



# The Beacon

February  
2018

Christ Ev. Lutheran  
Church

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Superior, WI  
54880

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## Divine Worship Services

Sunday - 8:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

## Bible Study & Sunday School

Sunday - 9 a.m.



## Return from Exile: A Lenten Journey

Lent is a journey, and it begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. Lent is the journey we make as we travel with Christ from the Mount of Transfiguration to Jerusalem, where He will face the cross and the grave for our sake. This year we embark upon a journey, though perhaps not in the way we might think.

The beginning of our journey is exile in the wilderness of sin and death. From the first sin in the first garden, we have been exiled into the wilderness where we have wandered without any ability to find our way out. But every journey also has a destination. Our return from exile brings us into the Promised Land, the perfect place, the new garden, the new creation—the ultimate destination which was established for us by Jesus' death and resurrection.

There is great joy in the journey as we see where our returning brings us; but there is also a somber attitude when we consider what Christ faced on account of our sin. Each leg of our Lenten journey begins in the Old Testament and continues into the New Testament, pointing us to the joy that is ours on account of Christ Jesus. We'll have the opportunity to contemplate the reality of our earthly journey, but with eyes always fixed on its destination—the empty tomb and the open gates of everlasting life—and with an underlying reality of joy as we hear proclaimed again that we do not walk this way alone!

Pastor Schoessow



## Midweek Lenten Series

### Return from Exile – A Lenten Journey

Lent begins Ash Wednesday, February 14 with services at 12:15 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Soup and Sandwich suppers start February 21 at 5:30 p.m.

### February 14 - Ash Wednesday (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

“Heart to Heart: Sackcloth and Ashes to Rich Robes of Righteousness”

### February 21 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

“Garden to Garden: Eden to Paradise”

### February 28 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

“Mountain to Mountain: Mount Moriah to Mount Zion”

### March 7 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

“Out of Egypt: Through the Water”

### March 14 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

“Tree to Tree: The Tree of Life to the Cross”

### March 21 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

“Death to Resurrection: The Wilderness to the Promised Land”



## Holy Week

### March 29 - Holy Thursday (6:30 p.m.)

“Meal to Meal: The Passover to the Lord’s Supper”

### March 30 - Good Friday (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

“Sin-Bearer to Sin-Bearer: The Day of Atonement to the Atonement”

### Easter Vigil (6:30 p.m.)

“The Pit to the Pit: The Pit of Lions to the Tomb”

### Easter (8 & 10:30 a.m.)

“Welcome Home!”

## Valentines dinner fundraiser

The Board of Education has decided to host a Valentine’s Dinner as a fundraiser for the Lutheran Island Day Camp that we will be hosting again this year during August. It will follow in tradition by serving Chicken Kiev, potatoes, beans, coleslaw, roll and dessert. The cost will be whatever you wish to donate. All proceeds will go to support the day camp. Please sign up on the office door by February 4.

## Televised Worship Service

Main Street Living North(MSLN) is a Lutheran Television Program that is endorsed by the Minnesota North and North Dakota Districts of the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. The program is financially supported through the support of the viewers and congregations of the viewing area.

MSLN broadcasts each Sunday at 10:00 am, followed by the children’s program at 10:30 am on the following TV stations: KVRN Fargo-Moorhead Channel 15.1, KBRR Thief River Falls-Grand Forks Channel 10.1, KJRR Jamestown Channel 7.1, KNRR Pembina Channel 12.1, and cable and satellite systems carrying these stations. Locally you may watch MSLN on the NBC station KBJR channel 6.1 on Sunday at 10 a.m.

The first 30 minutes of the program is a worship service led by various pastors of the LCMS within the KVRN viewing area, this is followed by a 30 minute children’s program.

## Reading the Word of God: A Daily Reading Guide for Three Years

As we celebrate the 500th anniversary of Luther posting the 95 Theses, we might recall that the translation of the Bible into the vernacular — into the everyday language of common people — was one of the greatest and most far-reaching accomplishments of the Reformation.

Out of doctrinal discussions between three church bodies (the LMCS, the Lutheran Church Canada, and the North American Lutheran Church), a plan came into place to encourage the reading of God’s Word over the next three years. In order to encourage the people of our church bodies in the daily reading of Holy Scripture, we have compiled a three-year plan of daily Bible readings. The plan provides a guide that will take the reader through the entire Old Testament one time in three years, with the exception of Psalms, which are read twice each year. The New Testament will be read twice in the three years. A reading from the Old Testament, a psalm (or portion of a psalm) and a reading from the New Testament is assigned for each day. Certain church festivals – Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and so forth – have readings appointed for the specific occasion. While this is not too difficult, feel free to simplify it a bit if you want.

A calendar with the readings for each month will in our newsletter every month, and in the Narthex on the table by the office and available on our website [www.christlutheran-superior.org](http://www.christlutheran-superior.org).

There are also weekly readings about Luther and the scriptures that you can find in the documents at <https://blogs.lcms.org/2017/lcms-lcc-and-nalc-compile-three-year-schedule-of-daily-bible-readings>

The suggested readings are offered for one reason only: to enhance devotional life as an individual or a family daily examines, and is examined by, the Word of God and then responds in prayer to the heavenly Father. Toward that goal, the following suggestions may be considered. They are merely suggestions, of course, as is this daily reading guide. The most important purpose of the guide is to encourage a daily practice of reading and meditating on the Bible, God's Word. Since the Scriptures as a whole are God's Word, increasing familiarity with the various books is encouraged.

Individuals who set aside time for personal devotion may find it easier than families to use this guide as a whole. Families, especially those with small children, who believe this is too ambitious for them may want to select only a portion of what is suggested, as a briefer reading that can be simply explained.

## Lent for Life

For centuries Christians have used the Lenten season to fortify their spiritual health. The Christian church has developed a variety of "disciplines" or spiritual "workouts" to help people renew their commitment to Jesus Christ. These also allow people to prepare for baptism and to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter. Spiritual insights and habits gained during the six weeks of Lent can then be applied very successfully to the rest of life through the miracle Jesus Christ's resurrection.

Rediscover some of these helpful disciplines during this Lenten season:

1. In addition to the regular 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday services, two additional midweek Vespers services are available each Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. during Lent. Week by week you are invited to meditate on the incredible events and personalities through which God first brought His saving love into the world. Midweek Lenten services will continue every Wednesday through March 21. This year's theme is "Return from Exile – A Lenten Journey". Soup and sandwich suppers are served every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. (except Ash Wednesday).
2. Another Lenten option is to explore the Christian faith with Pastor Schoessow in one of our Bible studies on Sunday at 9:15 am or Wednesday at 10 a.m.
3. Still another opportunity is to make an appointment for a "conversation with the pastor" during Lent. We make appointments to see experts in medicine for the health of our bodies and minds. You are invited

to consult with our pastor about your spiritual health and to use the discipline of personal confession and absolution.

4. Lent is an excellent time to reconnect with the ancient Christian practice of alms giving or helping those less fortunate. Donations for the local food shelf will be received during Lent. Or you may wish to support disaster relief through LCMS World Relief.
5. Or you may wish to culture the discipline of fasting and prayer. There are numerous aids to private and personal reflection and growth during Lent.

In the end, it is all about personal priorities. Is Jesus Christ at the top of my list or not. Jesus' cross and passion assures you that *you* are on the top of *His* list! See you at the Lord's altar!

## Church Council Minutes

### January 11, 2018

Church council meeting was cancelled due to weather. Two fellowship hall requests were approved via email. Millie Derick – February 10  
Kathy Field – March 25

## Stewardship

"I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:8-9).

Without commands or even arm-twisting, St. Paul encourages, even challenges, the Church in Corinth to demonstrate the sincerity of their faith by their generosity in giving. He does this because giving generously is a gift of the Spirit given to us through the Gospel.

St. Paul wrote: "But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving" (2 Corinthians 8:7). In other words, just as we grow in faith and speech and knowledge of eternal things by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God, so also do we grow in giving from the same Spirit through the same Word.

The problem is that the grace of generosity often grows cold in us. It's not so much that we stop giving, but we don't put it first. We treat it like all the other bills that must be paid. It becomes a chore, just one more thing to check off a list of things to do. That empties it of its spiritual power and robs us of the joy that Christ and the Scriptures assign to it.

On top of that, since this generosity is linked to faith and knowledge of divine things, a lack of excelling in giving is

a sure sign that our faith and knowledge of God are under attack as well.

Thus St. Paul points to the foundation of generosity: the generosity of Christ Himself. Even though He was rich, He became poor so that we who are poor might become rich. Thus, the incarnation, suffering, and death of our Lord on the cross is the reason, source, and driving force for our generosity in giving to the church.

And since Christ who was rich became poor so that we might be rich in His grace—of which generous giving is part—so we also who are rich in His grace can excel in pressing His grace into service toward the gracious work of the church.

Pay attention to what you give to the church so that you may excel at it. And if you find that your heart has grown cold or indifferent toward it, immerse yourself in God's Word. Read it at home. Attend Bible Class. Hear and listen to it preached in the Divine Service.

Be reminded of what Christ has done for you in His incarnation, suffering, and death. For this will strengthen your faith and knowledge. And where that excels, so will the grace of giving excel also.

### **Why? A Layman's Guide to the Liturgy Why does the Sunday Mass always open with confession of sins and absolution? And what is the difference between corporate and private confession and absolution?**

Actually, the Mass doesn't "open" until *after* the confession and absolution\* The corporate confession and the absolution then given by the pastor are preparatory to the Mass itself, which opens after the absolution, with the Introit, Corporate confession, whose technical term is the *confiteor* (Latin for "I confess"), is usually introduced by an opening hymn of invocation, which calls upon God, and then the Invocation itself ("Lvdie name of the Father," etc\*). This *corporate* confession and absolution is actually an adaptation of *individual* confession and absolution, which at one time was the norm. Christian people would routinely go to the church to confess their sins *privately* before the pastor, and receive private absolution. This practice has sometimes been called "the forgotten Sacrament" because it fell into disuse in much of Lutheranism, Though corporate confession to some degree replaced it, corporate confession does not provide an opportunity for the penitent sinner to confess in particular those sins which have been grieving to his conscience, as the Catechism teaches. The Catechism speaks highly of this blessed gift, for its abiding comfort for the Christian and his tormented conscience. In recent years there have been attempts to recover the practice of private confession.

Some newer hymnals provide brief liturgical formats for individual (or private) confession, \*

(Taken from Burnell Eckhardt's "Why? A Layman's Guide to the Liturgy")

### **Community Outreach Project**

The Board of Stewardship & Evangelism pursued several options to provide and serve meals to the many needy folks as a **community outreach project** for our church. After following up on my leads, we settled on preparing and serving meals at the Domiano Center in Duluth on the "second Monday of each month" for the past 3-4 months.

What do we do you ask? We participate from 8:30 m to 1:30 pm. We cut lettuce, chop carrots, slice eggs for salads, butter and cut bread, wrap silverware, wipe down tables, and then serve a delicious lunch to many needy folks from 11:30-1:00. This may be the only meal folks have this day, or in some cases, in the previous several days.

Do you feel a need to help the unfortunate? Do you like to help others? If so, would you be interested in joining us in this project? Only 5 people are needed to participate per day, which would include Board members and members of the congregation. Remember, this is a once per month effort that takes place the "second Monday of the month" from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. **If interested, please contact the church office.** We hope to have several people sign-up to participate with us. If you have questions, please contact **Len Campbell** or **Jean Becken** for more information. God Bless!

### **Easter Lilies**

It is time once again to order Lilies to beautify the Altar this Easter Season. We will be ordering through Engwall's at a cost of \$12.00 per plant. The deadline for ordering is **March 4**. Please put your order slip along with your payment on my desk. Please DO NOT place your money or order slip in the offering plate. Order forms will be available in February you will find them on the ushers table and the church office.

### **Quilting Angel**

On December 17, 2017, 29 Christmas quilts were donated to various local charities for distribution to those in need.

Charities included: CASDA, Harbor House, Salvation Army, and Community Action.

We have a special quilting angel in our congregation. She is 95 years young. With long, cold winter days and being a little bored, she decided to make some quilt tops for the quilters to be assembled. She made 8 beautiful quilt tops, which were made up of bits and pieces of scrap material. She sewed the quilt tops on her sewing

machine that she got when she was first married. I am guessing her machine is at least 70 plus years old. So a person is never too old to help with making quilts. You don't have to leave home if you don't want and a quilting member would be happy to give you a quilting kit to sew on these long winter days. Once sewn, a member could pick up your completed quilt top. This year we are concentrating on local charities to help the homeless and less fortunate.

### Gifts for Easter, Confirmation, Etc.

Concordia Publishing House offers a variety of gifts for Easter, Confirmation and various other events (800-325-3040 for a catalog or to place an order). Help confirmands keep their confirmation day close to their heart by giving them a *Concordia Study* or *Concordia Reference Bible* and their own copy of the *Lutheran Worship Hymnal* engraved with their name on the cover. The new edition of *Lutheran Book of Prayer* is another fine gift. My *Book of Confirmation Memories* is the perfect place for memorabilia, with guest pages and inspiring text.

### Youth Upcoming Events

All 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth are invited to attend any or all events! We study God's Word in a variety of ways – music videos with today's current Christian artists, creative Bible lessons, and issues that relate to the youth! Join us! Bring a friend!

### Bible Bowl

Any youth grades 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> interested in participating in the Bible Bowl at Concordia University in St. Paul on April 1<sup>st</sup> is asked to contact Pastor Schoessow. Practice will be held on Sundays after the 10:30 a.m. service in the youth room. The Bible Bowl will be covering to book of Genesis.

### Day Camp Being Offered

With the success of the day camp last summer the Board of Christian Education is in the planning this year's week long day camp put on by Luther Island Camp. The camp would be held here at CLC August 6 – 10.

We would promote the camp in the community and to our sister congregations to hopefully get the required minimum number of kids. There is a fee to attend and once again we will be offering assistance and camperships. To help offset the costs we will be having a Valentine's Dinner Fundraiser for camperships etc. on Sunday, February 11 at 11:45 a.m.

We again may need volunteers and if this would be something you are interested in doing please save the date.

### Christ's Men

#### Men, Let's Do Lunch

Christ's Men will meet on Tuesday, February 6 at 12 noon at the Upper Deck Restaurant at the Bong airport. This is an opportunity to gain guidance and spiritual support from God's Word as well as an excellent opportunity for Christian friendship.

### Religious Greeting Cards

There is an assortment of religious greeting cards for sale in the library. Everything from Get Well, Thank you, Birthday, Sympathy, Wedding & Anniversary, Confirmation and Baptism and many more. Cards are \$.50 each and may be purchased (for now) on Sundays between early and late services.

### Defending the Faith, Teaching the Truth

Issues, Etc. is a talk radio show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio. Recent topics include: Same-Sex Marriage, Reformation Solas, Depression, Radical Islam, What Boys Need, Pro-Life Women and more. Listen to what you want when you want at [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org).

### Food for the Local Food Shelf

The first Sunday of every month is when you need to bring in your donations of non-perishable food items for the local food shelf. You may put your items under the table in the narthex. This is given to those in need and then to the local food pantry.



***March Newsletter  
Submissions are due by  
February 15***



# **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 Patricia Miller
- 3 Michael Field  
Debbie Winans  
Ruth Keppers
- 4 Kathleen Ostrom
- 5 Kyra Bradley
- 8 Kyle Leuthner
- 9 Greg Pahos  
Angie Mack  
Eric Craven
- 10 Gary Plesko  
Mason Lull
- 14 Anthony Miller  
Marilyn Pingel
- 15 Scott Pahos
- 16 Scott Markee
- 17 Steve Kidd  
Kellsey Allen  
Lora Randa
- 19 Jason Austin  
Lana Broderson  
Patty Ayotte
- 22 Cindy Michalski  
Nola Stenroos
- 24 Donna Manos
- 25 Lydia Noble  
Tom Pingel
- 26 Shanna Thompson
- 27 Jennifer Heffner  
Andrew Vengrin  
Mary Olafson

### **Online Information**

#### **LC-MS Website**

lcms.org

#### **Minnesota North District Website**

mnn.lcms.org

#### **Lutheran Witness Online**

www.lcms.org

Click on 'Lutheran Witness' in left column

#### **LC-MS Synod Radio Stations**

www.kfuo.org—or—classic99.com

[www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org)

#### **Information on Pregnancy, Parenting & Adoption**

getrealwithyourself.com