

WELCOME

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third Sunday in Lent

ELW Holy Communion Setting Three

Sunday, March 3, 2024

DECEMBER-MARCH 8:30AM

OUR MISSION

Jesus Christ calls American Lutheran Church to nourish the world by faithfully sharing His gifts.

Praise God that we can worship together! We pray you will be enlightened by the Holy Spirit and strengthened in the faith that trusts in our Lord Jesus Christ and praises him for the gift of our salvation. Peace be with you!

CONTACT US

Church office: 319-827-6626

Church website: www.americanlutheranjesup.org

Secretary's email: secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org



Introduction to the day

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's

where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called “the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven” (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are so happy you've joined us today. If you have any questions about our service or facilities, please reach out to an usher. If you are a guest please fill out the yellow slip and place it in the offering plate.

The children will be invited up front during the children's message – please feel free to join us!

All who are baptized are welcome to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing only, come with your hands folded.

If you are looking for a church home, know you are always welcome here.

ORDER OF WORSHIP- Setting Three

Prelude by Shirley Bergman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,

who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN: *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*– see insert

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE:



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

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



Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

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

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and

teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Exodus.

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and 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; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day;

therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

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

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²**One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

³Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

⁴**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat. R**

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;**

the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. R**

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²**Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer. R**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

The reading may be announced:

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness 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, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a

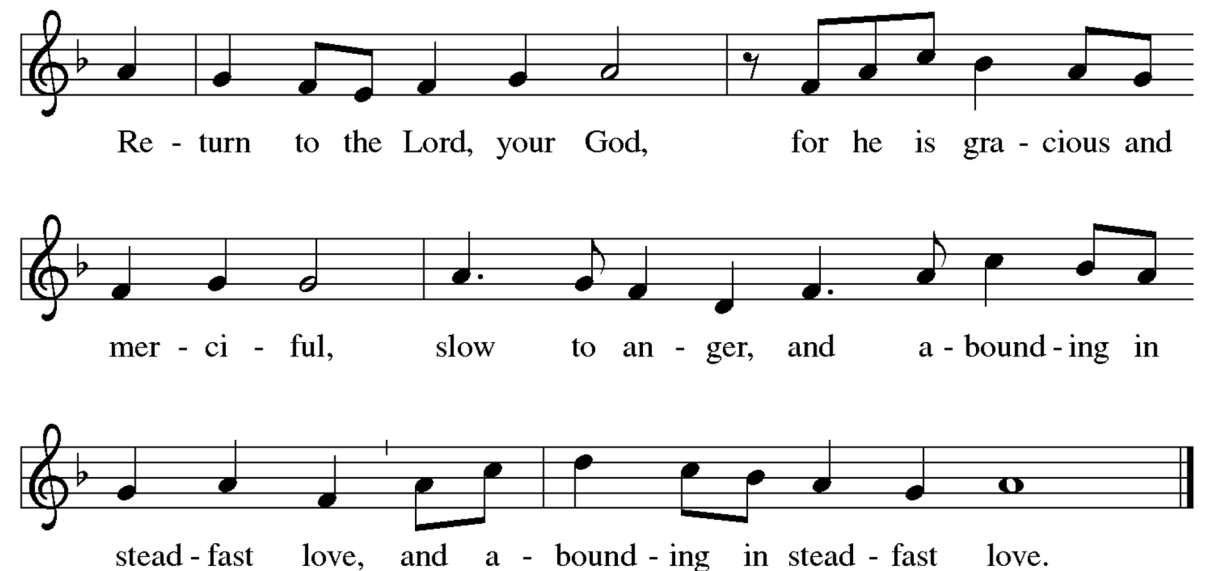
stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to John the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In

the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After 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.

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDRENS SERMON SERMON

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Canticle of the Turning* (ELW 723)

CREED

Please stand if you are able

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land. Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses,

researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick, *Denny Becker*, *Christy Phillips* and *Stephanie Winkelpleck* and those we name silently in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family. We pray for those preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

(Please greet each other as you feel comfortable)

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The assembly is seated

OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

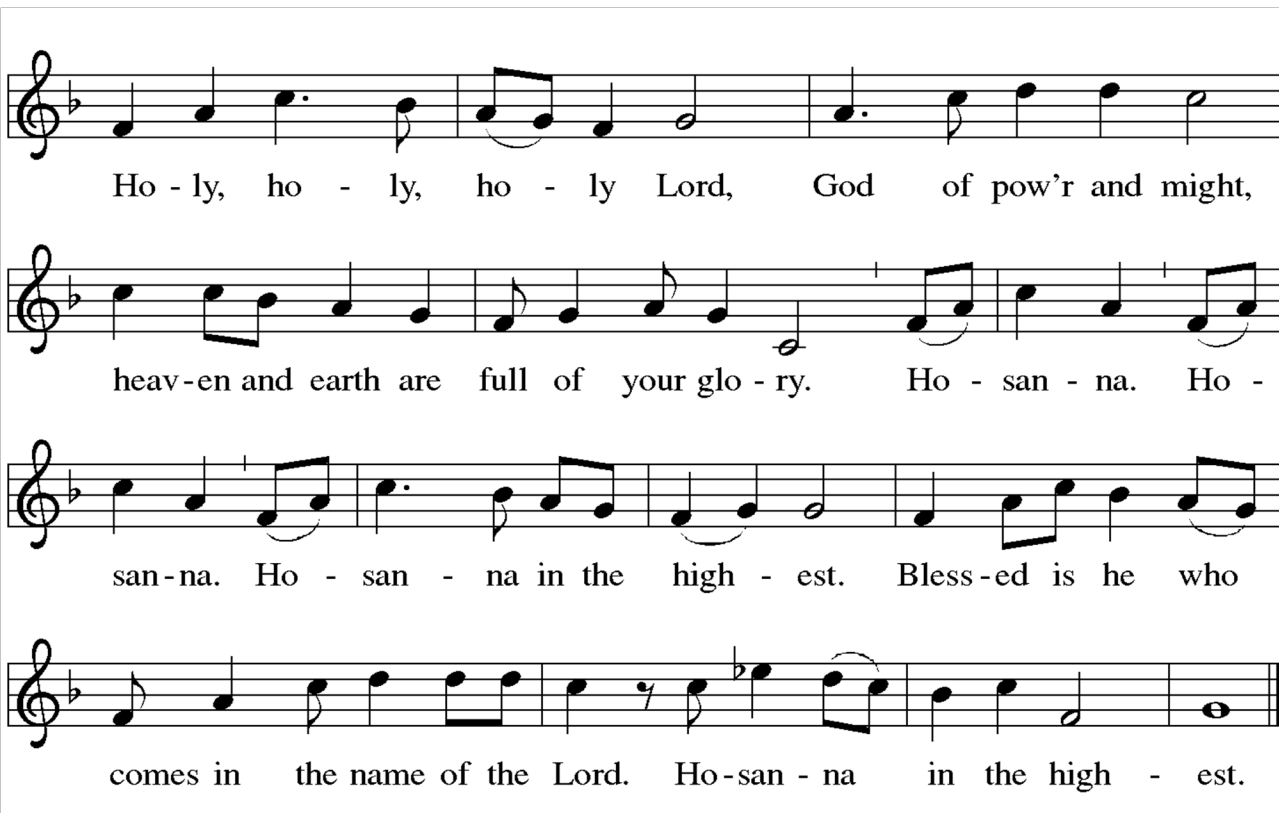
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



The image shows a musical score for a hymn, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,'. The second staff continues with 'heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -'. The third staff continues with 'san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who'. The fourth staff concludes with 'comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.'

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 145)

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that every-
one who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your
holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,
and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remem-
brance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for
all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all
people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and as-
cension,

and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,

so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,

may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen, amen, amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
**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 deliv-
er us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Let us pray.

**Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for
justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of
grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways (ELW 772)*

DISMISSAL BY CHILDREN

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

And have fun doing it.

We will! Amen!

Postlude by Shirley Bergman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LWR Personal Care Kits We are collecting the following items for LWR Personal Care Kits, our goal is 45 kits! Each kit will include on each of the following:

- One Light weight bath size towel (between 20"x40" and 52"x27"), dark in color
- Two or three bath sized bars of soap equaling 8-9oz., any brand in original wrapping
- One adult sized toothbrush in it's original package. Multi packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap
- One metal nail clippers

Combs for these kits have already been purchased
We will need these items no later than March 31st.

Everyone is invited to participate – individuals of all ages are welcome to read the Lessons and Psalm during Sunday mornings. If you're interested, please reach out to the church by emailing secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org or leaving a message at 319-827-6626.

Join us for the **Ecumenical Good Friday** Service on March 29th at 7 pm at First Presbyterian Church in Jesup. We invite four members of our congregation to take part in the Good Friday Drama. **We are seeking one individuals for dramatic reading and two to don event-appropriate attire, standing under the spotlight during the performance.** Your participation will contribute to a meaningful and impactful service. We look forward to your involvement in making this event memorable. Please contact Secretary Chris Waring at secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org or catch me in the office with questions and to volunteer!

Please keep in your prayers: *Emelia Dahl Jacobson* - Send cards to Emelia at Hiawatha Care Center, Room 53, 405 North 15th Avenue, Hiawatha, IA 52233.

Dennis Becker, Gold Canyon RV Resort 6601, E Hwy 60 Site 506, Gold Canyon, AZ 85118

Stephanie Winkelpleck is back at home and continuing her trips to Iowa City twice a week.

Prayer Shawl: Meet every third Wednesday of the month at 10 am, Fireside Room. Please contact Sharon McAtee at 319-827-6154 if you are in need of a shawl.

Worship Wednesday meets March 6th and 20th at 6:15 pm in the Sunday School Room

ALC 90th Anniversary— Our 90th Anniversary celebration is scheduled for July 28th, and we are actively seeking individuals to join the committee. For those interested, please reach out to Maureen Even at 563-880-8872 or contact Chris Waring at Secretary@americanlutheranchurch.org.

The key to the Secretary's office will no longer be left in the usher stand. If you need something in the office. You may contact Chris Waring or stop in during the office hours. If you have a key please email Chris so a record can be documented.

March 6 6pm Soup Supper 7 pm ALC

March 13 6pm Soup Supper 7 pm Zion

March 20 6pm Soup Supper 7 pm Zion

March 28 Maundy Thursday 7 pm ALC

March 29th 7pm Ecumenical Good Friday, United Methodist

March 31st Easter Sunday 7am Zion, 9am ALC

Office Hours: M,W,F 9am-noon, There may be some exceptions to this schedule please call the Church office to see if Chris is available before making a trip.



THIS WEEK AT ALC

Sunday March 3rd

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion and First Communion

Tuesday March 5th

9am Quilting

Wednesday March 6th

6pm Soup Supper ALC

6:15pm Youth Worship Wednesday

7pm Midweek Lent service ALC

Thursday March 7th

9:30am Women's Bible Study

Sunday March 10th

8:30am Worship with Holy Communion

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance 2/25/2024 **25**

FB Views:

Current **1/31/2024**

Checking: \$8847.58

Savings: \$60,248.22

Offering: **2/25/2024**

Current: \$882

Benevolence: \$445

Improvement: \$260

EWALU Campership: \$250

Youth Ministry: \$100

PASTORS COMING TO ALC:

Mar. 3rd Pastor Thoresen

Mar. 6th Mid Week Lent ALC

Mar. 10th Pastor Dennis Hanson

Mar. 13th Mid Week Lent Zion

Mar. 17th Pastor Phil Borleske

Mar. 24th Pastor Dan Mixdorf

Military members: Military members:

Christa Leach has returned from deployment and is still with the 434th Air Force Reserve Unit in Grissom, Indiana. Jordan and Justin continue their monthly drills with the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City. Jeryn Loyd is a student at Iowa State and currently home from Arkansas in the Army Reserves as Cassidee and Cole. Please contact the church office to add other names who serve. We remember them in our prayers.

ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY:

Pastor: Luther Thoresen

Music: Shirley Bergman

Usher: Kenny & Teri Schares

Deacon: Maureen Even

Reader: Max Kopplin



ELECTRONIC GIVING IT'S EASY!

Simply Giving is a stress-free, no hassle way to set up automatic giving to

ALC. You have the ability to set up one-time or regular giving at a frequency that works best for you. Use your smartphone to scan the QR code below or download the Give+ App to get started. Feel free to reach out to Mike Waring or Sara Borland for more info.