

AES MINISTRIES ~ AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 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!

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

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray....

C: Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 37:1-14

¹ The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” ⁴ Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord.” ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath,

prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.”¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.¹¹ Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’¹² Therefore prophecy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel.¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people.¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

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

PSALM 130

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;

² **O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

³ If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?

⁴ **Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.**

⁵ I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

⁶ **My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

⁷ O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is steadfast love; with the Lord there is plenteous redemption.

⁸ **For the Lord shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:6-11

⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed, it cannot,⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Just As I Am”

Vs 1 and Chorus

GOSPEL: JOHN 11:1-45

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. John, the 11th Chapter

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

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill.³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom

you love is ill.”⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus,⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.”⁸ The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?”⁹ Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world.¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them.”¹¹ After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.”¹² The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.”¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep.¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead.¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away,¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother.²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home.²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.”²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him.³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.³⁴ He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”³⁵ Jesus began to weep.³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”⁴⁰ Jesus said to

her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me.⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him. P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

“At The Cross – Love Ran Red”

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

“Give Thanks”

Offertory Prayer

Scan this QR Code to give Electronically!



THE LORD’S PRAYER

ELW p. 145

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.

BLESSING

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

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

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Prayer Concerns: *The Family and Friends of Judy Berg, Lucy Christenson, Janet Bloomquist, Lindsey Kulseth, Debbie McGuire, Roger Hagen, Nolan O’Connor, Darrell Ask, Brenda Watson, 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.*

Activities this week: March 23 – March 29

Monday **Easter Lily/Mum Deadline**
Tuesday 10:30 am – Devotions at Brandt Ridge
11:00 am – Devotions at Pleasant View
2:15 pm – Augustana worship on cable tv
Wednesday 5:30 pm – (A) Supper
6:00 pm – (A) ROAR
6:30 pm – (A) Lenten Service
Sunday **PALM SUNDAY**
10:00 am – (A) Joint Worship
11:00 am – (A) Coffee Hour / Egg Hunt
11:30 am – Radio Broadcast on 1370AM

2026 Lenten Schedule

March 25 - “River of Life” – Pastor Mandy. 5:30 pm Supper; 6:30 pm Service at **Augustana**

April 2 – Maundy Thursday/First Communion , 6:30 pm at **East**

April 3 – Good Friday, 6:30 pm at **Augustana**

April 5 – Easter 8:00 am at Augustana, 10:00 am at East

Church Announcements

- † A Celebration of Life was held for **Judy Berg** on Tuesday, March 17th at 11:00 am at Augustana. Judy passed away on March 8th, 2026.
- † **AES Youth are hosting a St, Patrick's Breakfast and Bingo Fundraiser** 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 **TONIGHT** from 6-7 pm.
- † We are now taking orders for **Easter Lilies & Pastel Mums**. Cost is \$15 per plant. Order forms are on tables by bulletins and are **due Tuesday, March 23rd**. You can take your plant home after worship on Sunday, April 5th.
- † Palm Sunday is Sun, **March 29th will be a Joint Worship at Augustana** at 10 am. Lunch and Easter Egg hunt for grades infant – 5th Grade following Worship.
- † **Maundy Thursday** service will be held at **Augustana** Thursday, April 2nd at 6:30 pm.
- † **Good Friday** service will be held at **East Sveadahl Friday**, April 3rd at 6:30 pm.
- † **Easter Service on April 5th** will be held at **Augustana at 8:00 am**, with **Easter breakfast being served starting at 7 am**. Breakfast will be French Toast Bake and fruit slush cups.
East Sveadahl service will be held at **10:00 am**.
- † The **Church Office is closed Monday, April 6th** in observance of Easter.
- † There will be a meeting for the **National Youth Gathering on Sunday, April 12th** at 6:30 pm. 1 Parent must attend with their Youth.
- † There will be a **joint worship** service on **Sunday, April 12th at 9:00 am at Augustana**. Bishop Dee Pederson will be joining us during worship, then during coffee hour, will have a presentation detailing her work with the South African partnership.