

Third Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2026

Setting 5, ELW p.156



St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

914 West Boulevard South

Columbia, MO 65203

573-449-5674 ✚ SaintAndrewsLutheran.org

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Welcome to worship! Whether you are here for the first time or have been a life-long member, we pray that you experience God's presence in worship.

All God's Children are Welcome! If you have children, know that all of you are welcome in worship. Little people sounds tell us that everyone is here. If your little one becomes fussy, feel free to step out for a moment. Families may want to sit near the pray ground in the front left side of the Worship space. There are speakers in the gathering space.

Pastoral Concerns occasionally come up. In cases of severe illness, hospitalization, death, birth of a child, marriages, joys and sadness, many people would like a pastor to visit with them. Please be sure to contact the office to let us know of your desire.

Offering is received as a response to God's grace and blessing, and as an expression of our faith. Jesus tells us, 'For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.' (Matthew 6:21)

Holy Communion is celebrated at nearly every service. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord, presented through the Church to those who are baptized. All are welcome.

Interested in growing in faith? If you have questions about what it means to enter into partnership in our shared ministry feel free to contact Pastor David.

Announcements: The announcements begin on page 19, following the worship service.

Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church Welcome Statement



At St. Andrew's Lutheran Church (ELCA), we hold space for you—the full you—including your race, age, ethnic background, personality, experiences, gender identity, sexual orientations, gender expressions, and mental, spiritual, and physical needs. Here, you are invited to worship, pray, play, be baptized, get married, and celebrate Holy Communion.

Together, we strive to eliminate human-caused barriers to a holy relationship with Jesus Christ and with one another. We hear the call to love our neighbor as a commitment to antiracism and welcome for our LGBTQIA+ siblings. We pledge to work intentionally to further justice and inclusion. We strive to glorify God in the ways we care for each other, our communities, and our planet. Recognizing that we are all siblings in Christ, we celebrate, affirm, and welcome individuals and families in all their beautiful and varied compositions. As a church that holds space just for you, we are better for having you and your unique voice here! Come just as you are!

Welcome to St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

Page number references (such as p.203 refer to numbers in the lower corners of the front of Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) or All Creation Sings (ACS).
Hymn numbers (such as ELW 605) refer to large numbers associated with songs—typically at the top of the page.

‡GATHERING‡

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

8:30

Goodness of God

by Bethel Music & Jenn Johnson

11:00

Near the Cross

arr. B. C. Dockery

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ‡ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt
and blots out all offenses.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign,
and for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,
and for disdain the living water Christ offers:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin,
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.
Through faith, the free gift of God,
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead
dwells in you,
pours God's love into your hearts,
and gives you life and peace.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

As the Deer Runs to the River

ELW 331

- 1 As the deer runs to the river,
parched and weary from the chase,
we have come from hurt and hurry,
thirsting for your healing grace.

Refrain

Jesus, source of living water,
may we drink of you and live!

- 2 When your Israel crossed the desert
where no stream or spring was seen,
Moses struck the rock, and water
flowed for them, refreshing, clean. *Refrain*
- 3 "Come and drink," Isaiah summoned,
"all who for God's mercy plead!
God's forgiveness, like a fountain,
flows to satisfy your need." *Refrain*
- 4 Christ, we come from desert places,
deepest thirst unsatisfied.
Lead us to the waters flowing
from the cross on which you died. *Refrain*

GREETING

ELW p.156

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.

KYRIE

ELW p.156

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW p.159

Let us pray.

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

‡**WORD**‡

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:1-7

A reading from Exodus.

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵ The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 95

¹ Come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

² **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³ For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴ **In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵ The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶ **Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

⁷ For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

⁸ **"Harden not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

⁹ There your ancestors tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

¹⁰ **Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,
'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'**

¹¹ Indeed I swore in my anger,
'They shall never come to my rest.'

SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-11

A reading from Romans.

¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.160

Glory and praise to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord, you are truly the Savior ¹ of the world;* give me this living water that I may never ¹ thirst again. (*John 4:42, 15*)

Glory and praise to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL

John 4:5-42

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵ [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"

¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." ³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" ³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

ELW 335

- 1 Jesus, keep me near the cross,
there's a precious fountain;
free to all, a healing stream
flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross
be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find
rest beyond the river.

- 2 Near the cross, a trembling soul,
love and mercy found me;
there the bright and morning star
sheds its beams around me. *Refrain*
- 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day
with its shadow o'er me. *Refrain*
- 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand
just beyond the river. *Refrain*

APOSTLES' CREED

ELW p.160

Having heard of God's steadfast love, let us commit ourselves to that relationship of love using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE INTERCESSION

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

Each petition concludes:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The final petition concludes:

...through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

ELW p.161

We open Zoom microphones to speak Peace to one another.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

✠**MEAL**✠

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Please remember that Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church continues important ministry. Consider making offerings by any of these means:

- **Offering Basket:** Place your offering in the basket as you enter or leave worship;
- **Mail:** send offerings to Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church weekly or monthly;
- **Online:** visit the SaintAndrewsLutheran.org website and click the Donate Now button;
- **Bill pay:** use the convenience of the bill pay feature through your financial institution.
- **Give by Text:** Use a smart phone to text the contribution amount to 844-989-4094. Return text will provide a link for recording credit/debit card information and your contact information.

OFFERING SONG

8:30

Goodness of God

by Bethel Music & Jenn Johnson

- 1 I love You, Lord
For Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus

'Cause all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

- 2 I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father
I've known You as a Friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God

Chorus (x2)

'Cause all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

Bridge (x2)

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
With my life laid down, I surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me

Chorus (x2)

And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God
I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God

11:00

Kyrie

by Andrea Klouse

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.

Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Dialogue

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.

ELW p.161

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ELW p.161

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, Holy, Holy

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

ELW p.162

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

ELW p.162

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW p.130

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table.

Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Holy Communion at Saint Andrew's

- *At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. In this sacrament the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord, presented through the Church to those who are baptized. This Table of the Lord is open to all the baptized.*
- *Grape juice is available in the center ring of glasses. Gluten-free wafers are available: Please speak to those serving the bread when you come to the rail.*
- *Please follow the guidance of the Worship Hosts, going forward on one side of your section and returning to your seat on the other side.*

COMMUNION

ELW p.164

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

DISTRIBUTION SONG

As the Deer

arr. Mark Hayes

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ make you strong do God's will and keep you in grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray,

God of our salvation,

we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.

Through the body and blood of your Son,

may we become Christ's body in the world,

bearing witness to your love for all creation,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

‡SENDING‡

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

ELW p.164

BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
‡ bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

ELW 623

- 1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
- 2 Not the labors of my hands
can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.
- 3 Nothing in my hand I bring;
simply to thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.
- 4 While I draw this fleeting breath,
when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown,
see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

8:30

Reprise: Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

ELW 623

11:00

Fantasia

by Johann Sebastian Bach

Near the Cross, arr. B. C. Dockery, From 50 Greatest Hymns for Alto Sax Solo with Piano Accompaniment, copyright 2024, B. C. Dockery.

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Agnus Day

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"GIVE ME A DRINK
OF WATER?"
THIS CONVERSATION
STARTS OUT **WEIRD**
AND GETS **WEIRDER!**



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

NO, IT'S **COOL!** SEE YAHWEH IS OFTEN DESCRIBED AS ROMANCING ISRAEL* AND BOTH ISAAC AND MOSES MET THEIR WIVES AT WELLS**, SO THIS SCENE IDENTIFIES JESUS AS THE ONE WHO PURSUES GOD'S PEOPLE AS YAHWEH DID, EXCEPT THAT THE WOMAN IS AN OUTSIDER AND FAR FROM PERFECT... SHE'S ALL OF US!



* ISAIAH 62:16
** GEN. 24:17 & EX. 2:15

WELL YOU CAN TELL HE'S **DIVINE.** WITH A PICK UP LINE LIKE THAT, I WOULDN'T HAVE EVEN GOTTEN A **PHONE NUMBER!**



JOHN 4:5-42

© WETZSTEIN 11-03-25

TODAY'S MINISTERS FOR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister: Pr. David Frerichs
Minister for Music: Megan Lyon
Organist Sheryl Mehrhoff

	8:30	11:00
Greeter	Nikki Raedeke	TBD
Worship Hosts	Jerry Nelson	Janet Farmer
	TBD	John Farmer
Assisting Minsters	Read Andy Raedeke	Cindy Vedder
	Pray TBD	Yolanda Williams
Acolyte	TBD	TBD
Communion Preparer	TBD	TBD
Communion Cleanup		TBD
Visual Projectionist	TBD	Phil Wood
Zoom Worship Host		TBD
Zoom Tech Director		TBD
Building Opener	TBD	
Building Closer		TBD
Offering Stewards:		Maureen Coy
		TBD

Rev. David Frerichs, Senior Pastor: pastordavid@saintandrewslutheran.org
Megan Lyon, Minister for Music: mlyon@saintandrewslutheran.org
Sheryl Mehrhoff, Organist: smehrhoff@saintandrewslutheran.org
Wilson Freyermuth, Church Council President: freyermuth@missouri.edu
Jamie Langbart, Parish Administrator: office@saintandrewslutheran.org

Video Disclaimer: When you enter a Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church worship service/event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Contributions and expenses through January 31, 2026

	January	YTD
Offerings	\$34,661	\$34,661
Expenses	\$39,183	\$39,183
Over/(under) expenses	(\$4,522)	(\$4,522)
Nonbudget Special Offerings	\$1,042	\$1,042



St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

914 West Boulevard South, Columbia, MO 65203

saintandrewslutheran.org

Email: office@saintandrewslutheran.org

Office Phone: 573-449-5674

Office Hours: Sun: 7:00 am–1:00 pm; 1:30 pm–3:30 pm

Mon-Thurs: 8:00 am–12:30 pm; 1:00 pm–4:30 pm

Pastor David's Phone: 402-741-2935

The Lenten Mid-week Series: We will explore the theme “By Faith” using the Letter to the Hebrews as a frame and reference. This service will follow Holden Evening Prayer as the core liturgy and include Holy Communion. Pastor David will offer a very brief reflection on each week's theme. **What is faith?** The text from Hebrews 11:1 defines it in this way: “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” This series focuses on the book of Hebrews, especially the eleventh chapter. The first four weeks provide a journey through the faith of the Old Testament figures, especially Noah, Abraham, Moses, and the Israelites. The fifth week brings us to Jesus, “the perfecter of our faith,” and his path to the cross. **March 11: The Faith of Moses:** *By faith, Moses chose the hard path to follow God's call. How does our faith affect the choices we must make?*

Sunday Forum—March 8th: “Zionism and Christian Zionism”. Presentation from Michael Volz. What are they? What role do they play in conflict in the Middle East, and what are some Lutheran perspectives on these beliefs and related issues? Join in at 9:45 in the Conference room or via Zoom.

Saint Andrew's and Calvary Communion: All who worship with Saint Andrew's Lutheran or Calvary Episcopal may join the community at Lenoir Woods for Holy Communion in Epple Chapel, at 11:00 am on Thursday, March 12. For those who desire the rite of healing with anointing, Rev. Josh and Pastor David offer this rite following the worship service. Come! Be church with some who cannot attend at regular weekly worship.

Quilt Tying: For those looking for a way to serve and for fellowship, join in at 9:00 am on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month in the Fellowship Hall. We next meet on March 13th.

Growing Hope Globally Lenten Offering March 15:

Your contributions change lives! Our 2025 contributions of \$22,645 helped 411 farmers become food secure for life! Our 2026 contributions will help the Indigenous farmers in Lower Chaco, Paraguay, the overseas program that Karon and Paul Speckman visited in December. Use the envelopes on the offering table or the Growing Hope display in the gathering space. Or go online at St. Andrew's. Please make checks out to St. Andrew's Lutheran, with “Growing Hope” in the memo line.

Prayers for March 8, 2026

We add to our prayers this week:

We continue to offer prayers of hope and healing for:

Michael Butterworth	Linnea Geenen	Candi Glancy
Dorcas Leighton	Dale Whitman	Patric
Joyce Berschauer	Cathy	Joanne Boomer
Michelle Knipp	Mo Champion-Garthe	
Phyllis Glasker	Arlene Cunningham	

We pray for those in the military:

Eric Childers, Matthew Lee, and those serving throughout the world.

We pray for those with other kinds of needs:

For all who live in times of war and conflict, particularly in Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Sudan and Congo; we pray in particular for these Palestinian detainees: Shadi Khoury, Layan Nasir, and Hadeel Shatara.

Those who are incarcerated with whom we minister: Brooke, Chastity, Shelena Rose, Jackie, Sandra, Gina, Kim, Sage, Estelle, Leonna, Hali, Jane, Dana, and Angelica.

We pray for our partners in ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the Central States Synod and these congregations: Ada Lutheran Church, Courtland, KS; Messiah Lutheran Church, Springfield, MO; Southern Sudanese Worshipping Community, St. Joseph, MO; Central States Synod Council.

Background on Palestinian detainees for whom we pray:

We pray for Layan Nasir, a Christian Palestinian student. She has been subjected to ongoing military trials for four years. In 2024, she was re-arrested and held for eight months under administrative detention. Today, she still faces the threat of an 8-month prison sentence, based on proceedings in a military court system that denies basic legal protections and presumes guilt rather than justice.

We pray for Hadeel Shatara, our FOSNA Palestinian partner, an advancement officer at Birzeit University near Ramallah. She is a fierce advocate of Palestinians and has been detained in the past for speaking out. She asks us to pray for peace for her homeland.

We pray for Shadi Khoury, a Palestinian boy who we have been holding in our prayers each week, was recently sentenced to 2 years and 8 months in prison, and a fine of \$4000. According to Shadi's mother:

- Shadi was beaten and taken from his home in the middle of the night when he was 16 years old. Only after 41 days in detention was he charged with participating in a demonstration and throwing rocks at an Israeli settler car.
- While in detention, he was beaten to the point of losing consciousness three times and suffered a broken nose.
- His first trial was delayed when a Palestinian boy, who was supposed to be a key witness against Shadi, said he had not seen Shadi before, but that jailers said they would beat him more if he did not testify against Shadi. The judge ruled that the prosecution should have more time to gather evidence.
- Despite beatings and being in and out of detention and house arrest over 3 years, Shadi never confessed to wrongdoing. As a result his sentence was longer than other boys who did confess.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S

Sunday, March 8

- 8:30 am Worship (IP)
- 9:45 am Sunday Forum (IP&Z)
- 11:00 am Worship (IP&Z)
- 12:30 pm Ambassadors for Christ (IP)

Monday, March 9

- 4:45 pm ELCM Bible Study (IP)
- 6:00 pm ELCM Evening Prayer & Dinner (IP-Calvary Episcopal Church)

Tuesday, March 10

No Events

Wednesday, March 11

- 8:00 am Men's Bible Study (Z)
- 10:00 am Women in the Word (IP&Z)
- 6:15 pm Lenten Evening Prayer (IP)
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (IP)

Thursday, March 12

- 11:00 am Holy Communion (IP-Lenoir Woods)

Friday, March 13

- 9:00 am Quilt Tying (IP)

Saturday, March 14

No Events

Sunday, March 15-Growing Hope Globally Offering

- 8:30 am Worship (IP)
- 9:45 am Sunday Forum (IP&Z)
- 11:00 am Worship (IP&Z)
- 6:00 pm ELFY Youth Group (IP-Calvary Episcopal Church)

Reading for Next Wednesday

March 11, 2026

Hebrews 11:1, 8-22

Readings for Next Sunday

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalms 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

*Key: IP—In Person; Z—Zoom; IP&Z—In Person and Zoom

Online Resources

- Find St. Andrew's Lutheran Church at SaintAndrewsLutheran.org.
 - Links to all online services and meetings are posted on our website. SaintAndrewsLutheran.org/online-events
 - Links to all worship bulletins are at SaintAndrewsLutheran.org/worship.
- Go to StAndrewsLutheran.flocknote.com or text StAndy to 84576 to get church email and text communications.
- Miss the livestream of worship? If you want to hear the sermon from Sunday worship, there is now a podcast available at SaintAndrewsLutheranChurch.podbean.com.