

MESSIAH
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MADISON, ALABAMA
God's People. Reaching Out

February 25, 2024
Second Sunday in Lent



The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

Good Morning and Welcome!

Guests, we are so glad you are here. Please fill out the yellow "Connection Card" in the pew and place in the offering basket or give to the usher or the pastor as you leave. *Sound Assistance and staffed nursery available.*

[Online Guest Form](#)

7740 HIGHWAY 72 W | (256) 721-0041 | MLUTHERAN.ORG

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
LBW Setting 2 with the Lord's Supper
** Please stand as you are able*

PRELUDE: "Wenn Wit in höchsten Nöten sein" (J.S. Bach) Melanie Payne, Organist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT: "Oh How I Love Jesus" Seraph Choir, Laura Simeone, Director

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

Amen.

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

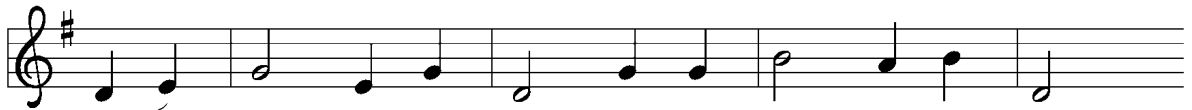
we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

Amen.

*HYMN: "How Firm a Foundation"

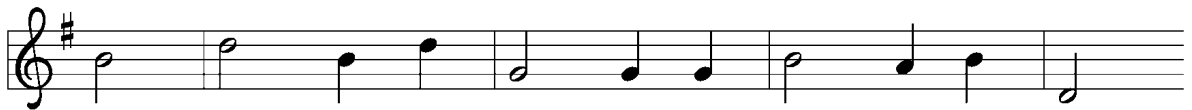
ELW 796



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.

Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

*THE GREETING

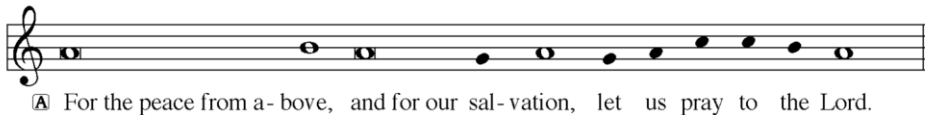
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

*THE KYRIE



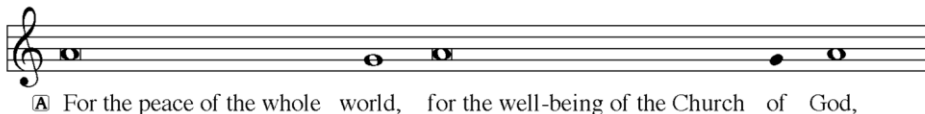
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



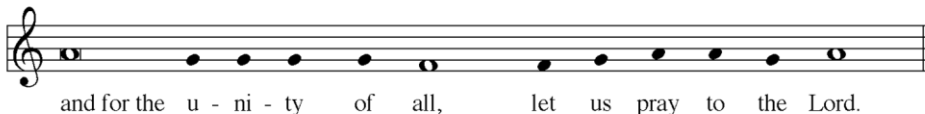
A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



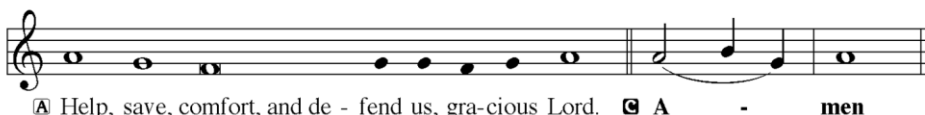
G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **G** A - men

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE



Ⓐ Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



Ⓑ Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.




Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,




you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

*THE SALUTATION



Ⓐ The Lord be with you. Ⓑ And al-so with you.

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

¹⁵God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

THE PSALM:

Psalm 22:23-31

²³You who fear the Lord, give praise! All you of Jacob’s line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the Lord, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴**For the Lord does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the Lord’s face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the Lord hears them.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the Lord,**

who rules over the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the Lord,**

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people yet unborn,

saying to them, “The Lord has acted!”

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 4:13-25

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and

be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

THE CHILDREN’S SERMON

Chris Berry

*THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Return to the Lord”



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra- cious and mer- ci- ful,
slow to an - ger, and a- bound - ing in stead - fast love.

*THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*THE GOSPEL

Mark 8:31-38

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are

ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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

THE SERMON

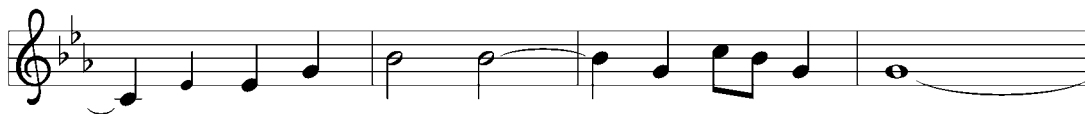
Pastor Kristine Schroeder

*THE HYMN OF THE DAY: “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

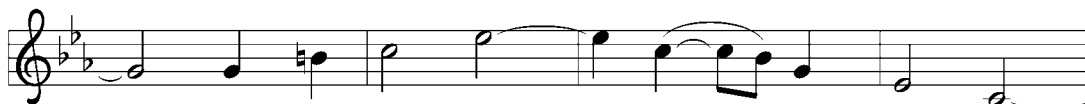
ELW 325



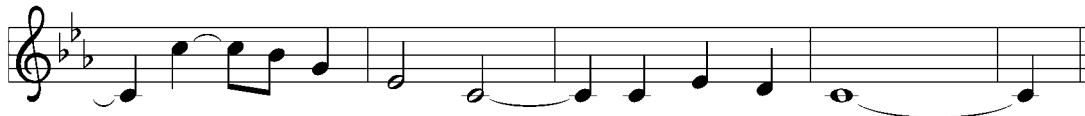
1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

***THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

***THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

THE OFFERING

Organ Solo (8:30) "Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus" (Charles Callahan)

Choir Anthem (11:00): "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

(African American Hymn arr. S Thurston)

***THE OFFERTORY: "Let the Vineyards"**



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.

**Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness.
Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace.**

We pray this in your name.

Amen

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING and THE PREFACE**

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 him thanks and praise.**

***THE SANCTUS**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen

THE AGNUS DEI: "Lamb of God"



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: "One Bread, One Body"

ELW 496



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bles-sing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1	Gen - tile	or Jew,	ser - vant	or free,
2	Man - y	the gifts,	man - y	the works,
3	Grain for	the fields,	scat - ered	and grown,




wom - an	or man,	no	more.
one in	the Lord	of	all.
gath - ered	to one	for	all.


Text: John Foley, st. b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, st


Text and music © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
 2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;
 3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
 and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.
 to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;



we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
 It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
 oh, teach your wand - 'ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
 mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
 till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.
 Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

*THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*THE POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,
and will be for - ev - er. A - men

*THE BLESSING

Lutheran Book of Worship Setting Two
Lutheran Church in America The American Lutheran Church
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada. The Lutheran
Church - Missouri Synod

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1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
 Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
 Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
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*THE DISMISSAL

THE POSTLUDE: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" (Clay Christiansen)

WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Matt & Jutta DeMarsh in celebration of Daisy's birthday on the 25th, and Sandra's birthday on the 28th of February.

A NURSERY, staffed by Sarah Walker, is through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers, and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

ALL ARE INVITED to enjoy coffee, tea, and fellowship after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

LENT CONTINUES THIS WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28 Services of worship will take place at 12:00 and 7:00 p.m. through March 20. Unless otherwise designated, Lenten offerings will be shared equally with New Futures and Kit Ministry.

SOUP MAKERS & KITCHEN LEADS needed for Lenten Soup Suppers that start this Wednesday. Sign up using the SignUp genius (see QR code) or at the Welcome Center. POC Kari Pitchko

TODAY IS THE LAST SUNDAY TO SUPPORT ENVELOPE FUNDRAISER. Thank you to the many who have already participated in the youth envelope fundraiser to support travel expenses to the ELCA Youth Gathering this summer. The fundraiser will end February 29.

MLC RUMMAGE SALE is set for Saturday, April 6, 2024. Now is a great time to start sorting through those closets and attics for items you no longer need or use, and gently used clothing and toys. Proceeds of the sale will go to MLC Youth Travel Fund and Southeastern Synod Disaster Fund

A THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER GROUP MEETS on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays at 1 p.m. in Room 11/12 and via Zoom. The next meeting will be this Thursday March 7.

KIT MINISTRY ITEM - Dark Towels (52 x 27) FOOD PANTRY - Canned Soup

<u>Pastor</u>	Kristine Schroeder
<u>Director of Music</u>	Randall Fields
<u>Organist/Accompanist</u>	Melanie Payne
<u>Director of Outreach Ministries</u>	Claire Strand
<u>Communication & Tech Director</u>	Meredith Kilby
<u>Office Managers</u>	Bobbey Huwaldt Meredith Kilby Sarah Walker

Nursery Attendant
SignUp Genius

<u>Acolytes</u>	Greyson Pitchko (8:30) Hannah Seitz (11:00)
<u>Lector</u>	Lee Smith (8:30) Jutta DeMarsh (11:00)
<u>Ushers</u>	Mark Thompson, Bruce Peter (8:30) Bill Holbrook, Tom McNamara (11:00)
<u>Cantor</u>	Andrew King
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Linda Peirce (8:30) Pat Esteppe (11:00)
<u>Sound/Stream Team</u>	Meredith Kilby (8:30) Glen Long, Craig Martin (11:00)
<u>Flower Guild</u>	Jutta DeMarsh

GIVE ONLINE



Pastor Kris Schroeder

Email: pastor.kris@mlutheran.org

Pastor Cell Phone: 480-338-6519

Pastor's Office Hours are M-TH

MLC staff will never directly solicit you to purchase gift-cards or withdraw money for "sensitive matters," If in doubt call the church office.
Don't get scammed. If it feels fishy - it probably is!

****CHURCH CALENDAR****

Sunday, February 25

- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:30 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 12:00 p.m. - MOEs Event
- 4:30 p.m. - Jr/Sr Youth Group
- 6:30 p.m. - Notabella

**These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org*

Monday, February 26

- 6:30 p.m. - Women's Book & Social Club (at Lisa Bartel home)

Tuesday, February 27

- 9:00 a.m. - Comforters
- 5:30 p.m. - Men of Messiah (MoMs) meet at the Nook, Youth & Ed Meetingthe Nook

Wednesday, February 28

- 12:00 p.m. - Lenten Service of Worship
- 5:00 p.m. - Confirmation
- 5:30 p.m. - Wednesday Night Dinner - Soup Supper
- 6:00 p.m. - Cherub Choir
- 6:00 p.m. - Seraph Choir
- 7:00 p.m. - *Lenten Service of Worship
- 7:45 p.m. - Messiah Choir

Thursday, February 29

- 1:00 p.m. Thursday Prayer/Bible Study
- 5:30 p.m. - Call Committee Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. - Kit Ministry

Sunday, March 3

- 8:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. - Service of Worship: *LBW Setting 1* w/the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. - *Service of Worship: *LBW Setting 1* w/the Lord's Supper
- 11:00 a.m. - *Service of Worship: *LBW Setting 1* w/the Lord's Supper
- 5:00 p.m. - Jr/Sr Youth Group
- 6:30 p.m. - Notabella

**These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org*

LOOKING AHEAD

March 16 - Greeting Card Workshop

March 24 - Passion/Palm Sunday

March 31 - Resurrection/Easter Sunday

April 6 - MLC Rummage Sale

Attendance:

February 11 - Online - 64 February 18 - 8:30 a.m. - 93, 11:00 a.m. - 39

Offerings Counted February 18, 2024