

AES MINISTRIES ~ AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Mandy France: 651-800-6672

Visitation Deacon Lyla Klee: (h) 507-439-6940 ~ (c) 507-227-9250

Augustana office: 375-4792 website: www.aeslutheran.org

Organist: Heidi Engel Lector: Kari Miest Greeters: Darrick & Kari Miest

Missionary Sponsor for the Month of March: Gene & Carol Zarn

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026 9:00 AM

"Congregations joined in faith and fellowship to spread God's love."

AES Ministries mission statement

Welcome to all who worship with us today! All are welcome at the Lord's Table

PRELUDE, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

LEFT COLUMN, ELW p. 94

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

One of the following or another confession is prayed.

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

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess
that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart;
we have not loved
our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake
of your Son, Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

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

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister 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.

GATHERING HYMN

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

ELW #335



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.



Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;





GREETING

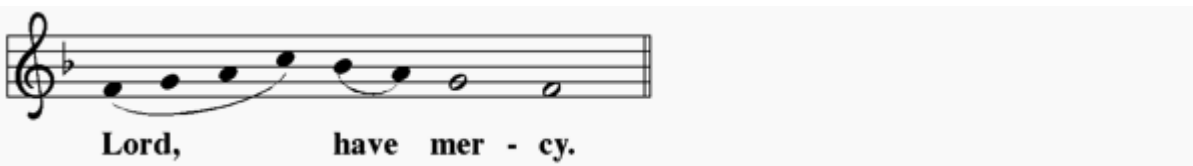
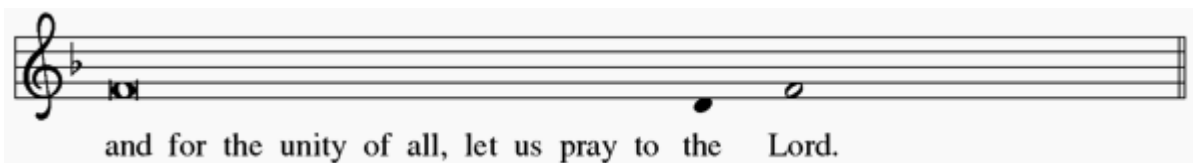
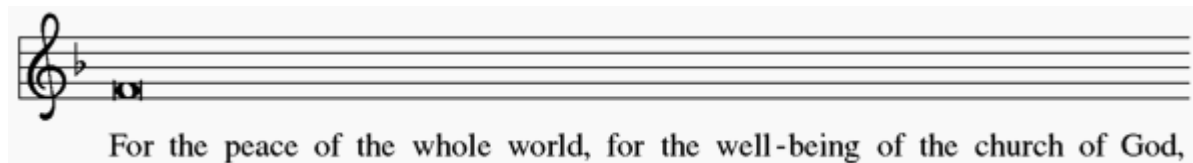
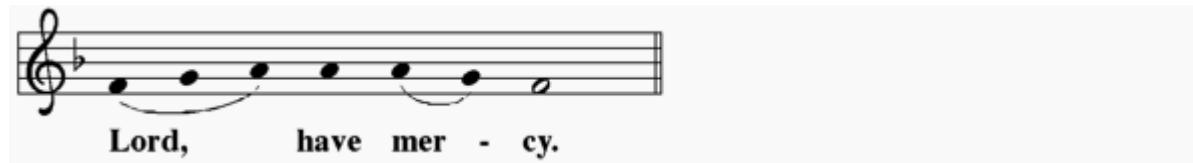
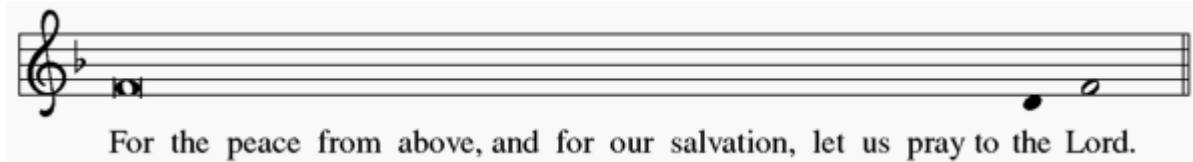
ELW p. 138

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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

A Kyrie may be sung in dialogue between an assisting minister and the assembly.



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

“Glory to God”

ELW p. 140

Assisting minister

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

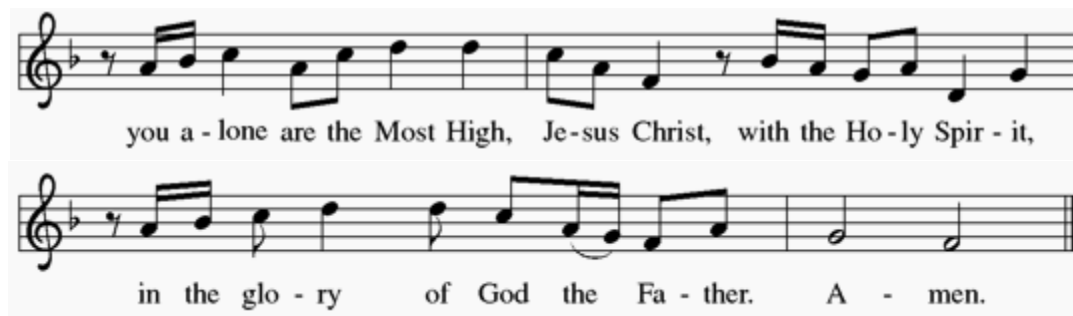
we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray....

C: O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: GENESIS 12:1-4a

¹ The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ^{4a} So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

L: Word of God, Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God

PSALM: PSALM 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

² **My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³ The Lord will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵ the Lord watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The Lord will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸ **The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

SECOND READING: ROMANS 4:1-5, 13-17

¹ What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. ¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. ¹⁶ For this reason

the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

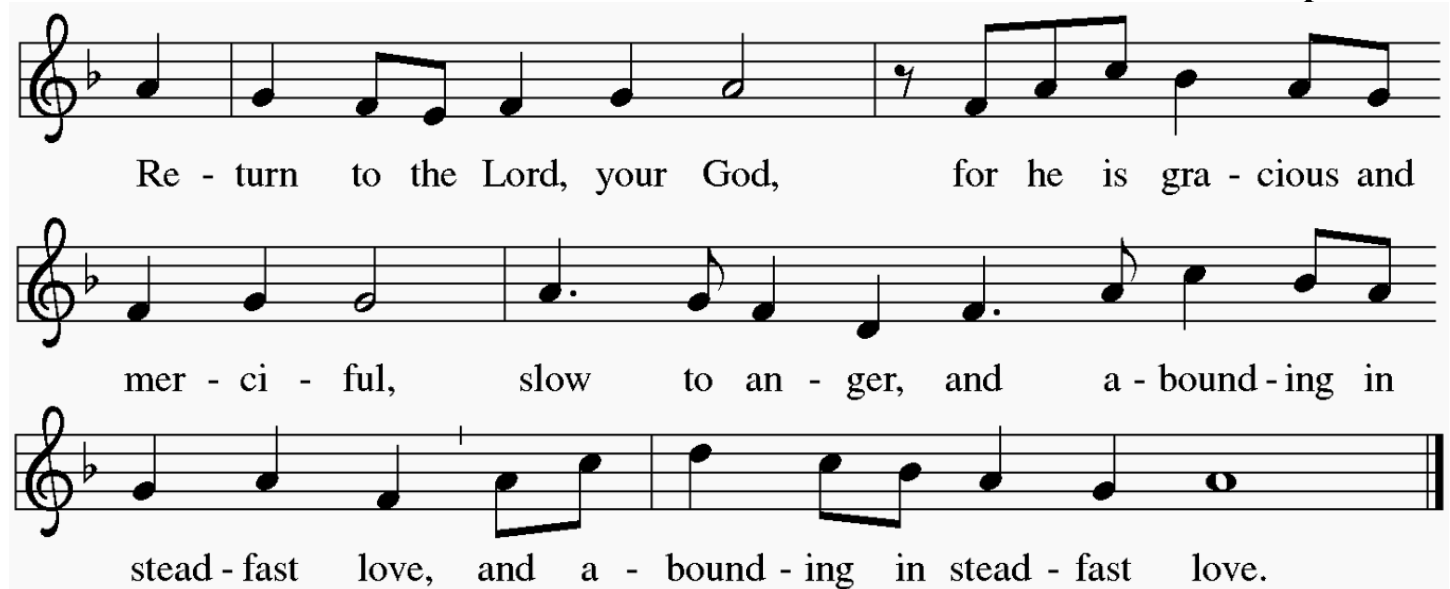
L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Return to the Lord, Your God”

ELW p. 142



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 3:1-17

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. John, the 3rd Chapter

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one

who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

“God Loved the World”

ELW #323

1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son, for - gives all
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly

Son the lost to save, that all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

APOSTLE'S CREED

ELW p. 105

**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.**

PRAYER'S OF INTERCESSION

L: Lord in your Mercy . . .

C: Hear our Prayer

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

OFFERING

Offertory Hymn

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

ELW #186



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 your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offertory Prayer

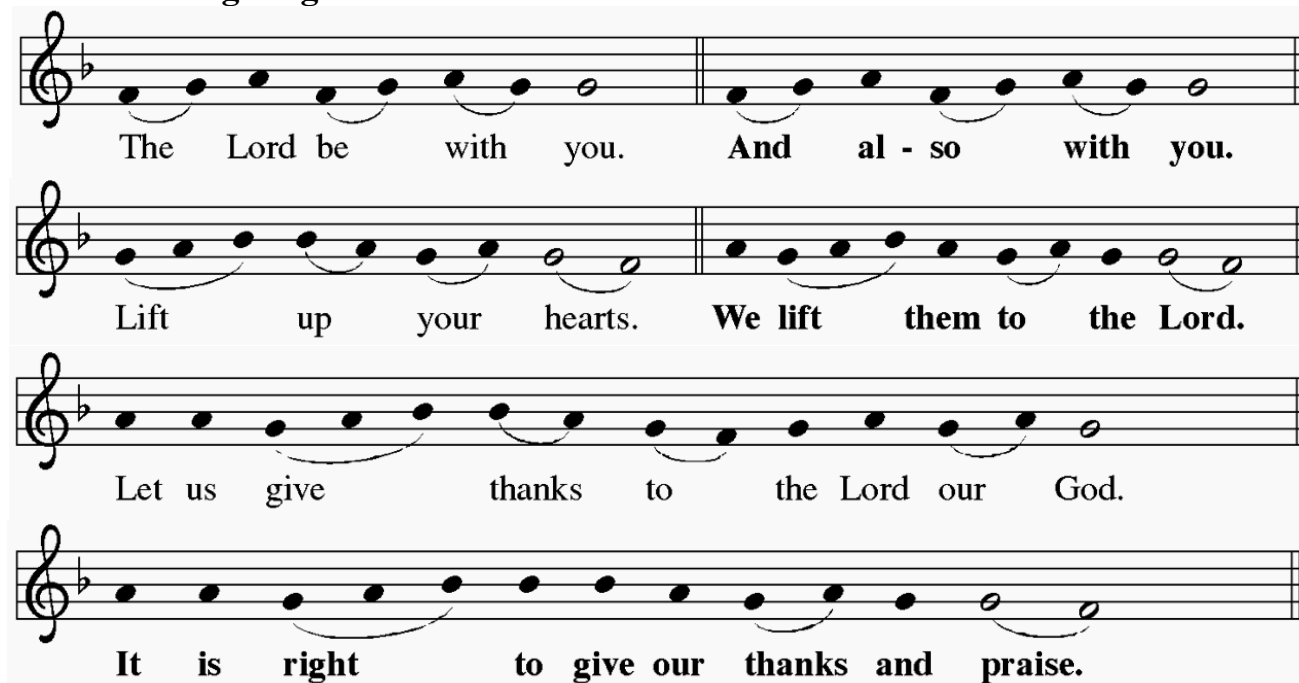
Scan this QR Code to give Electronically!



HOLY COMMUNION

Here at Augustana we are committed to the inclusion of all God's people, with no exception. Therefore, we practice open communion, welcoming all to the table to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Juice (light color) and wine (dark red) are both available. Individually wrapped gluten free wafers are available as well. If you would like to receive communion, but are unable to physically come forward, please indicate that to an usher and communion will be brought to you.

Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

Congregation Responds: "Holy, Holy, Holy"

ELW p. 144



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THE 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

Post Communion Prayer

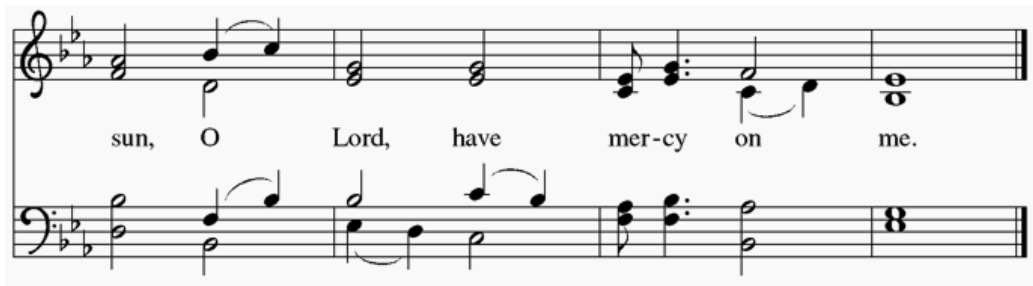
Communion Hymn

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

"For All the Faithful Women"

vs. 1, 2 ELW #419



1 For all the faith-ful wom - en who served in days of old,
2 Lord, hear our praise of Dor - cas who served the sick and poor.
3 All praise to God the Fa - ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



to you shall thanks be giv - en; to all, their stor - y told.
Her hands were cups of kind - ness, her heart an o - pen door.
All praise to God the Spir - it, who binds the church as one!



They served with strength and glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave.
Send us, O Christ, your Bod - y, where peo - ple cry in pain,
With saints who went be - fore us, with saints who wit - ness still,



To you their lives bore wit - ness, pro-claimed your pow'r to save.
and touch them with com-pas - sion to make them whole a - gain.
we sing glad al - le - lu - ias and strive to do your will.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

Prayer Concerns: *Lucy Christenson, Lindsey Kulseth, Debbie McGuire, Roger Hagen, Nolan O'Connor, Judy Berg, Darrell Ask, Dennis Johnson, Mike Larson, Jamie (Noren) Seiner, Marie Christenson, Darryl Jensen, Phyllis Jurgens, Dave Finnegan, Tim Knaak, Don Flater, Bruce Ohland, Sam Christenson, Melissa Anderson, Steven Olson, Tom Anderson, Chloe Anderson, Orval Larson, Dennis Madison, Linda Madison, and Emma Overson.*

General Offering: \$3,179.00
Vanco/Online Offering: \$ 105.00
Total Offering for February 22nd: \$3,284.00
Amount needed each week is \$3,867 to make budget.

Activities this week: March 2 – March 8

Monday 9:30am – Rebecca Circle
3:00 pm – (E) Study Group
Tuesday 2:15 pm – Augustana worship on cable tv
Wednesday 9:00 am – Martha Circle
5:30 pm – (E) Supper
6:00 pm – (E) ROAR
6:30 pm – (E) Lenten Service
Thursday 7:00 pm – (E) AES Joint Council
Sunday 9:00 am – (A) Communion Worship
10:00 am – (A) Coffee Hour
10:30 am – (E) Communion Worship
11:30 am – Radio Broadcast on 1370AM
2:00 pm – Youth Bingo @ Pleasant View
6:00 pm – (A) Education Meeting

2026 Lenten Schedule

March 4 - “Water From a Rock” – Deacon Lyla. 5:30 pm Supper; 6:30 pm Service at **East**
March 11 - “Jesus Calms the Storm” – Pastor Mandy. 5:30 pm Supper; 6:30 pm Service at **Augustana**
March 18 - “Jesus Walks on Water” – Deacon Lyla. 5:30 pm Supper; 6:30 pm Service at **East**
March 25 - “River of Life” – Pastor Mandy. 5:30 pm Supper; 6:30 pm Service at **Augustana**

Church Announcements

- ✠ **Today is Bold Women’s Sunday!** Thank Offering envelopes will be by bulletins and all are invited to coffee hour for muffins following the service.
- ✠ **Rebecca Circle will now meet on Mondays starting Monday, March 2nd at 9:30 am.**
- ✠ **AES Meeting will be Thursday, March 5th, 7 pm at East Sveadahl.**
- ✠ **Education Committee will meet Sunday, March 8th at 6 pm.**
- ✠ Youth are hosting **Bingo at the Nursing home** on Sun **March 8th** from 2 PM - 3 PM. We are asking all youth grades 6th -12th grade for help! Please let Sandy Berg know if you are able to help or not by TODAY! residents look forward to playing bingo but really enjoy seeing all the youth.
- ✠ **Sunday, March 15th**, there is a **National Youth Gathering Meeting** for youth and 1 Parent at 6:30 pm @ Augustana.
- ✠ **AES Youth are hosting a St, Patrick's Breakfast and Bingo Fundraiser** Sunday **March 15th** following 9 AM service at Augustana. Breakfast Menu: Build your own Breakfast Sandwich, and Yogurt Parfaits. Breakfast is free will-donation and Bingo will be \$5 for 5 games. Hope to see you all!
- ✠ **Youth in Grades 6-8** are invited are invited to **Ecumenical Youth Night** at First Lutheran Church Sunday, March 22 from 6-7 pm.