

The Beacon—April, 2022

On the first Easter morning, three women found an empty tomb. The discovery left them trembling and afraid. They didn't know there was more — a resurrected Lord.

Later that day, the risen Jesus appeared. As happy as the disciples were about this miracle, they didn't yet know there was more — a gift of the Holy Spirit that would make their joy complete.

Early Christians in Corinth were so delighted by the gift of baptism that they could scarcely imagine there was more — the resurrection of the body to eternal life.

As great as Easter is, it's only the "first fruits" of what lies ahead. Celebrate the fact that Christ is risen, but remember that the best is yet to come!



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Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection

**He was wounded for our transgression,
He was crushed for our iniquities...
with His stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:5**

As every book has a beginning, a middle, and an end, so also every book that is a mystery has often some great conflict, the main character or characters must make decisions that will determine the outcome of the plot. In the Bible, the true account of God and His love for you, you learn that God made the decision to send a Savior to redeem (to buy back) His creation from slavery to sin. In many Bible stories, you have read about how God redeemed people: God sent a ram for Abraham to sacrifice instead of Isaac. God brought the children of Israel out of Egypt. God sent judges and kings and prophets to call the Israelites back from worshipping other gods. Always, God reminded His people that a Savior was coming. Finally, when the time was right, God sent Jesus to earth.

Now we come to the great conflict, the great battle, between God and sin that separates us from Him. To redeem you, God's own Son had to die to pay the price for our sin and for the sin of the whole world. Will Jesus do what His Father asks? Will Jesus go through the suffering and the mocking? Will Jesus be separated from His Father and die alone?

The answer is YES. Jesus came to earth and was born in a stable FOR US. He grew to be a man and traveled without a home, teaching and preaching and healing FOR US. He loves us so much and wanted to end this conflict with Satan and sin and make us part of God's family forever.

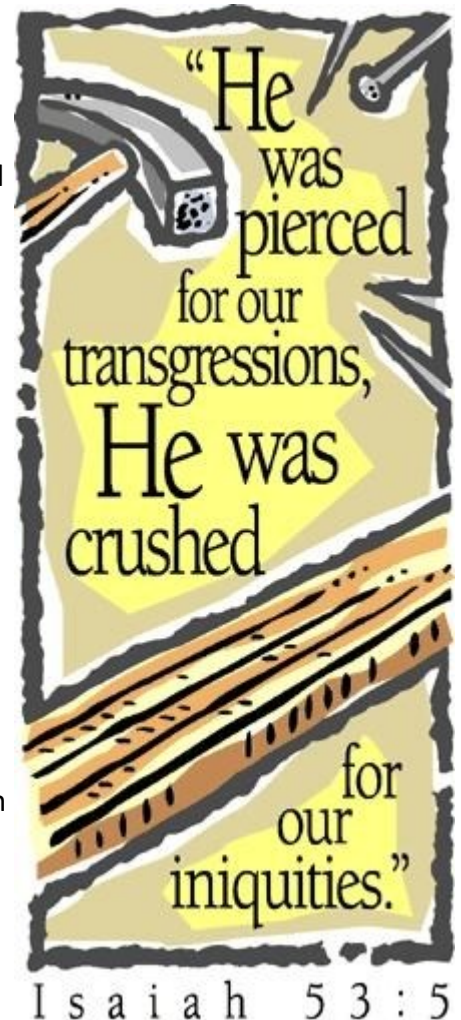
But Jesus' suffering and death isn't the end. Jesus came back to life FOR US. His resurrection proved that God accepted Jesus' sacrifice for our sin and the sin of the whole world. When you were baptized, you were "buried with [Christ] in baptism, in which you were raised with Him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised Him from the dead" (Colossians 2:12).

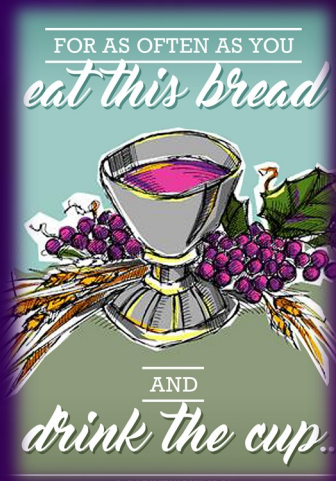
On Easter Sunday, April 17, we will once again celebrate God's great mystery of His Son, Jesus Christ, who conquered Satan, sin, death, and redeemed us from the grave to be His forever.

Blessings as we spring into this new season with thanksgiving of new life and the promise of everlasting life in the life that is ours and is to come.

Christ is risen, He has risen indeed! Alleluia!

~Pastor Steve Wilson



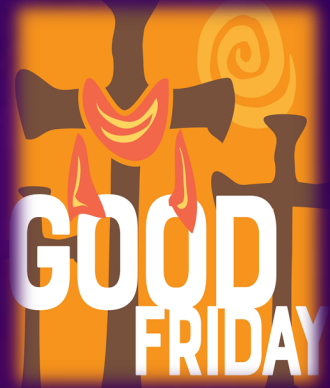


**Maundy Thursday
Service with
Holy Communion**

**April 14
6:00 p.m.**

Good Friday Service

**April 15
6:00 p.m.**



**Easter—April 17
7:00 & 9:30 a.m.
Easter Communion
Services**

**Easter Breakfast
7:30—9:30 a.m.**

Easter Lilies

If you would like to order an Easter lily please sign up or contact us at the



church office. Cost is \$20.00. Last day to order is April 11. If you are giving them in memory of a loved one please let us know that information. Thank you.

Pastoral Visits

Due to the privacy act, if you are hospitalized and would like a visit from the pastor or to be included in the prayers, you or a family member need to contact Pastor Wilson, Vicar Jeff, or the church office.



Praise Team will practice on Wednesday night after the Lent supper on April 6. April 13 and going forward they will practice at 6:30 on Wednesday nights. If interested in being a part of the Praise Team contact Mary Peterson (507)301-2101.

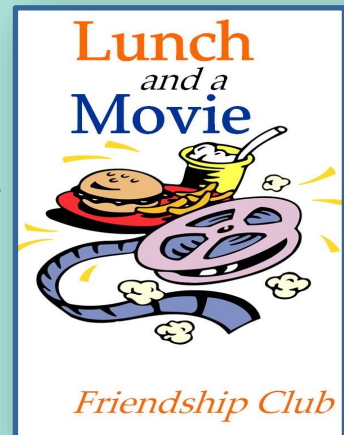
Next Blended Worship service will be at both services on April 24. Come join us in worship and singing!

Friendship Club Event For April

St. John's Friendship Club will meet on Monday, April 4 at 11:30 a.m. Potluck dinner—bring a dish to pass!

We will watch the Sight and Sound Theatre production of "Esther" filmed in Branson, MO.

Mark you calendar, invite a friend, see you on the 4th!



We have formed an adult choir to sing at the Easter services on April 17. Rehearsals are Tuesdays, April 5 and April 12 at 6:30 p.m. If you can sing, hum or squeak, please join us! All God's creatures have a place in the choir!





Beginning on Palm Sunday (April 10) we will observe the culmination of Christ's journey to the cross. The week leading up to Easter Sunday is called the "Holy Week". **Holy Week** is a time when we take part in the Passion of Christ in a special way worshipping the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We remember his actions, reflect on his messages, and recommit to living as his disciples in the world today. Holy week is the final week of Lent, Holy Week begins with **Palm Sunday** of the Passion of the Lord and concludes with the **Triduum**.

"**Triduum**" comes from two Latin words – tres and dies – that means "a space of three days". Easter Triduum begins at sundown on Holy Thursday or Maundy Thursday, so the three days are Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday. During the Triduum we celebrate the core mystery of our Christian faith: we view Jesus' transition from life to death to risen life and our own participation in those observances. Holy week begins with the waving of palms! and singing praises to the lord! Both of which will be celebrated and led by our Sunday school children and teachers on Palm Sunday during our 10:30am worship service. Christians around the world observe the Holy Week in penance, fasting, prayer, and sending good wishes to loved ones.

Holy Week liturgies generally attract the largest crowds of the year. Many Christian cultures have different traditions such as special liturgies or services, floats, sculptures or live reenactments of Christ's life, his arrest and crucifixion (also called the Lord's passion, the Passion of Christ or Passion of Jesus).

Holy Week is celebrated in many ways around the world. In Caracas, Venezuela, residents re-enact Jesus Christ's crucifixion on a hilltop in the Petare, which is a shanty town, during Holy Week, on Good Friday. Christian Orthodox pilgrims carry wooden crosses during a Good Friday procession through the city of Jerusalem. Penitents, surrounded by several thousand people in Cuenca, Spain, carry a statue of Our Father Nazarene during the Good Friday procession "Way of Calvary." People walk with crosses as the Northern Cross pilgrimage makes the final leg of its journey to Holy Island, England every Good Friday. Penitents in San Fernando, Philippines, hang from wooden crosses on Good Friday as they take part in a re-enactment of Jesus Christ's crucifixion. Catholic worshippers perform a sea procession to transfer a statue of Jesus Christ from one church to another during Holy Week in Larantuka, Indonesia. People take part in a Stations of the Cross re-enactment at the Raja Agung church in Bintan Island, Indonesia, on Good Friday. Christian believers take part in the ribbons procession as part of the Holy Week before Easter, in Cot, Cartago province, Costa Rica. Egyptian Christians celebrate Palm Sunday during a service in the Samaan el-Kharaz Church in the Mokattam district of Cairo, Egypt. And many other celebrations of Holy Week take place around the world each year.

Some Lutheran Churches hold an Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday or some refer to it as Black Saturday, the day before Easter, in the evening. The Easter Vigil, one of the longest and most solemn of liturgical liturgies, lasts up to three or four hours, consists of four parts:

- The Service of Light

- The Liturgy of the Word

- The Liturgy of Baptism: The sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation for new members of the Church and the Renewal of Baptismal Promises by the entire congregation.

- Holy Eucharist

Here at St. John's Lutheran Church, in observance of the Triduum, we will have worship services with Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday evening, April 14 at 6pm, worship on Good Friday Evening, April 15th at 6pm and Easter Sunday worship, April 17 at 7:00 and 9:30am.

May God bless you, watch over you, protect you, and guide you as we come together in our church home to worship, celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, and receive God's gifts from our Lord Jesus Christ.

Vicar Jeff

UPCOMING EVENTS



- ♦ April 10—Sr. High kids introduce next fundraiser during the 10:30 service
- ♦ April 17—Easter Breakfast
- ♦ April 24—Youth Advisory Meeting @ 10:00 a.m.
- ♦ April 27—Sr. High FFF



Easter Sunday, April 17

7:30—9:30 a.m.

Egg bake, rolls and muffins

Money raised will go towards the National Youth Gathering trip this July.

Attention Youth: A Sign Up Genius email was sent to you or your parents....Make sure to sign up to work a shift for the breakfast.

All youth in grades 7-12 are invited to meet every Sunday morning from 9:15-10:15 for

**STAYING
IN
GOD'S WORD**

games and a short devotion led by Steve and Molly Roben. Meet in the youth room at far end of basement.



Sr. High Food.Fun.Faith is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27 at 6:00 p.m. Come and see what is planned!

Thank you to Molly Roben for providing the meal for Sr. High FFF in March and to Nate Amborn for helping to serve and clean it up!



Thank you to the Lutheran Laymen's League for their gift of

\$1000.00 given to the youth for the National Youth Gathering Trip.

NYG 2022 Update

A continued **THANK YOU** to all that have faithfully supported our fundraising efforts for our trip to Houston in July.

We are at 80% of our fundraising goal so far with 3 more fundraisers planned! God is Good!!



Confirmation will be on Sunday, May 1 at our 10:30 service. The following ten youth will be confirmed.

- ◆ Matthias Bliesmer
- ◆ Mylee Buchmeier
- ◆ Talon Ebeling
- ◆ Katelynn Kennedy
- ◆ Colby Kuehl
- ◆ Jocelyn Lange
- ◆ Maddison Lyon
- ◆ Lily Truesdell
- ◆ Laurabeth Waldee
- ◆ Addison Wohlhuter

A reception for the confirmands and their families will be held at 9:15 in the fellowship hall on that day.

Pictures will be taken on Wednesday, April 27 at 3:45 p.m.

Thank you to Sharon Huse for making the stoles, the Parish Board who are planning the reception and to Sady Ringnell who will be taking the pictures.



The 3rd through 6th grade only, will have practice on Saturday, April 9 from 4:00—6:00 p.m. with supper provided during that time.



The Sunday school grades Preschool through 6th grade will be singing on Palm Sunday, April 10 at the 10:30 service only.

The kids have some great songs to share. Please plan to join us for the entire service. The Preschool through 2nd grade will sing at the beginning, then go back to sit with their families and be asked to come up and sing again at the end.

The 3rd through 6th grade will also be singing at the beginning but will sit with their classes for the service.

LWML Meeting Minutes March 9, 2022

President Lynne Mulso called the meeting to order. Pastor gave devotion "Enduring with Joy by His Grace".

Secretary's report was read and approved. Correspondence was read. Marlene Stueven gave the treasurer's report. Report was placed on file.

Connie Markquart reported on Zone Board meeting held on Saturday, March 5 at Zion Lutheran in Springfield. Spring Service Project will be held on Saturday, May 14 at Zion in Springfield. Registration 8:30 with Service Project starting at 9:00 a.m. The topic of rezoning was discussed. It is the 80th anniversary of LWL if churches have banners to use for district convention with theme Rejoice, Hope or Prayer should let Wendy know. District convention is in Willmar on June 16-18 "Rejoice in Hope".

Connie Markquart made a motion to give every child attending Camp Omega in Waterville, MN \$50. Seconded by Marlene Kuntz. Motion passed.

Vice President Judy Hybbert read about mission project The Light of Christ in Easter Europe the Czech Republic \$56,000.

Mites were collected

The birthday song was sung for Lynne Mulso and Lois Ziemer. LWML pledge was said. We prayed the Lord's Prayer and Table Prayer.

Meeting adjourned

Lunch was served by Mary Lange and Marlene Stueven.

Lois Ziemer, Secretary

17 members and Pastor Wilson present.

Next Meeting—April 13 @ 2:00 p.m.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude and kindness given to our family. Special thanks to Pastor Wilson and Vicar Hagen for being with Gloria and our family. Thank you to the ladies for serving the lunch.

Marlo & Gloria's family

The LWML thanks you for bringing in your receipts as we work toward the \$150,000.00 goal. Please continue to drop off your Fairmont Fareway and Fairmont HyVee grocery receipts. Fairmont HyVee prescription and gas receipts are also accepted.

| | HyVee Goal | FareWay Goal |
|---------|-------------|--------------|
| 150,000 | | |
| 140,000 | | |
| 130,000 | | |
| 120,000 | | \$129,707.38 |
| 110,000 | | |
| 100,000 | | |
| 90,000 | | |
| 80,000 | | |
| 70,000 | | |
| 60,000 | | |
| 50,000 | | |
| 40,000 | | |
| 30,000 | | |
| 20,000 | \$29,368.84 | |
| 10,000 | | |
| 0 | | |

80th Birthday Open House

Ardys Manzey turns 80 on April 16! An open house will be held in her honor on Saturday, April 16 here at St. John's Lutheran Church from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Come help her celebrate her 80th birthday!

Trimont Area Chamber of Commerce Pancake Feed (Sherburn Lions are cooking)
Sunday, April 10, 10:00—1:00 p.m. at Triumph Hall, Trimont. Free will donations.

MLHS Rummage Sale

March 31—4:00—8:00 p.m.
April 1—8:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.
April 2—8:00 a.m.—noon

Pre-Call Committee Update

Our congregation is very blessed to have young families, an active Sunday school and youth program. However, we are also very much aware of the need for calling a specific staff person who would serve our congregation in this area of ministry. One who would serve as the director and coordinator of our Sunday school and youth programs. Also, one who would engage our young parents to become more involved with their children in the study of God's Word and becoming more active in the ministries at church and within our community. This staff person would also strive to keep our young adults connected to the church following graduation.

After over a year of discussion with our congregational president, elders, board of education, youth leaders, parents, youth and voters it was decided that we move ahead in the process of adding a youth director and coordinator to our staff.

A request was sent out by the elders to the congregation asking for interested members to become involved in serving on a pre-call committee. This committee would meet together to research what specific person would be best qualified to meet our needs here at St. John's.

Those who came forward to serve on our pre-call committee are Darren Thate, Sheri Markquart, Mike Ringnell, Connie Markquart, Steve Roben, Nathan Amborn, Ryan and Michelle Baker, Gilbert Trontvet, Jason and Brenna Anderson, Ella Meyers, Josh Roben, Ryan Kahler, Guy Rudolph, Vicar Jeff Hagen, and Pastor Steven Wilson.

The committee met on Monday, March 7 and on Wednesday March 16 to discuss the surveys that were returned from congregational members. We talked about needs, concerns, priorities, and worked towards a job description. It was decided that we need more direction in this process and we reached out to Dr. Phillip Johnson from our Minnesota South District who met with us on Saturday, March 26. Dr. Johnson was a great help in giving us some good advice and sharing with us how the calling process works.

We will keep the congregation updated as we move forward. We are asking for your prayers and the Holy Spirit's guidance and direction in the calling process.



Pre-Call Committee

Saturday, April 2 at 9:00 a.m.

Kingdom Builders

Monday, April 4 @ 6:00 p.m.

This meeting is for all board members and officers to attend.

Quarterly Voters' Meeting

Sunday, April 24 at 9:15 a.m.

Redemp- God's ultimate gift Of redemption tion

"But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: 'Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine'" (Is 43:1)

Let's start with a question: Of what will you be more likely to take greater care? Something you own? Or something that isn't yours?

This might be a slippery slope question for a devotion during a stewardship series based on God's simple gifts. However, as one hears the words of our Lord through the prophet Isaiah, it is a question that does bring a great deal of comfort.

As God plainly states through Isaiah, stewards that have been created and are being sustained by God have no reason to fear. Why? Because they belong to God! They are owned fully by Him. With His mighty power the Lord created them. By His amazing grace, He has redeemed them in the innocent suffering and death of His beloved Son Jesus! You, my friend in Christ, are doubly owned!

God, as the Owner of all things by virtue of creation, sees you as a treasured possession He promises never to hold out on you. He may not make you stupendously wealthy, incredibly intelligent or dashing beautiful. But you do have the sure and certain promise that God IS with you. In Word, and Sacrament, our Lord dwells with you giving you His gifts of life and salvation!

As one contemplates the simple gifts our Lord gives and how we might be called to share them with the Church for the Gospel and our neighbors for God's glory, we need not fear. We have His promise that He will be with us. For this reason, we can indeed be extravagantly generous! We have the Lord's promise! He will not abandon us.

The faithful stewardship and generosity to which we are called is to be a confession of our trust in His promise. It isn't always easy. But this is the stewardship to which we have been called.

Prayer

Lord as Your stewards, we work in fear of our shortcomings and sin, in faith in Christ's redemption and restoration and eager desire to serve as faithful stewards of Your simple gifts. Lead us by grace through faith to see, rejoice and serve in this faithful stewardship! As You have blessed us with Your work in Jesus, may our work as stewards be a blessing to others. Amen.

April Birthdays

| | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|---------------------|
| 1 | Dixie Preuss | 16 | Sydney Clow |
| | Mark Wohlhuter | | Ardys Manzey |
| 2 | Mylee Buchmeier | 17 | Tyson Crosby |
| | Isabella Fitzgerald | | Carol Janssen |
| | Slade Fitzgerald | | Karley Runkle |
| | Josh Lutterman | | Harrison Spencer |
| | Stephanie Wohlhuter | 18 | Laurabeth Waldee |
| 3 | Rick Behne | 19 | Sarah Knaak |
| | Roy Behne | 20 | Pat Johnson Sackman |
| | Emily Crissinger | | Penny Troe |
| | Janet Kahler | | Rogan Truesdell |
| | Kevin Kahler | 22 | Rachel Vanden Berg |
| 4 | Nicholas Potthoff | | Carson Kahler |
| | Lindsey Pytleski | | Loren Lutterman |
| 5 | Marcella Brolsma | 23 | Deb Williamson |
| 6 | Mike Kleine | | Kristin Cain |
| | Jesse Lutterman | | Serena Johnson |
| | Molly Markquart | 24 | Vicki Lutterman |
| 7 | Karen Brolsma | | Sara Curtis |
| | Galen Hilgendorf | | Ryan Fitzgerald |
| | Diane Nelson | | Berent Kosbab |
| 8 | Verna Bliesmer | | Sutton Lutz |
| | Liz Gerhardt | 25 | Nancy Schwager |
| | Jim Klima | | Sandy Dressen |
| | Reese Olson | | Brooke Eisenmenger |
| | Sarah Stahn | | Larry Norem |
| 9 | Ashley Eisenmenger | 26 | Erik Ogren |
| 10 | Jon Anderson | | Larry Johnson |
| | Jennifer Beseke | | Doug Winter |
| | Kinley Hartung | 27 | Marlin Bliesmer |
| | Chelsea Reese | 29 | Harvey Amborn |
| | Tracy Swanson | | Jenna Fraherly |
| 11 | Caden Ballard | 30 | Tom Gregory |
| | Dick Brolsma | | Lacey Cooley |
| | Octavia Buchmeier | | Roberta Garbers |
| | Ethan Heller | | Terry Peterson |
| 12 | Madison Howard | | Jamie Williamson |
| 13 | Hope Meade | | |
| | Jordan Schwager | | |
| 14 | Cayden Gregory | | |
| | Easton Gregory | | |
| | Tyler Sinn | | |
| | Steve Thom | | |
| 15 | Cole Ballard | | |
| | Colton Leiding | | |
| | Jenna Steele | | |



Church Attendance

Ash Wednesday March 2
126

March 6: 151

Lent March 9: 85

March 13: 156

Lent March 16: 96

March 20: 201

Lent, March 23: 88

March 27: 202

March 30: 118

April Birthdays

| | |
|----|--------------------------|
| 1 | Kyle & Pauline Steffen |
| 3 | Doug & Sue Dunker |
| 9 | Chuck & Sandy Dressen |
| 11 | Dennis & Jean Finke |
| | Gary & Dorothy Janssen |
| 13 | John & Dawn Weseman |
| 14 | Jim & Wanda Klima |
| | Joe & Mary Kay Schultz |
| 16 | Jim & Evelyn Keithahn |
| | Zach & Hayley Olson |
| 17 | Marvin & Roberta Garbers |
| | Mark & Erica Larson |
| 19 | Tony & Carol Zender |
| 20 | Kevin & Lisa Lange |
| | David & Jill Swanson |
| 21 | Marlin & Nancy Bliesmer |
| 22 | Doug & Becky Rosenberg |
| 23 | Ben & Leslie Truesdell |
| 24 | Allen & Marlys Kahler |

St. John's Lutheran Church

317 South Main Street

P.O. BOX 760

Sherburn, Minnesota 56171

The Lutheran Hour

Radio Broadcast: KSUM, Fairmont 1370 AM—Sundays @ 11:00 a.m.

April 3 "**This Is the Feast**" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A costly and extravagant meal prepared by a master chef symbolizes the meal Christ serves to His people, the Church. (Luke 22:27)

April 10 "**Drawn Through the Cross**" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Dr. Michael Zeigler talks about people drawing the cross and how the cross is drawing people. (Luke 23:34)

April 17 "**Can I Get a Witness?**" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

How did Christianity become the dominant faith of Western civilization? It's partly arithmetic, but mostly, it isn't. (Luke 24:48)

April 24 "**Doubt, Misplaced**" Guest Speaker: Pastor John Nunes

You can doubt every doubt you've ever had about God's love for you in Christ Jesus. (John 20:24-29)

April 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|---|
| | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 9am Pre-Call Committee Mtg. |
| 3 8am Communion 9:15am Sunday School/BC/SALT 10:30am Communion Dennis/Ryan | 4 11:30am Friendship Club 6pm Kingdom Builders | 5 6:30pm Choir | 6 3:45pm Confirmation 6pm Lent Service Bd of Ed Serve 6:45pm Supper 7pm Praise Team | 7 | 8 | 9 4-6pm Sunday School Practice for 3 rd -6 th Grades |
| 10 8am Worship 9:15am Sunday School/BC/SALT 10:30am Worship Kent/Guy | 11 10am Temp Lake Ridge Service | 12 6:30pm Choir | 13 2pm LWMML 3:45pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Praise Team | 14 6pm Maundy Thursday Communion | 15 6pm Good Friday Service | 16 2-4pm Open House Birthday Ardy's Manzey |
| 17 7am Easter Communion 7:30-9:30am Breakfast 9:30am Easter Communion Brad/Jamie No Sunday School | 18 | 19 | 20 3:45pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Praise Team | 21 Circuit Pastors Meeting | 22 | 23 1pm Funeral Amy Broisma |
| 24 8am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Voters' Meeting 10am Youth Advisory 10:30am Worship Brian/Ryan | 25 | 26 | 27 3:45pm Confirmation Class 3:45pm Confirmation Pictures 6pm Sr. High FFF 6:30pm Praise Team | 28 | 29 | 30 |