Pastoral Ministry at Zion

Senior Pastor:

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

Field Workers:

Nathaniel Demlow, Joshua Fuchs

The Teaching Staff at Lutheran South Unity

Principal:

Amber Bahr (744-0459; www.lsusfw.org)

Teachers:

Yvonne Schwantz (8th, MS ELA), Michael Cullen (7th, MS Science),
Chase Mertz (6th, MS Social Studies), Danielle Ramsey (5th), Abbey Kohler (4th),
Rachel Wiegman (3rd), John Fink (2nd), Hannah Fink (1st), Michelle Madden (K),
Natalie Reynolds (Art), Elisa Sawall (Music), Lee Buxton (PE), Cathie Wakeland (Literacy Coach),
Arianna Blake (LSEM), Melissa White (FWCS) & Sarah Wheaton (EACS) (Title I Tutors)

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music:

Michael Hollman, MM

Church Office Manager:

Melvia Culpher

PRAYERS FOR TODAY

- + For the church, especially those bearing the cross of persecution, including Bishop Juhana Pohjola and Dr. Päivi Räsänen (case being decided by the Finnish Supreme Court)
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our teachers as they start of another academic year, our fieldworkers Nate Demlow and Josh Fuchs
- + For our nation; for our leaders; for our military, including James Hall & Thaddeus Cody
- + For our schools, especially Lutheran South Unity School, Concordia Lutheran High School, and Concordia Theological Seminary.
- + For those who travel
- + For the aged and the homebound
- + For those who are on hospice care or nearing death, especially Bob Ockree
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Henry Williams, Jim Teasdale, Marty Thomas, Darryl Kirtz, Yolanda Turner, Carl Albersmeyer, Estella Ramirez, Dick Hollman, Art Litke, Debra Busche, Bill Weinrich, Dwight Bieberich, Jimmy Coffey, Al McFeter, Mike Ming, Earl Marcel Sisson, Elaine Seifert, Joe Harrison, Louisa Porter, Gary Phillips, David Groth, Gary Castle, Ron Rastl, Robert & Jenny Hobby, the Hernandez family
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages
- + For the gift of life and for length of days and, especially Hannah & John Fink and newborn son Carter, and for pregnant mothers, Rachel Wiegman and Gabrielle Voss
- + For the gift of rebirth by water and the Spirit
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, including Georgie Ostermeyer
- + 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 Divine Service for the Third Sunday in Lent. The Cross Bowl is given by Carolyn Wallschlaeger in memory of her sister Georgie Ostermeyer on the occasion of Georgie's birthday on March 6th. 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 8, 2026 thru March 14, 2026

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Adult Bible Class	Bauer Hall
	10:45 AM	Alternate Adult/Youth Bible Class	Conference Room
	10:30 AM	LWML Meeting	Church
MON.			
TUES.	9:00 AM	Weekly Bible Study	Bauer Hall
WED.	9:30 AM	Men of Zion	Conference Room
	5:45 PM	Lenten Supper	Bauer Hall
	7:00 PM	Lenten Vespers	Church
THURS.			
FRI.			
SAT.	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church

March 15, 2026

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Education Hour	Various

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION HOUR: today Sem. Josh Fuchs continues with the class on Lutheran Identity in the Conference Room. And the Adult Class is studying St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians led by Pastor Punke and our field workers.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS for 2025 are set to expire on March 31, 2026. If you still have 2025 Choice Dollars available, please consider directing them to Zion.

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT: Every Wednesday in Lent is a light supper at 5:45 PM with Vespers to follow at 7:00 PM. The Sacrament is offered in the Chapel after Vespers for those who desire it. This Wednesday, Seminarian Fuchs will proclaim the word of God, and Seminarian Demlow will lead the liturgy. Come and observe Lent in humble repentance and forgiveness.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: 1 John 2:2—"He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world." Last week's verse was 1 Peter 2:24.

WE LIVE IN AN "I CAN DO IT MYSELF" CULTURE. The truth is that with creating a Christian estate plan, we need an entire team, to assist us to make sure that our plan is well grounded. Being tax-wise is essential in an estate plan so that you are caring for the family you love and the ministries you care about. This can require that you talk with your accountant/tax preparer, to advise you, based on your current tax realities, and what impact a charitable gift today or in the future will have. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can get you started thinking about this topic, helping you to know what questions to ask your tax advisor. Contact Mark Muehl at 260-241-4845 or mark.muehl@lfnf.org.

JOIN RIGHT TO LIFE OF NORTHEAST INDIANA: Sidewalk Advocates for Life training will take place in the RLNI conference room at 3106 Lake Ave, March 11, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. If you are interested, please send an email to: Jordyn@ichooselife.org or Chase@ichooselife.org.

LSUS is looking for people to host an after-school club. You can pick any grade level to work with; you choose the topic and how many students can attend. But you can't choose Tuesdays to do it that day is reserved for the teachers. If you do choose to host a club, you are responsible for all materials needed for your club. Contact Danielle Ramsey at dramsey@lsusfw.org to schedule your club.

CLHS is blessed to be experiencing significant enrollment growth resulting in the need to add a number of new full-time teaching positions for the 2026–2027 school year. We invite passionate educators to consider joining our growing team. To learn more about the available positions or to apply, visit our employment page at clhscadets.com/apps/pages/employment.

CLHS: Freshmen Scheduling Night, March 2 and 5 at 6:15 p.m. We are excited to welcome our incoming Concordia Lutheran High School families as we prepare for the 2026–27 school year. Parents of eighth grade students who will be attending Concordia this fall are invited to join us for Freshmen Scheduling Night on March 2 or March 5, beginning at 6:15 p.m.

CAMP LUTHERHAVEN registration for Summer Camp is now open! While winter lingers, summer at camp will be here before you know it. Campers will spend their days swimming, hiking, creating, and playing classic camp games like Capture the Flag—all while growing in faith, community, and confidence. Programs are available for students from kindergarten through high school, with options for families as well. Register online at lutherhaven.org or call 260.636.7101 for more information.

LISTEN TO LUTHERAN PROGRAMMING: You can listen to Issues, Etc. live or on-demand at www.issuesetc.org or on the LPR mobile app. Sign up for their podcasts to listen when you want. Similarly, you can listen to KFUE at KFUE.org. Programs also are archived at KFUE.org for 24/7 on-demand listening, streaming or downloading their podcast.

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 4:5-42
Mark 9:14-32
Mark 9:33-50
Mark 10:1-12
Mark 10:13-31
Mark 10:32-52
Mark 11:1-19

DAILY LECTIONARY

The Third Sunday in Lent
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

Evening Prayer

Exodus 17:1-7
Genesis 29:1-30
Genesis 35:1-29
Genesis 37:1-36
Genesis 39:1-23
Genesis 40:1-23
Genesis 41:1-27

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 Your 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 Your 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 Your 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 Your 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 Richard, 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 Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

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

[Daily] **The Our Father**

TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 42:14-21

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39



What Doctor Luther Says:

About Praise of God in Tribulation and Heaven

Christ made the justification of the new law so easy that we can accomplish with the mouth what they could scarcely obtain with everything they had, even with their physical goods. Therefore Hos. 14:2 says: “Take away all iniquity, and receive the good; and we will render the calves of our lips.” The apostle comes close to this explanation below in ch. 13:15 when he says: “Through Him, then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name.” ...

[T]his “sacrifice of praise” does not mean that praise with which even a godless person blesses God, On the contrary, it means praise in the midst of sufferings, as the well-known words in Is. 48:9 prove: “For My name’s sake I will remove My wrath far off from you (I will not condemn you); and for My praise I will bridle you, lest you perish,” namely, in sufferings and chastisements; that is, when a man in the midst of bitterness of heart and in the agony of death even sings to God, saying (Ps. 119:137): “Righteous art Thou, O Lord, and right is Thy judgment.” This is what the thief did on the cross and what David did in Ps. 119:54, when he said: “Thy punishments (that is, my tribulations) have been my songs in the place of my pilgrimage.” Thus Ps. 42:8 says: “By day the Lord commanded His mercy and by night His song,” that is, praise and joy in tribulation. Hence hell is hell not because punishment is there, but because praise of God is not there, as Ps. 6:5 states: “For in death there is no one who remembers Thee.” For God, with His justice, displeases them. Thus heaven is heaven not because joy is there, but because praise of God is there, as Ps. 84:4 states: “Blessed are those who dwell in Thy house, ever singing Thy praise.” For God gives them pleasure, and for this reason they rejoice. Therefore a Christian, as a child of God, must always rejoice, always sing, fear nothing, always be free from care, and always glory in God.

Luther’s Works, 29:175-7.

ZION LADIES OF LWML



SECOND-HAND

CLOTHING DONATION

**STARTING
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026
EVERY 3RD SUNDAY OF THE
MONTH**

**DROP-OFF POINT:
TABLE IN GREAT HALL**

**ALL DONATIONS
WILL GO TO CTSFW
SEMINARY STUDENTS**

**PLEASE DONATE
CLOTHES THAT
ARE...**

CLEAN & FRESH

Recently washed, free of odors.

GENTLY WORN

No major stains, tears, or fading.

FULLY FUNCTIONAL

Zippers, buttons, and snaps must work.



LSUS NOTES

Praying for You!

Please pray for these students/staff:

Royalty	Avari
Willow	Cain
BillyBlessing	Justin
Reign	Mrs. Fink
Ade	Mrs. Kohler
Ivan	



LSUS Admissions

OPEN FOR 2026

School registration is now open! Get registered today and save BIG!

Enroll Now

Early Bird Specials

- February 23rd–March 15th –\$60 with maximum of \$120
- March 16th–April 30th \$80 with maximum \$160
- May 1st–May 31st \$100 with maximum \$200
- June 1st–June 30th \$120 with maximum \$240

Regular Tuition

- July 1st–August 15th \$140 with maximum \$280

Registration must be paid within the registration discount dates for discount to apply

Contact Us

lsus.org 260-744-0459

Lutheran South Unity Kindergarten

Round-Up & Pizza!!!

Registration for Kindergarten Admission for the new academic year is now open!!! Come join the fun!!!

April 16th 6p-7pm



5401 South Calhoun St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46807

Character and moral
faith-based development

Fun and engaging
curriculum

📞 260-744-0459 🌐 www.lsusfw.org ✉️ epearson@lsusfw.org

Registration is now open at Lutheran South Unity School! We are excited to continue providing a strong academic foundation rooted in Christ-centered values. If you know any families with elementary-aged children who are looking for a nurturing, faith-filled school community, please help us spread the word. Your invitation and support make a meaningful difference as we grow this ministry together!

Encouragement Found in Scriptures:

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it. — Proverbs 22:6

STUDENTS vs. ADULTS

COMMUNITY BASKETBALL SHOWDOWN

STUDENTS vs. ADULTS

0

0-0

0

THINK STUDENTS CAN BEAT THE ADULTS?
COME FIND OUT! 🏀🔥

FRIDAY, MARCH 20th

🏀 GAME STARTS AT 5:00 PM

📍 BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
3705 S. ANTHONY BLVD.
FORT WAYNE, IN 46806

Can the students pull the upset?

Come cheer them on!

Can the students pull the upset?
Come cheer them on!



🏀 **WANT TO PLAY?**

Students:

Let Mrs. Washington know if you'd like to play!

Adults:

Parents, Teachers & Pastor — we need you on the court!

🏀 **K-8TH GRADE
REGISTRATION EVENT**

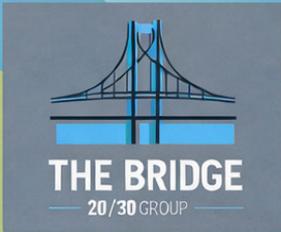
🎁 **FREE CONCESSIONS VOUCHER**

💰 **ONE-DAY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT**

(Available only during the event!)

FUN • BASKETBALL • COMMUNITY • FOOD

▶ **Don't miss this exciting night of fun at LSUS!**



MARCH EVENT SCHEDULE

FACEBOOK: BRIDGE 20/30 GROUP FT. WAYNE | INSTAGRAM: THEBRIDGE2030

3

MARCH 2026

MEETUP: LIVE MUSIC

7 PM THE CLUB ROOM @ THE CLYDE
CAROLYN & DAVE MARTIN
FLATBREAD SPECIAL!

10

MARCH 2026

THE PORCH NIGHT: SERIES ON VANITY

7 PM THE HOLY CROSS YOUTH CENTER
3420 N ANTHONY BLVD

17

MARCH 2026

BRIDGE SKATE NIGHT

8-10:30PM BELL'S SKATI&I RINK
7009 IN-930 FT WAYNE

\$10 ADMISSION & SKATE RENTAL
WEAR YOUR GREEN!

24

MARCH 2026

LENTEN EXPERIENCE WITH PASTOR CHAD

7 PM THE GREENHAUS
3504 N. ANTHONY BLVD
FOLLOWED BY FELLOWSHIP & FUN!

31

MARCH 2026

NO BRIDGE 20/30
CLOSED FOR SPRING BREAK

CAMP LUTHERHAVEN ALBION, IN



CAMPERSHIPS
AVAILABLE



Children - Youth - Teens - Families



...INTO ADVENTURE

LIFE NEWS—MARCH 2026



**LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE**

lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

Canada is about to kill its 100,000th citizen through Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) this spring. Not in a war. Not on a battlefield. Not in a medical accident. Killed by policy, by a government that wants them dead. Let's say this by name, call it the truth. A systemic failure dressed up as compassion. MAiD was sold as a narrow option for the terminally ill, a rare mercy. That fiction collapsed long ago. Today, assisted death is a routine outcome for people struggling with disability, isolation, poverty, and mental health challenges, and when the world looked at what we're doing, it didn't nod approvingly. It recoiled. The United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities didn't mince words: Canada must repeal "Track 2" MAiD, the legal pathway that allows people whose deaths are not reasonably foreseeable to receive assisted dying. It called Track 2 "extremely concerning." It said the law rests on "negative, ableist perceptions of the quality and value of the life of persons with disabilities," suggesting it assumes suffering is inherent to disability rather than a product of social inequality and discrimination. This is not fluff from ivory-tower bureaucrats. This is the authoritative UN body charged with monitoring Canada's compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, a treaty Canada ratified in 2010. (Read more: Kelsi Sheren - <https://tinyurl.com/3r7wr78j>)

Speaking up For Life

"Brothers and sisters, in Christ you are God's masterpiece. You were created for a purpose. You are the hands and feet of Christ demonstrating His love in a world that desperately needs it. Live out that purpose in the strength that comes from Him and wait joyfully for the day where we get to see His finished product." *Rev. Adam Osier, Dean, Free Lutheran Bible College, Plymouth, Minnesota*

"Think of how important we as human beings must be in the eyes of God, if He—as the almighty Creator and Lord of the entire universe—was willing to take on human flesh and become one of us. God loves the human race so much He decided to become our brother." *Thomas P. Nass, CELC President*

"Our Lord dwelt among us for quite some time without anyone seeing or meeting Him. Yet in this span, He consecrated and sanctified every human life from its very beginning at the moment of fertilization. And He demonstrated that neither age nor appearance nor ability—nor any lack thereof—improves or impairs anyone's worth. God creates, redeems, and calls each one as His own to start with." *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life*

Order LFL
Resources



Concordia
Publishing House

at
cph.org

THE SEASON OF LENT

BY REV. DR. ARIC FENSKE



It seems like Christmas was just a week or two ago, and yet here we are again at the beginning of the season of Lent! And while it seems like we have just jumped from one special season of the Church year to another, this is good for us. The Christian Church has historically observed the season of Lent as a season of repentance. We are encouraged to engage in careful self-reflection and increased devotion upon the Word of God. The two go hand in hand. As we spend more time in God's Word and reflect on our lives in light of that Word, we should (if we are honest with ourselves) come to a deeper understanding of our sins and our desperate need for Jesus' forgiveness and salvation.

That realization, in turn, increases our desire for Jesus and helps us to grow in our appreciation for all that He has done and continues to do for us, as He leads us through this life of sin and toward our eternal home with Him. It also motivates us to celebrate Jesus' death on Good Friday and His resurrection on Easter morning with renewed zeal and excitement.

But in addition to increasing our faith in Christ, there is another by-product from this time of increased devotion and self-reflection: our love for one another increases.

As we contemplate our sinful condition, we are, by default, recognizing all the ways that we've failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. And the Holy Spirit, working true repentance in us through the Word of God, motivates us to want to do better.

Which, of course, is a great thing as we continue to work toward defending the sanctity of every person's life. It's easy (and tempting) to always direct our attention to what others are doing or not doing regarding life issues. But it is good for us to take some time now and again to reflect on how we have failed or what we could be doing better to love and serve those who need our help.

It is my prayer for you that this Lenten season provides you with just such an opportunity to reflect and grow, for the sake of your own spiritual growth and for the sake of your neighbors, both inside and outside of the womb.

Please know that I am thankful for you and that Christ has washed you in His blood and called you into His service. May you be abundantly blessed this Lent as we move toward the yearly commemoration of our Lord's suffering and dying for the life of the world.

