

# OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

904 Bluff Street Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

## THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

*A traditional, liturgical, Biblical congregation in the heart of Cedar Falls ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Christ.*

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### The Third Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024

**TO OUR VISITORS** We rejoice that you have joined us this morning to hear the Word of God, receive His gifts of life and salvation, and to respond to His faithfulness with “Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs” *Ephesians 5:19*

- ✘ Please take the time to fill out the Communion Registration/Visitors’ Cards which are in the small card holders on the pew.
- ✘ Please read the announcement below regarding Communion.
- ✘ Guests who will not be communing may place the Visitor’s card in the Offering plate.
- ✘ Guests who intend to commune are asked to announce this intention to the Elder and give the card to the Usher as they come forward to receive communion.

### OUR REDEEMER PRACTICES CLOSED COMMUNION

The Sacrament of the Altar is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and drink, instituted by Christ Himself. As we receive this Sacrament, the oneness of fellowship at the Altar (I Corinthians 10:17) presupposes a oneness in doctrine with the Apostles (Acts 2:42). For this reason the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of Closed Communion. If you desire to receive the Lord's Supper and are not a communicant member of Our Redeemer or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning. Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Knox, Pastor Saunders, or Vicar Baker about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation.



**TODAY IS THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT.** We have now passed through the early stages of the Lenten journey as we move with Jesus toward His passion. For most of the Church Year, the Gospel readings have come from the Gospel of Mark. This week and next, the Gospel readings will be from the Evangelist John’s Gospel.

In some ways, this breaks the chronological order of the events of Jesus’ life. In Mark, we were progressing from the Mountain of the Transfiguration toward Jerusalem where Jesus would be **“betrayed into the hands of wicked men, be crucified, and on the third day rise.”** With the switch to John’s

Gospel, we move from a time line of Jesus’ life to a more thematic preparation for Holy Week. Today, we behold Jesus in Jerusalem, in the temple, where He drives the money changers and sellers of animals from His Father’s house.

Jesus did this on at least two occasions. In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Jesus does this during the week of His passion. In John’s account, this takes place right at the beginning of His public ministry, some three years earlier. Regardless of which account we read, all place the cleansing of the temple during the observance of the Passover. It is easy to think that Jesus may have done this every Passover during His public ministry.

This picture of Jesus, the one with whip in hand driving animals and people from the temple, is likely not the fondest picture you have of your Savior. But here, in a small way, you have the picture of Jesus *“who will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.”* The Old Testament reading, leading you to hear again the commandments of God from Exodus, reminds you how you need to be cleansed because of your sins against God and your neighbor.

The people of Jesus’ day asked, **“Give us a sign to prove that you have authority to do all of this.”** In figurative language, Jesus answers them by speaking of tearing down the temple and rebuilding it in three days. The people did not understand that He was speaking of His death and resurrection and not the building of stone there in Jerusalem.

The people of Jesus’ day could not understand this event until after the sign of His resurrection had been given. The people of today cannot understand it either, apart from this same sign. So how is this sign given today? St. Paul tells us in the Epistle, **“Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified.”** It is in the preaching of Christ crucified that people come to and are sustained in the Faith and thus are cleansed from their sins. The resurrected Christ continues to give the sign of His resurrection in His body and blood in the Sacrament of the Altar.

This sign has been given. Jesus died and has been raised again. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. In the meantime, the temple of His body, the Church, continues to be cleansed, not with whip and cord, but with His Word and through communion with His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins.

**THOSE SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE THIS WEEK**

**Elder:** Matt Kenitzer **Service Assistant:** Steven Dekutoski

**Organist:** Sheryl Dekutoski **Offering Counters:** Chris Fink, James Mishler

**Ushers:** Kelly Barber, Tim Koch **Shut-Ins:** Paula Czarnetzki

**\*Liturgical Change For Lent**

- The "Gloria In Excelsis" is omitted.
- Lenten "Gradual" will be sung by the Cantor
- The "Alleluia" is omitted. In place of the Alleluia the Cantor will sing the Lenten "Verse."

**I. THE PREPARATION**

**Hymn of Invocation**

*"Go to Dark Gethsemane" LSB #436*



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the  
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of  
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing  
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid His



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,  
life ar - rained; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!  
at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,  
breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His  
Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,  
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"  
Who has tak - en Him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.  
hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

*Text and tune: Public domain*

**Stand/Remain Standing**

**Invocation**

P/V: In the name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

**C: Amen.**

**The Confession of Sin**

P/V: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *[Hebrews 10:22]*

P/V: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C: who made heaven and earth.**

*Psalm 124:8*

P/V: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Psalm 32:5*

P/V: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

P/V: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to be the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

## II. THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

### Introit



Cantor: For zeal for Your house has con- | sumed me,\*  
and the reproaches of those who reproach You have fall- | en on me.

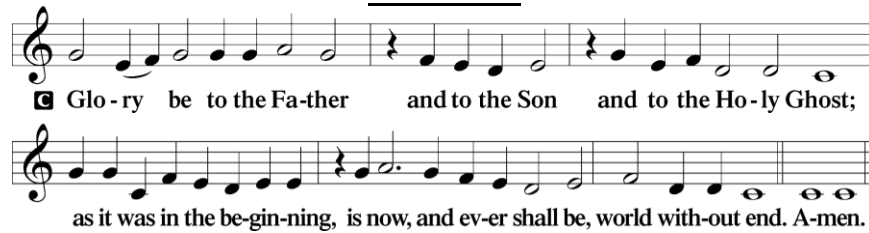
Cong: Deliver me from sinking | in the mire;\*  
let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep | waters.  
Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swal- | low me up,\*  
or the pit close its mouth | over me.

Answer me, O Lord, for Your steadfast | love is good;\*  
according to Your abundant mercy, | turn to me.

Cantor: For zeal for Your house has con- | sumed me,\*  
and the reproaches of those who reproach You have fall- | en on me.

(Ps. 115:11–13, 18; antiphon: Ps. 25:6)

### Gloria Patri

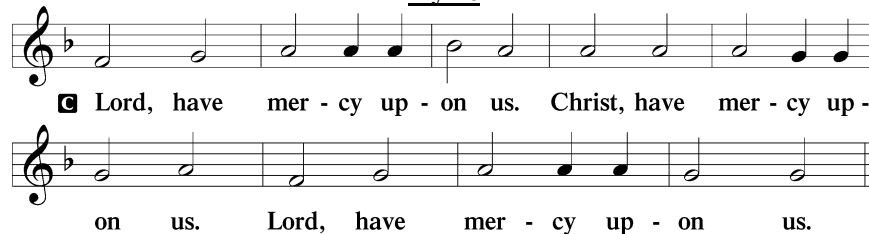


Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

### Kyrie

Mark 10:47



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Omitted during Lent

### The Salutation



The Lord be with you.

II Timothy 4:22



And with thy spir - it.

### The Collect of the Day

P: Let us pray: O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



A - men.

Be seated

### The Old Testament

Exodus 20:1-17

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

### The Gradual

**Cantor:** [O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,\*  
the Author and Perfecter | of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,\*  
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1-2

### The Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

### The Alleluia

*The Alleluia is omitted during Lent.  
In its place the Cantor will sing the Verse*

### The Verse

**Cantor:** Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Joel 2:13

### The Holy Gospel

John 2:13-25

P: The Holy Gospel according to the Evangelist John, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.



☛ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☛ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

### The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life (✠) of the world to come. Amen

## The Hymn of The Day

“Salvation unto Us Has Come” LSB #555 (Stanza 1-5)



1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come By God's free grace and  
2 What God did in His Law de - mand And none to Him could  
3 It was a false, mis - lead - ing dream That God His Law had  
4 From sin our flesh could not ab - stain, Sin held its sway un -  
5 Yet as the Law must be ful - filled Or we must die de -



fa - vor; Good works can - not a - vert our doom, They  
ren - der Caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand For  
giv - en That sin - ners could them - selves re - deem And  
ceas - ing; The task was use - less and in vain, Our  
spair - ing, Christ came and has God's an - ger stilled, Our



help and save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus  
man, the vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those  
by their works gain heav - en. The Law is but a  
guilt was e'er in - creas - ing. None can re - move sin's  
hu - man na - ture shar - ing. He has for us the



Christ a - lone, Who did for all the  
pure de - sires The spir - it of the  
mir - ror bright To bring the in - bred  
poi - soned dart Or pu - ri - fy our  
Law o - beyed And thus the Fa - ther's



world a - tone; He is our one Re - deem - er.  
Law re - quires, And lost is our con - di - tion.  
sin to light That lurks with - in our na - ture.  
guile - ful heart— So deep is our cor - rup - tion.  
ven - geance stayed Which o - ver us im - pend - ed.

*Text and tune: Public domain*

## The Sermon

*Following the Sermon, please rise to sing the Offertory*

*Stand*

## The Offertory

*Psalms 51:10-12*



☐ 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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

## **The Prayers**

*Various Petitions are prayed. Each petition will conclude with the response:*

**P:** Lord, in Your mercy.

**C:** Hear our prayer.

*The Congregation, gathered for worship in person, will now be receiving the Sacrament of the Altar. This most significant portion of the Divine Service, when our Lord Jesus Christ draws near to His people with His flesh and blood, will not be streamed. Members desiring to receive the Sacrament who are unable to be present in the Church will be visited by one of our pastors to bring them the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.*

*Those who have joined us online for the Service of the Word are now encouraged to pray 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.**

**May the Lord bless and keep you.**

**Please call Pastor Knox (319/231-9761) if you would like to receive a Pastoral visit.**

**✠ OUR WEEK TOGETHER IN THE BODY OF CHRIST ✠**

<b>Sun. 3/3</b>	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service at Our Redeemer
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Class and Sunday School
	7:00 p.m.	Kantorei at Redeemer-Dubuque
<b>Mon. 3/4</b>	9:30 a.m.	Mary Martha Sewing and Quilting
	11:30 a.m.	Kantorei at College Hill
	7:30 p.m.	Kantorei at St. John-Hubbard
<b>Tues. 3/5</b>	9:00 a.m.	Brunch Bunch
	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study at Peace-Shell Rock
	7:00 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Service at Peace-Shell Rock
<b>Wed. 3/6</b>	10:00 a.m.	Our Redeemer Book Club
	11:00 a.m.	Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings)
	12:00 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Service
	5:25 p.m.	Choir
	6:30 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Service
	7:15 p.m.	Midweek Bible Class after Lenten Service (Weekly Readings)
<b>Sat. 3/9</b>	6:00 p.m.	Bible Class at Peace – Shell Rock
	7:00 p.m.	Divine Service at Peace – Shell Rock

**BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**

**THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. The class is studying Revelation.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. There will be no Sunday School on March 10 or on March 31.

**WEEKLY READINGS/HYMNS STUDY** This class meets each Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and after the Midweek Service on Wednesday, approximately 7:15. The class studies the weekly readings, hymns, and propers for the upcoming Sunday.

**THE VICAR’S BIBLE STUDY** normally meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month at 9:00 a.m. The class also meets at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings of the same week at Peace in Shell Rock. The class is studying “Agricultural Themes” throughout the Bible. The class will resume in March on the 11<sup>th</sup> at Our Redeemer.

**YOUTH BIBLE STUDY** **YOUTH BIBLE STUDY** The Jr. High/Sr. High Youth meet with our Vicar on Sunday mornings from 10:30-11:15 and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. During Lent, the Youth will not meet on Wednesdays.

**HYMNS FOR MIDWEEK SERVICE AND 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT**

**Wednesday, March 6 Midweek Lenten Service**

The Reading: Matthew 5:17–20

Psalmody: Psalm 51:1–12 (antiphon: v. 17)

Office Hymn: To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All..... 613

Closing Hymn: From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee ..... 607

**Sunday, March 10, 2024 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday In Lent**

Readings: Numbers 21:4-9; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

Hymn of Invocation: My Faith Looks Up to Thee..... 702

Hymn of the Day: Lift High the Cross ..... 837

Distribution: Christ, the Life of All the Living ..... 420

Distribution: God So Loved the World ..... adult choir

Distribution: In the Cross of Christ I Glory ..... 427

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BRUNCH BUNCH MEETS** at the Cedar Falls Family Restaurant on Tuesday this week at 9:00 a.m.

**CHURCH SPRING CLEANING** The Trustees are planning a Work and Spring Cleaning Day on Saturday morning March 9<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8:00 a.m. The volunteer cleaning people are doing a great job weekly, but there are areas in need of a deeper cleaning. One area especially is the third floor of the Ed Wing following the water pipe which froze and burst a few weeks ago. Repairs have been made and now we need to clean and get things back in order. A list of areas which need attention will be on hand and you may choose what you wish to do. Coffee and some goodies will be on hand. Hopefully with a good turnout we can be finished by noontime or sooner.

**THE OUR REDEEMER BOOK CLUB** starts a new book Wednesday, March 13. Join us at 10:00 a.m. as we read and discuss “Twelve Ordinary Men” by John MacArthur. This book gives readers a fresh look at the disciples: a collection of ordinary, diverse men (fishermen, tax collector, political zealot, among others) selected by Jesus to be “fishers of men.” The book is divided into easy-to-read chapters – basically “a disciple a week.” We would love to have you – even if you can’t come every week, this book lends itself to the drop-in reader. For further information, please contact Sara Lair (319) 266-1163 or Greg Gerjerts (319) 961-1103.

**MARY-MARTHA SEWING AND QUILTING** will meet Monday, March 4 at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome to join us. No sewing experience needed.

**IOWA THEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUM** “*Church and Ministry: Then and Now*” A theological conference for Pastors and Laity will be held at Camp IoDisECa May 22-24. There are posters about the conference on the bulletin boards in the Church building. There is online information at the Camp’s Website and Facebook pages. Presenters include: Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, Rev. Michael Holmen, Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Rev. Dr. John Stephenson, Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford.

**THE KANTOREI OF CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**, will be singing at College Hill Lutheran Church on Monday, March 4 for an 11:30 a.m. Service. If you are unable to attend this service they will also be at Our Redeemer in Dubuque on Sunday, March 3 at 7:00 p.m. or at St. John in Hubbard on Monday, March 4 at 7:30 p.m. If you would like to attend either of the Services on Sunday evening or Monday evening, Pastor Knox is planning to drive to both.

**VALLEY LUTHERAN** is having a “Take a Look Tuesday” on March 5<sup>th</sup> from 11-1:30 for families that are interested in learning more about Valley Lutheran school.

**MIDWEEK LENTEN CATECHETICAL SERVICES** will take place each week during Lent with Services at 12:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. (Peace on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.) This year during Lent we will devote our attention to that portion of the Catechism on “The Office of the Keys and Confession.” On the foundation of God’s word, the Catechism asks and answers several questions regarding Confession and Absolution:

- What Sins Should We Confess? (3/5)
- What Do You Believe According To These Words? (3/12)
- How do I use this forgiveness in a God pleasing way? (3/19)

As you live the life of repentance, please set aside this “extra” time during Lent to be instructed in God’s Word and grow in your understanding, and use, of this gracious gift of God.



## ***CATECHISM OF THE WEEK***

### ***The Office of the Keys and Confession***

*What is the Office of the Keys?*

It is the peculiar church power which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of penitent sinners, but to retain the sins of the impenitent as long as they do not repent.

*Where is this written?*

Thus writes the holy Evangelist John, chapter twentieth: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost. Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained.

*What do you believe according to these words?*

I believe that, when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, especially when they exclude manifest and impenitent sinners from the Christian congregation, and, again, when they absolve those who repent of their sins and are willing to amend, this is as valid and certain, in heaven also, as if Christ, our dear Lord, dealt with us Himself.

*What is Confession?*

Confession embraces two parts. One is that we confess our sins; the other, that we receive absolution, or forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, and in no wise doubt, but firmly believe, that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

*What sins should we confess?*

**Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even of those which we do not know, as we do in the Lord’s Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess those sins only which we know and feel in our hearts.**

*Which are these?*

Here consider your station according to the Ten Commandments, whether you are a father, mother, son, daughter, master, mistress, servant; whether you have been disobedient, unfaithful, slothful; whether you have grieved any person by word or deed; whether you have stolen, neglected, or wasted aught, or done other injury.