

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH Fourth Sunday in Lent Sunday, March 22, 2020 **REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH** Order of Worship Fourth Sunday of Lent March 22, 2020, 9:30 a.m.

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

Key to hymnals: ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red); page numbers are in front, hymns in back WOV = With One Voice (blue); page numbers are in front, hymns in back STS = Spirit Touching Spirit (grey)

* = Please rise

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Gathering Hymn If You But Trust in God to Guide You

(facing page)

*Greeting

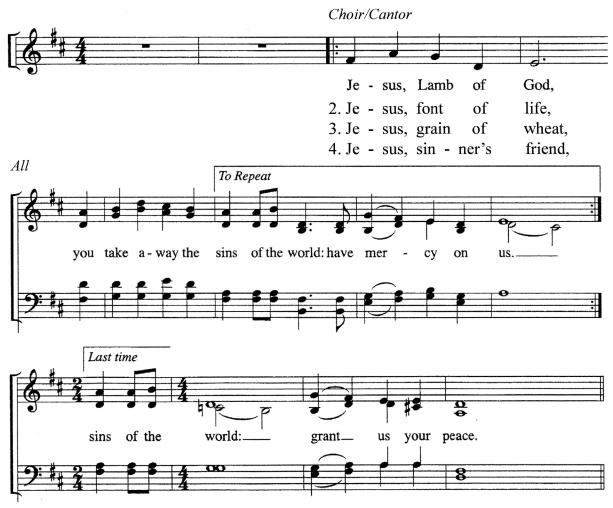
- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

If You But Trust in God to Guide You



Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

*Confession and Forgiveness



In the presence of God and of one another, let us confess our sins.

(Silence is kept for self-reflection. Those who wish to may kneel.)

For self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For misuse of human relationships, and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For jealousies that divide families and nations, and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God, and for carelessness with the fruits of creation:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm:

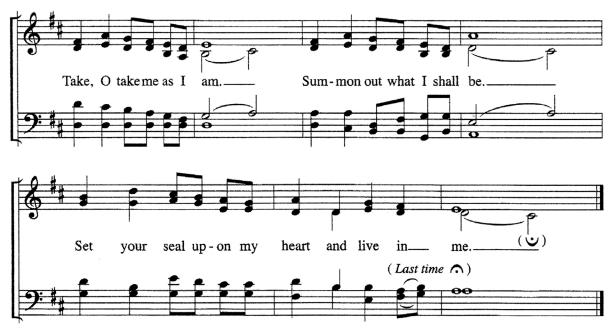
Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ, and for squandering the gifts of love and grace:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit God cleanses us and gives us the power to proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. As a called and ordained member of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Please rise.)



- 1. Marked with ashes we have come, we, the world so troublesome, We, the members; Christ our sum. But you, O Lord:
- 2. All who thirst shall gather here. We, the world draw ever near: Christ's own blood, this cup so dear. But you, O Lord:
- 3. Help us pray by day and night; keep the fast to clear our sight; Share our goods to set things right. But you, O Lord:

*Prayer of the Day

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Let us pray...
- C: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.Amen.

*Refrain

<u>WORD</u>

1 Samuel 16:1-13

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward Samuel then set out and went to Ramah

- L: The word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

Jesus, Remember Me

The congregation sings "Jesus, Remember Me" once; the cantor sings the verse for the day; then the congregation sings "Jesus, Remember Me" once more.



*Gospel: John 9:1-41

P: The holy gospel according to St. John...

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him

heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

- P: The gospel of the Lord.
- C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Darrel Cory



Text: Doris M. Akers, b.1922 Tune: Doris M. Akers, b.1922, harm. by Richard Smallwood © 1953, Doris M. Akers, All rights administered by Unichappell Music, Inc.

*Apostles' Creed

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.

- P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:
 - to live among God's faithful people,
 - to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
 - to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

C: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

*Prayers of the Church

- P: ...Hear us , O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.

*Peace

- P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

We welcome you to Redeemer Lutheran Church this day! As our tithes and offerings are being collected, please take a moment to sign the red Friendship Pad at the end of the pew and pass it down to the next person.



*The Great Thanksgiving

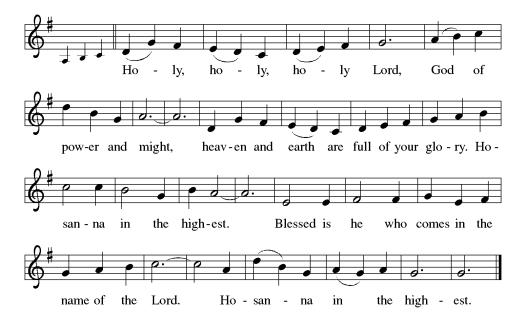
- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: 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:

*Sanctus

ELW p. 108



Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore. You formed the earth from chaos; **you encircled the globe with air;** you created fire for warmth and light; **you nourish the lands with water.** You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

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 remembrance 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.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation.

We remember his life lived for others,

and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth.

We await his coming,

when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom,

all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

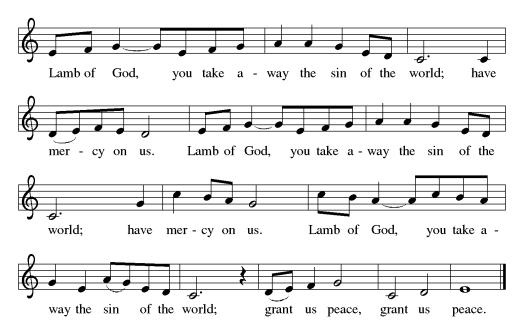
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever. Amen.

*Lord's Prayer

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



Distribution

All who come seeking Jesus are invited to receive these gifts of God. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Communion will be served at two stations at the front of the sanctuary. Grape juice (in pre-filled cups) and gluten-free wafers are available at the head of the aisle.

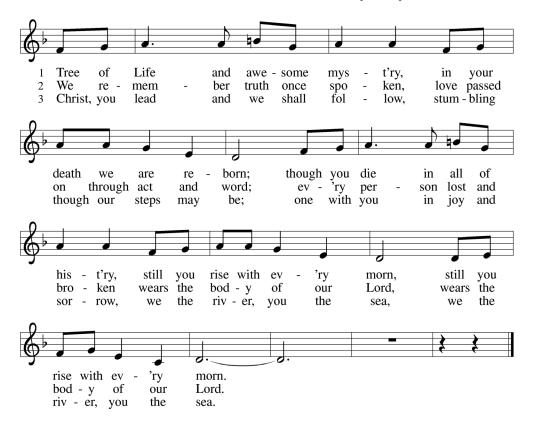
Hymn during Distribution

Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery (facing page) stanzas 1-3 and Lent 4

*Post-Communion Blessing

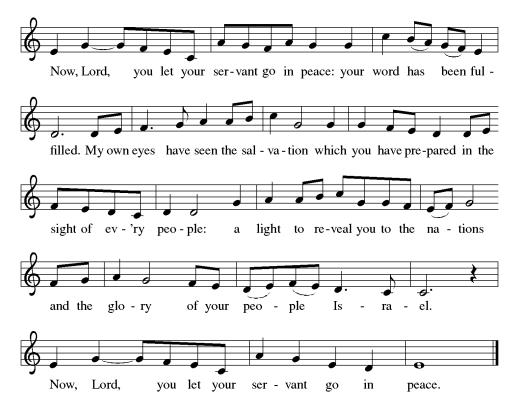
- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C: Amen.

Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery



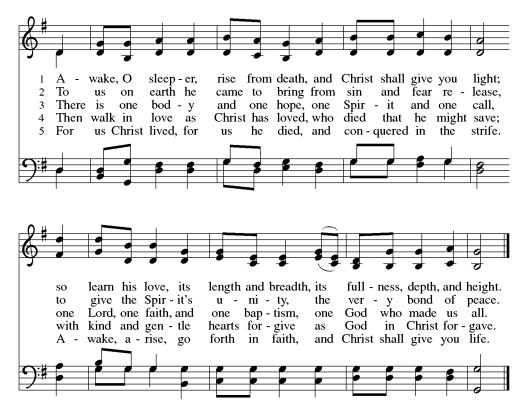
Lent 4 Give us eyes to see you clearly; make us children of your light. Give us hearts to live more nearly as your gospel shining bright.

*Post-Communion Canticle



SENDING

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984 Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829 Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

ASSISTING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Reader: Chris Burnham Ushers: Dan and Jane Aandal Acolytes: Communion Ministers: Open – need 3 Serving at the Altar (Altar Guild): Bev Thompson, Patsy Lindquist Organist: Reid Froiland Cantor: Chris Cuppett Sunday Coffee Fellowship: Property Commitee Church Offering Bank Run: Chris Burnham

ASSISTING IN MINISTRY WEDNESDAY (MARCH 25)

Ushers: Dale and Denice Nelson Acolytes: Christopher Johnson and Spencer Hempel Serving at the Altar (Altar Guild): Bev Thompson, Patsy Lindquist Church Offering Bank Run: Jan Anderson

ASSISTING IN MINISTRY SUNDAY (MARCH 29)

Reader: Mike Parker Ushers: Eric and Julie Tjelle Acolytes: Zach and Landon Wikert Communion Ministers: Betty Carlson, Open – 2 needed Serving at the Altar (Altar Guild): Bev Thompson, Patsy Lindquist Organist: Reid Froiland Cantor: Chris Cuppett Sunday Coffee Fellowship: 5th Sunday Potluck Church Offering Bank Run: Chris Burnham

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REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH 1300 Nora St. E., Thief River Falls, MN 56701 Phone: 218-681-3390; Fax: 218-681-3397 Office e-mail: redeemer@mncable.net Website: redeemertrf.org Facebook: Redeemer Lutheran Church! Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Our Mission Statement: Being chosen by God and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, Redeemer Lutheran Church gathers together to worship, serve and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people, to provide meaning and purpose for daily living.

Our Staff:	
Pastor	Darrel Cory (phone: 218-791-0141, e-mail:)
Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry	Madison Crane (phone: 218-681-3390, email: <u>rzyouthfam@gmail.com</u>) Mondays & Wednesdays at Redeemer Tuesdays & Thursdays at Zion
Administrative Assistant/ Volunteer Coordinator	Vanessa VanDam (phone: 218-681-3390; email <u>redeemer@mncable.net</u>)
Organist/Liturgist/ Choir Director	Reid Froiland (phone: 218-681-3733; e-mail: <u>reid_froiland@hotmail.com</u>)
Cantor	Chris Cuppett (phone: 218-683-3420; e-mail: sisterchris@mncable.net)
B.L.A.S.T. Coordinator	Megan Eickman (phone: 402-310-2192)
Custodian	Mike Lundgren
Financial Secretary	Marit Knutson (e-mail: <u>mknutson@mncable.net</u>)
Church Council President	Jan Anderson (phone: 218-681-2641; e-mail: <u>randson@mncable.net</u>)

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 22-29, 2020

Sunday, March 22	9:30am	Livestreamed Worship
Wednesday, March 25	6:30pm	Livestreamed Midweek Lenten Worship (with <i>Holden Evening Prayer</i>)
Friday, March 27	10:00am	April Newsletter articles due
Sunday, March 29	9:30am	Livestreamed Worship

LOOKING AHEAD AT EVENTS...

Public worship and related events are suspended at Redeemer Lutheran Church for the time being due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A livestream of worship can be found on Redeemer's YouTube channel. Search on YouTube for "Redeemer Lutheran Church Thief River Falls" or go to Redeemer's website for a link. Weekly and midweek bulletins will be linked on Redeemer's website.

For all non-worship events listed below, contact the church office closer to the event to confirm whether it is still on. Worship will continue in a livestream format as long as necessary.

Friday, April 10	Good Friday 6:30pm Worship service
Thursday, April 9	Maundy Thursday 6:30pm Worship service
Wednesday, April 8	No Worship service 5:15pm Family, Faith, Fellowship meeting
Tuesday, April 7	10:00am Marth Unit at Valley Home 4:00pm Evangelism and Social ministry meeting
Saturday, April 4	1 st Communion class
Tuesday, March 30	5:30pm Altar Guild meeting

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Public worship and events at Redeemer are suspended at Redeemer Lutheran Church for the time being due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A livestream of worship can be found on Redeemer's YouTube channel. Search on YouTube for "Redeemer Lutheran Church Thief River Falls" or go to Redeemer's website for a link. Weekly and midweek bulletins will be linked on Redeemer's website. This decision is being made for the safety of our community and will be reevaluated in the future.

We encourage you to make your regular offering contributions via mail or electronically using Vanco or direct withdrawal. Check the church website or contact the church office for more information on using Vanco or direct withdrawal.

In your prayers this week please remember Lowell Burkel, Mark Thompson (Dale & Jan Dillon's son in law), Val Lindgren, John Wollenzien, Barb Lien, Linda Olson, Ingrid Anderson, Obert Sunsdahl, Delores Ault, Rev. Darrel Cory, Gloria Leach, Larry Forsberg, Annabelle Cuppett, Erika Kahlhamer, Jeremy Johnson, Brenda Russ, Chad Gunderson, Kelly Amundgaard, Jason Miller, Shelley Steva, and Molly Dahlin and family.

Altar flowers this day are given by Dave and Bev Thompson in memory of Zack Adams and in honor of all grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Families that received Madison's First Communion class letter: please make sure you let her know if you are or are not able to attend class.

The 5th Sunday potluck is cancelled. Lenten soup suppers are suspended.

Redeemer's Church Directory is available!!! Directory is now online at members.InstantChurchDirectory.com; the directory is free online and you are able to print your own copy. You can also purchase a printed copy from the office; the cost for the directory is \$10 for a black and white copy or \$20 for a color copy. You can also choose regular or large print. <u>Checks can be made out to Redeemer</u>. Please contact Vanessa if you are interested or have any problems accessing the directory online.

If you would like to donate any money towards the cost of the soup expenses, just put an envelope in the offering plate (marked "Soup Supper") or leave in the church office labeled "Soup Supper". Soup for Lenten services normally cost about \$450, so any donations are welcome. Thank you for your souper-support

We still have openings for Altar Flowers on the following dates in:

April 1/5, 15/19, 22/26 Contact the church office if you're interested in buying Altar Flowers.

Church Announcements: Please make sure to have your announcements in every week to Vanessa VanDam by <u>Monday at 10:00 a.m.</u> so that the preparation of bulletins does not get delayed.

Quarterly statements are available upon request; please contact Vanessa at the church office.

Monthly Treasurer's Reports are available anytime for viewing. Contact Marit Knutson or the church office.

A support group for people who are caregivers and/or family members of those with dementia/Alzheimer's will be held the third Monday of each month at the Grand Stay hotel meeting room in Thief River Falls. This caregiver support group is sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association. It is designed to provide emotional, educational, and social support for caregivers through regularly scheduled meetings. For more information, please contact the facilitator Kari Jesme at 218-686-4487 or at kari.jesme@outlook.com.

Free services for seniors wishing to remain independent: The RSVP Groceries to go and Handyman Programs are vital services for seniors 60+ wishing to remain independently in their homes. G2G Volunteers shop for and deliver groceries or assist with shopping 2-4 times per month.

Handyman volunteers assist with minor home maintenance issues. Caring volunteers are ready to help you! Contact Tammy or Jennifer at 218-281-8288 or 800-862-6466, or e-mail tsyles@umn.edu or jkerdman@umn.edu.