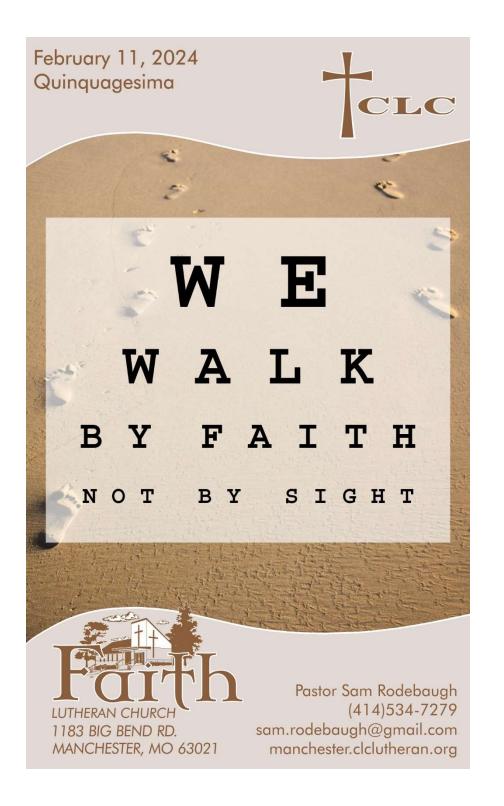
<u>Lent Begins!</u> This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the official beginning of the Lenten Season. As usual, our Wednesday morning Bible Study will be placed on hold, and we will be having Midweek Lenten services each Wednesday at 9:30 am for the next six weeks.

This year's Lenten Series is "Keep Your Eyes on Jesus." The schedule is as follows:

February 14 – "He is Our Security" (Hebrews 6:19-20)
February 21 – "He is Our Access" (Hebrews 10:19-22)
February 28 – "He is Our Source" (Hebrews 5:7-9)
March 6 – "He is Our Rest" (Hebrews 4:1-3, 8-13)
March 13 – "He is Our Endurance" (Hebrews 13:11-13)
March 20 – "He is Our Courage" (Hebrews 12:21-24)

CLC Call News - Teacher Ross Kok of Holy Cross Lutheran School in Phoenix, AZ has returned the call from Gethsemane Lutheran School in Saginaw, MI. <> Pastor Paul Krause of Zion Lutheran in Hidewood and Trinity Lutheran in Watertown, SD is **still considering** the calls from Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI and St. Peter's Lutheran of Iron River, MI. <> Teacher Amy Osborne of Holy Trinity Lutheran School, West Columbia, SC, is **still considering the call** to Faith Lutheran School, Markesan, WI. <> Teacher Kendra Rodebaugh of Gethsemane Lutheran School, Spokane, WA, has been called to Messiah Lutheran School, Hales Corners, WI. <> Grace Lutheran of Valentine, NE has called Noah Ohlmann to be their fourth full-time teacher (teaching the lower grades) beginning in January 2025 after his December 2024 graduation. Noah has accepted this call. <> Teacher Matthew Kranz, Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN, has been called by Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI to be their 5th-6th grade teacher and assistant principal. <> Teacher Matthew Thurow of Berea Lutheran in Inver Grove Heights, MN has been called to be a professor at Immanuel Lutheran High School and College in Eau Claire, WI. This is to fill the position held by Professor Mark Kranz who is retiring at the end of this school year.



+ Opening Prayer +

Hymn: TLH #296 "Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth"

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

C Amen.

Confession & Absolution

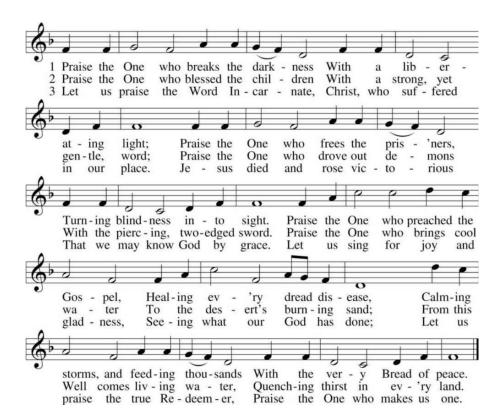
- P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.
- Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from conception. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.
- P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

C Amen!

The Introit Ps. 31:1-3, 5, 9, 16

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me!
- For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.
- In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me!
- Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.
- P Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body also.
- Make your face shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love!
- P 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.



A Bible Study on Luther's Large Catechism was begun this morning. If you were unable to make it to Bible Study, but would like to follow along, we read pages 7-12 (the Preface) and discussed the questions at the end of the section. If you have a copy of Luther's Large Catechism with Study Questions and were not able to attend, I'd encourage you to read and answer the questions on your own.

Today, we read, "[The devil] cannot hear or endure God's Word. God's Word is not like some other silly babbling. . . But as St. Paul says in Romans 1:16, it is "the power of God." Yes indeed, it is the power of God that gives the devil burning pain and strengthens, comforts, and helps us beyond measure." Therefore, this week, be certain to dust off your Catechisms, open your Bibles, and read!

Isaiah 35:3-7

Strengthen the weak hands, And make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are

fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, With the recompense of God; He will come and save you." ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. ⁶ Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert. ⁷ The parched ground shall become a pool, And the thirsty land springs of water; In the habitation of jackals, where each lay, There shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

"Be Strong, Do Not Fear!"

I. Don't trust what your eyes tell you
II. Trust what Christ tells you

The Offertory

In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

+ The Offering of Thankful Hearts +

Hymn: TLH #263 "O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe"

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

- The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- C Amen!

Hymn: LSB #849 (Opposite Page) "Praise the One Who..."

Latin for "Lord, Have Mercy" and "Glory be to the Father"



Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

- P O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Luke 18:31-43

And taking the twelve, he said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and

everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. 32 For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. 33 And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise." 34 But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said. 35 As he drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶ And hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what this meant. ³⁷ They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." 38 And he cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" 39 And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 40 And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to him. And when he came near, he asked him, 41 "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me recover my sight." 42 And Jesus said to him, "Recover your sight; your faith has made you well." 43 And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

1 Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or

a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. ⁴ Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ Love never ends.

As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I



thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³ So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

☐ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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 Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: WS #760 "Oh, Love, How Deep"

+4+