



Concordia Lutheran Church
4210 Johnson Ave NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
Second Sunday in Lent
March 16, 2025

Announcements for March 16, 2025

Sunday (16)	8:30 am Contemporary Worship & Live Stream 10:00 am Adult Bible Class No Youth Group
Monday (17)	4:30 pm Irish Class
Tuesday (18)	9:00 am Holy Chair Yoga 7:00 pm Church Council
Wednesday (19)	5:30-6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Soup Supper (rescheduled) 7:00 pm Mid-Week Lenten Service
Sunday (23)	8:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Live Stream 10:00 am Adult Bible Class 6:00-8:30 pm Youth Group - Bowling

Welcome Concordia members & guests – please be sure to fill out the attendance/communion cards located in each pew. Thank you!

Last week at Concordia: Attendance: 56 Planned Returning: \$3,319 Actual Returning: \$ 1,304 YTD: \$4,911

EASTER LILIES - We are now taking orders for Easter Lilies to help decorate the church for Easter. Lilies are \$10 each and the forms are on the Welcome Desk. Orders & payments are due by April 6th.

THE ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP SUPPER HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED for Wednesday, March 19th serving from 5:30-6:30pm. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Everyone is welcome!

You're invited to our annual Easter Breakfast hosted by the Youth Group following Easter service. Youth will be preparing breakfast (ham & cheese egg bake, veggie egg bake, ham, cheese, and veggie egg bake, breakfast pastries, assorted fruit, cereal, and beverage) There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board if you would like to help by donating items needed for breakfast. You may drop off any donations in the kitchen on Friday, April 18th.

Please join us for Mid-week Lenten Services: Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

March 19th – “The Hand of the Lord Who Casts Out Demons”

March 26th – “The Hand of the Lord Who Heals the Sick”

April 2nd – “The Hand of the Lord Who Raises the Dead”

April 9th – “The Hand of the Lord Who Holds All Things”

Part-Time Administrative Assistant Needed - St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel, Iowa City is hiring a part-time Administrative Assistant to help with tasks such as maintaining attendance records, managing social media, producing weekly bulletins, and handling mailings. This flexible position requires 5–10 hours per week. If you're organized, tech-savvy, and looking for a way to support our chapel, please contact Jon Kohlmeier at jonkohlmeier@gmail.com for more information.

Building Healthy Families: *How was your day, honey?* Arriving home from work, school, or a day away, you may be the one who asks – or hears – this familiar question. While there's nothing wrong with the question, what would happen if you would dig just a little bit deeper to connect more with your spouse, children, grandchildren, neighbor, or friend? Maybe instead try something like this: *I'm developing my prayer list for this week - what's a challenge you are facing right now or have coming up that I can pray about for you? Or, we believe the Bible's promise that God is with us all the time. Where did you see Him today?* Then see where God may take the conversation! **Lutheran Family Service**
www.LutheranFamilyService.org

Stand Firm in the Faith

As We Gather

How's your faith? Is it firm, steadfast, and strong? Or do you find that it seems to be growing weak, uncertain, or even in danger of disappearing at times? As we follow our Lord in this Lenten season, leading up to the distressing events of Holy Week, we are warned today that the same opposition, rejection, and betrayal faced by prophets like Jeremiah, and even Jesus, will also face us as His followers. What did He mean when He said, "You will be hated by all for My name's sake"? (Luke 21:17). But rather than a dire prediction, Jesus said, "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on My account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you" (Matthew 5:11–12). When challenges arise and temptations overwhelm, we are reminded to remember and observe examples of faith, such as the apostle Paul in his many struggles and even our Lord Himself whose faith and confidence in His Father's gracious design made Him endure "the cross, despising the shame" with the prospect of His certain victory and eternal placement at the right hand of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:2). That certainty is ours. Faith hangs on to the promise "I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown" (Revelation 3:11). Or as Paul says, "Therefore, my brothers, . . . my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord" (Philippians 4:1).

PREPARATION

Opening Song: Change My Heart Oh God (BOB 33)

Change my heart, oh God.

Make it ever true.

Change my heart, oh God.

May I be like You.

You are the potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

(Sing Through Twice)

Change my heart, oh God.

Make it ever true.

Change my heart, oh God.

May I be like You.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 4:1, 3

P Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

C Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

P Know that the LORD has set apart the godly for Himself;

C the LORD hears when I call to Him.

Confession and Absolution

P As we eagerly await our final transformation as citizens of heaven on the day of resurrection, let us above all pursue steadfastness of faith, relying on the power and promises of God our heavenly Father.

C O almighty God, our Father in heaven, we come to You in our weakness seeking and imploring the strength of Your grace and blessing. Our sins wear us down. Make us desire all that You promise and to firmly believe in Your forgiveness and help now and for all our days. We ask this solely for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Good Shepherd.

P Even amid the challenges and hardships of life in faith in this world, as citizens of the kingdom of God we have the assurance of grace abounding throughout our days. 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.

C Amen.

WORD

Introit

For zeal for your house has consumed me,
and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me.

O God, why do you cast us off forever?
Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?

Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old,
which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage!

Remember Mount Zion,
where you have dwelt.

Direct your steps to the perpetual ruins;
the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctuary!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

For zeal for your house has consumed me,
and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.
O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 26:8–15

⁸When Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! ⁹Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant?’” And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

¹⁰When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king’s house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. ¹¹Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears.”

¹²Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, “The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. ¹³Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. ¹⁵Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,
the founder and perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Epistle

Philippians 3:17—4:1

¹⁷Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.
¹⁸For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ.
¹⁹Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.
¹Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse

Luke 13:35

P Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see Me until you say,

C “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:31–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.”
³²And he said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course. ³³Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.’ ³⁴O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! ³⁵Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Song of the Day “You Are My All In All” BOB 243

**Verse 1: You are my strength when I am weak,
You are the treasure that I seek.
You are my All in All.**

**Verse 2: Seeking You as a precious jewel,
Lord, to give up I’d be a fool.
You are my All in All.**

**Chorus: Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.**

**Verse 3: Taking my sin, my cross, my shame,
Rising again I bless Your name.
You are my All in All.**

**Verse 4: When I fall down You pick me up,
When I am dry, You fill my cup.
You are my All in All.**

**Chorus: Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.
Worthy is Your name.**

Sermon

Apostles’ Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayer of the Church (each petition after ends)

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Offering

Offering Song: Everybody's Got Something to Offer (not in BOB)

Refrain: Everybody's got something to offer,
young and old, the prince and the pauper.
Everybody's got something to offer,
in the name of the Lord.

Verse 1: To the lost and the lowly ones, the message, it is clear.
We have all got a gift to give, our hands, our hearts, our tears.

Refrain

Verse 2: To the believers gathered here, the message, it is true.
We have all got a gift to give in all we say and do.

Refrain: Everybody's got something to offer,
young and old, the prince and the pauper.
Everybody's got something to offer,
in the name of the Lord.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

Benedicamus

- P** Bless we the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Sending song: How Great is Our God (not in BOB)

**Verse 1: The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.**

**Chorus: How great is our God!
Sing with me: How great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great, is our God!**

**Verse 2: And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end.
The God-head three in one, Father, Spirit, Son;
The Lion and the Lamb; the Lion and the Lamb.**

Repeat Chorus

**Bridge: Name above all names, worthy of all praise,
My heart will sing: how great is our God!
Name above all names, worthy of all praise,
My heart will sing: how great is our God!**

**End Chorus: How great is our God! Sing with me:
How great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great, is our God!**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.
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