

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT ~ MARCH 19, 2023

**GOD  
CALLS**

...in our unbelief



**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 250 \* 205 West Jefferson Street  
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

**"Being Transformed By God's Grace To Love And Serve."**

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*If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.*



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*please stand in body or spirit*

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

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.**

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

*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.**



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

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.**

Opening Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"

#793

Greeting

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

Let us pray.....**Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**  
**Amen.**

*please be seated*

Reading

1 Samuel 16:1 - 13

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." <sup>2</sup>Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' <sup>3</sup>Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." <sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" <sup>5</sup>He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. <sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." <sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." <sup>9</sup>Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." <sup>10</sup>Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." <sup>11</sup>Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." <sup>12</sup>He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." <sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Children's Sermon

Pastor Kim Knowle-Zeller

Gospel Acclamation

"We Are Turning"

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Gospel

John 9:1 - 41

The Holy Gospel according to John the 9th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup>He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." <sup>12</sup>They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." <sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." <sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup>but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his

eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.”<sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.<sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”<sup>24</sup> So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.”<sup>25</sup> He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”<sup>26</sup> They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”<sup>27</sup> He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?”<sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.”<sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”<sup>30</sup> The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.”<sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.<sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.<sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”<sup>34</sup> They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”<sup>36</sup> He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.”<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.”<sup>38</sup> He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.”<sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?”<sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

The Gospel of the Lord.      **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

*please stand in body or spirit*  
Hymn of the Day

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

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Prayers of Intercession

Lord in your mercy.      **Hear our prayer.**

## Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*please be seated*

Offering

*please stand in body or spirit*

Offertory

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

#186

## Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

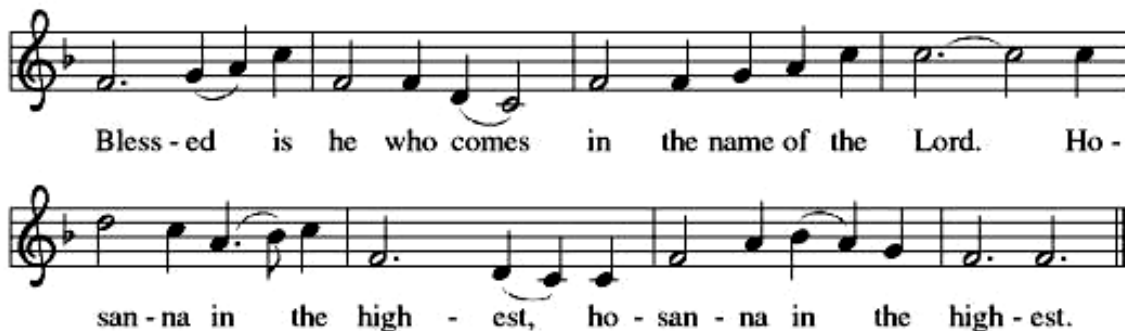
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*continued.....*



## Words Of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

*please be seated*

## HOLY COMMUNION

By Stations

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine  
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.  
Red wine or white grape juice is available.

### Communion Hymns

"Lamb of God"

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

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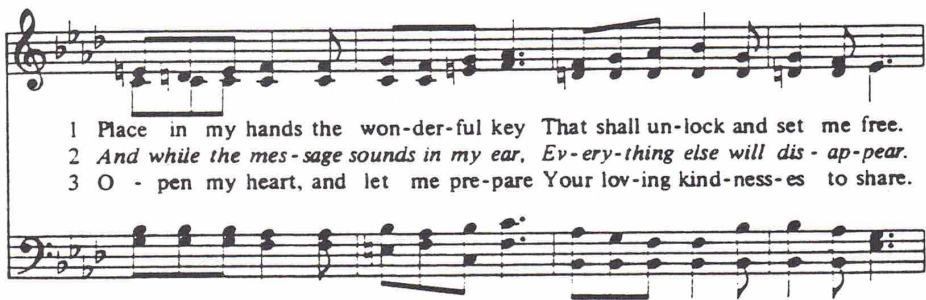
# Open My Eyes, That I May See

Jeff Redd, alt.

Clara H. Scott



1 O - pen my eyes, that I may see Glimp-ses of truth You have for me;  
2 O - pen my ears, that I may hear Voic - es of truth so sharp and clear;  
3 O - pen my mouth, let me de - clare Words of as - sur - ance ev - ery - where;



1 Place in my hands the won - der - ful key That shall un - lock and set me free.  
2 And while the mes - sage sounds in my ear, Ev - ery - thing else will dis - ap - pear.  
3 O - pen my heart, and let me pre - pare Your lov - ing kind - ness - es to share.



Si - lent - ly now I wait for You, Read - y, my God, Your will to do:



1 O - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!  
2 O - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!  
3 O - pen my heart, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine! A - men.

*please stand in body or spirit*

### Post-Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

### Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With our ears and hearts open to your calling, send us forth in repentance and with hope to touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

### Blessing

The holy Three, the holy One increase your hope, strengthen your faith, deepen your love, and ✠ grant you peace. **Amen.**

### Sending Hymn

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

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### Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow the call of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

# "OPENING OUR HEARTS TO GOD"



**Welcome:** This is the place for restoration of souls, where the weary, the hurting, the confused and those with lagging spirits can be uplifted. The psalmist wrote, "He restores my soul" (Psalm 23:3). Welcome, friends, to this haven of renewal.

*We invite everyone to enjoy coffee, snacks and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!*

**In Our Prayers:** "Unspoken prayer concerns" Huth Schlesselman, Mary Haluptzok, Joyce Schlesselmann, Nathan Vanderlinden, Gordon Ives, Dewey Jobe, Judy Smith, and Kyle Luetjen.



*Hear Our Prayers*

Dixie Bruns, Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Kathy Regekr, Bill Talbot (friend of Connie Gerken), Shirley Boose (mother of Melisa Balke), Annie Bright, Kiley Simon (friend of Jenna Nash), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), Rebecca Heimsoth (friend of Norma Schlesselman), Gerald Goodson (uncle of Melisa Balke), Ronnie Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marlin Lackas (brother-in-law of Paul Fuelling), Reagan Phillips, Bill Hampton, Alex Stevens (friend of Tina Ives), Jeffery Jones (son of Bonnie Bohling) and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



**Nursing Home:** Vern Dean Bohling: *Ambrose*. Huth Schlesselman, Marie Viebrock, Florence VonHolten & Cecelia Wiedemann: *GSCC*. Wayne Hall: *Warsaw Health & Rehab*. Kathy Hallauer: *Loving Arms*.

**Military:** Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: ENS David M. Gardner (son of Pam Balke), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in-law of Suzanne Lutjen) Lt. Col. Ron Poe, Cpt. Joseph Strathman, Sgt. Russell J. Wiedemann (grandson of Cecelia Wiedemann) and Cpt. Wayne Wiedemann (grandson of Cecelia Wiedemann).



**PRAYERS  
FOR OUR  
MILITARY**



**With Sympathy:** We also pray for those families who have lost loved ones; family and friends of Luella Viebrock and Barbara Zahringer.

**Prayers:** If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.



**New Baby:** Congratulations to Jacob and Alyssa Fowler on the arrival of their son, Parker Stewart. He was born on Friday, March 10th. Parker Stewart the grandson of Bruce and Rachel Wienberg and great-grandson of Whitey and Sharel Wienberg.

*The red rose on the baptismal font is in celebration of new life.*

**Mid-Week Service:** You are invited to include the Midweek Lenten Worship services as a part of your Lenten practice this season. We gather for these services on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This year's worship will build on the topic of calling that we're hearing in our weekend worship services. The midweek theme is based on the book *The Centered Life*, which reminds us how our lives should be lived centered on who we are: baptized in Christ Jesus, and called forth by God. You do not need to read the book to participate in worship, but if you are curious about the book you are encouraged to speak with Pastor Stephen about getting a copy. See you there!



**Circle:** The Esther Circle will meet Monday, **March 20th** at 7:00pm in the home of Ellen Harms. Sharel Wienberg will be the hostess. The study will be from Book IV.

**LBPS:** Little Blessing Preschool will be in session on Tuesday, **March 21st** and Wednesday, **March 22nd** from 8:00am until 11:15pm in the church basement.



**Health Care:** The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **March 23rd** from 8:00am until 10:00am to help you with your health care needs.

**Mowing:** Bids are being accepted for mowing at St. Paul's Cemetery. Anyone interested in submitting a bid may contact Mark Oelrichs, Bill Viebrock or John Oelrichs by **Sunday, March 30th.**





**Easter Lilies:** Easter Lilies will be ordered for our sanctuary for the Easter Services. These plants maybe given in memory of a loved one or to the Glory of God. The cost is \$8.00 each. If you would like to donate one or more, there will be order forms on the ushers stands or you can contact Sharel Wienberg at 668 - 4439. The deadline for ordering is **April 2nd**.

**Holy Week:** Join us for a Holy Week Family Festival on Wednesday, **April 5th**, starting at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited for an evening of activities and stories that will help us explore all the events of Jesus' most Holy Week. A light supper will be served, so an RSVP for the event to Pastor Stephen would be appreciated.



~ \* ~ **IN OUR COMMUNITY** ~ \* ~



**Seniors of North Benton County:** The Seniors of North Benton County will be hosting a dinner **today** from 11:00am until 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. They will be serving meat loaf, posh potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, dessert and drink. All proceeds go towards repair to the parking lot at the Cole Camp Senior Center.

**Author Kim:** You're invited to a book signing and launch party for pastor Kim's book, The Beauty of Motherhood: Grace-Filled Devotions for the Early Years. This Friday, **March 24th**, 5:00pm until 8:00pm at wine, antiques, and more. She'll have books for sale. They'll be a book reading at 6:00pm.



**Bowen Benefit:** There will be a benefit dinner on Saturday, **March 25th** from 5:00pm until 8:00pm at the American Legion Building. They will be serving roast beef, smoked turkey, potato, vegetable and dessert. This is a free will offering at the door.

**Tractor Club:** The Cole Camp Antique Tractor Association will host a soup and chili lunch on Sunday, **March 26th** at the American Legion Building. Serving will be from 11:00am until 1:00pm with a free will donation. A silent auction is included in the fund raiser.



MID-WEEK WORSHIP SERVICE

4th week of Lent..... March 22nd  
5th week of Lent..... March 29th

Services at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall



Palm Sunday.....April 2nd at 10:00am..... Procession of Palms  
Wednesday .....April 5th at 6:00pm.....Holy Week Family Festival  
Maundy Thursday.....April 6th at 7:00pm..... Stripping of the Altar  
Good Friday.....April 7th at 7:00pm.....Service of Darkness  
Easter Saturday .....April 8th at 5:30pm..... Easter Vigil  
Easter Sunrise .....April 9th at 7:00am..... Breakfast to follow  
Easter Sunday .....April 9th at 10:00am ..... Holy Communion



LENTEN BREAKFAST

The Cole Camp Area Church Alliance will host a Lenten breakfast here at St. Paul’s Church each Wednesday morning beginning at 7:30am. *(Please note: If Cole Camp schools are closed due to weather, the breakfast will also be cancelled that day.)* All are invited each week. The following churches will host each week:

March 22nd ..... St. Paul’s and Cole Camp United Methodist  
March 29th ..... Brauersville and Trinity Lutheran

**LENTEN SIMPLE SUPPER**

Each Wednesday prior to the weekly Lenten service, a “simple supper” will be served in the fellowship hall. Volunteers are needed to prepare the soups, prepare the sandwich spread, and to assist with the serving and clean-up. Contact Janice for any questions.

**What's for supper?** The menu for the "Simple Supper" this week (Wednesday, **March 22nd**) is taco soup and chili with hot dogs/chili dogs. Serving will begin approximately 5:45 pm and conclude at 6:45 pm (to allow time for clean-up). Come and enjoy a light supper and fellowship! See you there!



**AFTER LENTEN SERVICE**

There will be the traditional fellowship time (cookies, coffee, and hot chocolate) following each Lenten service beginning on March 1st. To insure that there are enough cookies each week, each family is asked to provide cookies according to the following schedule. Additionally, please note the organizations asked serve for each of the five Lenten services.

March 22nd ..... R - T .....Congregational Council Serving  
March 29th ..... V - Z..... Esther Circle Serving

**~ \* ~ Coming Events ~ \* ~**

March 22 ..... Lenten Breakfast, Simple Supper & Worship  
March 29 ..... Lenten Breakfast, Simple Supper & Worship  
April 2 ..... Palm Sunday  
April 5 ..... Holy Week Family Festival  
April 6 ..... Maundy Thursday Worship Service  
April 7 ..... Good Friday Worship Service

## Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

<b>Ministers</b>	.....The Whole Congregation
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	.....Pastor Stephen Zeller
<b>Organist</b>	.....Lois Viebrock
<b>Pianist</b>	.....Jeannette VonHolten
<b>Altar Guild</b>	.....Glenalee Dillon & Suzanne Luetjen
<b>Ushers</b>	.....Kelly Viebrock, Head Usher
	.....Mark Oelrichs, Randy Schlesselman, Melinda Strathman & Steve Tripplet



### Fourth Sunday in Lent ~ March 19, 2023

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	.....Janice Gerken
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	.....Luther League
<b>Reader</b>	.....Dennis Moellmann
<b>Children's Sermon</b>	.....Pastor Kim Knowle-Zeller
<b>Acolytes</b>	.....Logan Jackson & Grant Kullman
<b>Flowers</b>	.....Joyce Webb



### Fifth Sunday in Lent ~ March 26, 2023

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	.....Connie Gerken
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	.....Glenalee Dillon & Debbie Eckhoff
<b>Reader</b>	.....Norma Schlesselman
<b>Children's Sermon</b>	.....Jennifer Rehmer
<b>Acolytes</b>	.....Bradyn Rehmer & Leighton Tinney
<b>Flowers</b>	.....Susan Rusk