

# Redeemer REVIEW



REDEEMER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

CHICO, CALIFORNIA MARCH/APRIL 2023

VOL. 37 No. 2

*from the Pastor...*

*Rev. Donald Jordan*

## ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is God's gift to sinners, whereby he gives and places that which Jesus has earned by his life, death, and resurrection, upon those who are baptized into Christ. The gifts of forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and salvation from hell are received by the power of the Holy Spirit and the Word to all baptized into the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In short, baptism is a big deal for you and should be remembered annually and, more importantly, each day of your life, in the morning, daytime, and evening as you make the sign of the holy cross to remind you of your baptism.



Baptism forms and shapes the Christian life each day as you repent of your sin. Daily each of us sins much by what we do and by what we don't do. We have sins of commission and sins of omission. By nature, we don't fear, love, and trust in God as we ought and we certainly don't love our neighbor as ourselves. There is too much hatred, anger, and resentment against other people. All of this calls for repentance, contrition, and sorrow over sin. Repent, each one of you, and confess your sinful nature and sins to your heavenly Father.

Baptism turns us daily to Christ Jesus in faith, as we look to Him for the perfect remission of all our sins. His blood daily washes us from our stains and guilt. Jesus is the perfect Son of God, true God and true man, who died on the cross for our sins. By the power of the Holy Spirit we place all our confidence, faith, and hope in Him, for His promises in the Gospels are dear and priceless.

Baptism also brings us newness of life each day

as we live out our faith in the home and community. The Holy Spirit was given in baptism. This Spirit guides and leads us not only to know the will of God, but also to live it in thought, word, and deed. Our Christian lives, as saints of God, are to be lived by thought, word, and deed. Saving faith produces good works that benefit other people in need of our love and mercy. Baptized children of God are eager for good works and desire

to help others, motivated by the free salvation delivered to us in baptism.

The nature, power, and benefits of baptism cannot be overestimated. This is a heavenly washing accomplished by the Holy Spirit, and it brings us the highest good in Christ Jesus.

So, light your baptism candle on the anniversary of your baptism. Display your baptismal certificate as a fitting reminder of what God has done and what He has given you in your baptism.

Rejoice and confess, telling everyone what He has done for you. Give thanks and glory to God for His mercy.

"Almighty God, through the washing of water with the Word we are united with Christ Jesus in His death and resurrection. Grant that I, who have been baptized and redeemed from the old life of sin, may be renewed in Your Holy Spirit and live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever."

*Pastor Jordan*

## DIGITAL DAILY DEVOTIONS

Lutheran Hour Ministries:  
<https://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions>

Higher Things:  
<https://higherthings.org/content/reflections>

Portals of Prayer:  
<https://www1.cph.org/portals/default.aspx>

## PASTOR ON THE RADIO

Pastor Jordan is a regular guest on "Live Talk with Jerry Olenyn" every Friday on KKXX radio. 8:30 a.m. & 2:00 p.m. AM 930, FM 103.9 [www.tunein.com](http://www.tunein.com)



## LUTHERAN PUBLIC RADIO

Listen to good Lutheran radio programs at Lutheran Public Radio, Issues Etc., KFUP, St. Louis. 94.3 The Bridge.

### PASTOR JORDAN'S SERMONS

KKXX.net - Tunein.com KKXX 930 AM, 103.9 FM  
Saturday & Sunday 1:00 & 5:00 PM

### THE LUTHERAN HOUR

KKXX.net - Tunein.com KKXX 930 AM, 103.9 FM  
Saturday & Sunday 1:30 PM

## REDEEMER FINANCIAL SUMMARY

January 1 - January 31, 2023

### CHURCH INCOME/EXPENSE – ACTUAL:

OFFERING INCOME	13,826.01
SCHOOL LEASE (5%) GENERAL FUND	374.31
FACILITY USE INCOME	0.00
INTEREST INCOME	<u>341.49</u>
TOTAL INCOME	14,541.81
TOTAL EXPENSES	14,354.54
NET INCOME	187.27
RETAINED EARNINGS	<u>83,018.63</u>
CURRENT BALANCE	83,205.90



Submit prayer requests to Pastor Jordan by email, text, voice mail, or in writing, using the form in the pew rack.

(530) 513-1284

(530) 342-6085 Opt 1

~  
May/ June

Newsletter Submission

Deadline

April 20

~  
Recycle



- Separate plastic bottles, with the lids removed, from aluminum cans and place in separate plastic bags.
- Opaque bottles should be separated from clear bottles.
- Place bags in the appropriate bins in the Parish Hall storage closet.
- **NO GLASS**, non-CRV, or paper waste.

## CHURCH STAFF

REV. DONALD JORDAN, PASTOR  
JACKIE VIEIRA, OFFICE MANAGER  
DAVID BUNTING, ORGANIST

JAY ERWIN, ORGANIST

### OFFICERS

FRED SHERMAN, III, PRESIDENT  
JERRY BRANDT, VICE PRESIDENT  
VACANT, FINANCIAL MANAGER  
VACANT, SECRETARY

### BOARD OF DEACONS

\* JAY ERWIN

ROBERT REAN

DARYL SMITH

TIMOTHY WENSLAFF

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

\* BRUCE HOLDERBEIN

KEITH SIEMENS

### BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP

LINDA ALLEN

DIANE SCOTT

CAROL VARLEY

SHIRLEY WILSON

### BOARD OF YOUTH

\*DIANE SCOTT

\*BOARD CHAIR

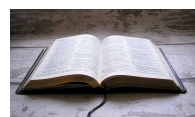
## BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAY School for children is each Sunday, 8:45 a.m.

SUNDAY Bible class is studying I, II Timothy, and Titus, 8:45 a.m.

THURSDAY Bible class, 1st Corinthians, 9:30 a.m.

CAMPUS Ministry/Young Adult Bible Study, first Sunday of the month, 5:00 p.m..



**HOMEBOUND****SERVANTS****BIRTHDAYS****William Baving**

1200 Springfield #110  
Chico, CA 95928

**Patricia Bodi**

650 Manzanita Ave #115  
Chico, CA 95926

**Sonya Brown**

1351 E Lassen, #112  
Chico, CA 95973

**Ann Carney**

1200 Springfield Dr #217  
Chico, CA 95928

**Sophie Collins**

3548 Ebano Way  
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**Paul DeGarmo**

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Granite Bay, CA 95746

**La Vera Hansen**

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Capistrano Beach, CA 92624

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**Roy & Marge Holderbein**

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Chico, CA 95928

**Janet Jokschi**

7292 Cutler Ave  
Orland, CA 95963

**Larry Pohl**

1200 Park Ave, Apt 126  
Chico, CA 95928

**Elaine Rubke**

1200 Springfield Dr  
Chico, CA 95928

**Sharon Schaffert**

627 Larch St  
Chico, CA 95926

**Emma Siemens**

1770 Humboldt Rd #202  
Chico, CA 95928

**ACOLYTES:**

AARON ASHWORTH

YUHUAN WENSLAFF

**ALTAR GUILD:**

CAROLYN FIORILLO

CLARA IVES

ANITA JOHNSON

LORI JORDAN

LINDA REAN

LOUISE URNESS

**COUNTERS:**

CLARA IVES

PAT LILLIE

**DEACON OF THE MONTH****MARCH**

TIM WENSLAFF

**APRIL**

BOB REAN

**USHERS:**

TIM WENSLAFF

YUHUAN WENSLAFF

**DRIVERS:**

JAY ERWIN

BRUCE HOLDERBEIN

KURT JORDAN

DARYL SMITH

**DEACON ASSIGNMENTS**

TIM WENSLAFF: ALLEN - GODSIL

JAY ERWIN: HANSEN - MASON

DARYL SMITH: MCCANN - SHERMAN

ROBERT REAN: SIEMENS - ZIEGLER

A calendar of events is  
available online at  
[www.redeemerchico.org](http://www.redeemerchico.org)

03/02 EUGENE LOFINK

03/06 ROY HOLDERBEIN

03/09 ANN CARNEY

03/21 CARSON VANDERMATE

03/23 KARL WEINREICH, III

03/24 SVETLANA LITVINENKO

03/25 LACEY VANDERMATE

03/29 ANITA WEINREICH

03/31 PATRICIA BODI

04/04 CLARA IVES

04/04 JOSHUA VANDERMATE

04/06 KARL JORDAN

04/07 SOPHIE COLLINS

04/08 CHRISTINE THOMPSON

04/10 BOB REAN

04/12 R. J. JOKSCH

04/13 NICOLE WHEELER

04/15 BARBARA THOMAS

04/17 THOMAS HOFFMAN

04/19 JOHN THOMASON

04/21 CAROL WHIPPLE

04/22 PAUL DEGARMO

04/23 DUSTY LOFINK

04/23 MEGAN REES

04/24 LA VERA HANSEN

04/26 CYNDIE HOLDERBEIN

04/27 JOHN DURFEE

04/30 NEALE SIVESIND

**BAPTISMS**

03/00 SVETLANA SMITH

03/01 ALLEN THOMPSON

03/01 LINDA ALLEN

03/15 OLIVER FIORILLO

03/18 EUGENE LOFINK

03/20 DAVID SWEET

03/23 CARSON VANDERMATE

03/24 MARNÉ SIVESIND

03/31 NICOLE WHEELER

04/03 XIAO WENSLAFF

04/11 RICHARD THURMAN

04/14 ANITA WEINREICH

04/16 KARL JORDAN

04/17 THOMAS HOFFMAN

04/18 ROBERT THOMAS

04/21 ELAINE MIRAMONTES

04/25 MARGE HOLDERBEIN

04/27 ROY HOLDERBEIN



## ASLEEP IN JESUS

COLLEEN CAROL COPELAND



NOVEMBER 21, 1938 - JANUARY 12, 2023

## NEW MEMBERS

FEBRUARY 12, 2023



TIMOTHY KRESSIN - TRANSFER FROM TRINITY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH, TEMECULA, CALIFORNIA

DOROTHY TEFELESKI - TRANSFER FROM FIRST  
LUTHERAN CHURCH, WILLOWS

SHARON HARDY - PROFESSION OF FAITH

WILLIAM HARDY - CONFIRMATION

## ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP



SPONSOR  
ALTAR FLOWERS

ETERNAL CANDLE  
\$20/MONTH



Sign-up charts are posted in narthex.

## BAPTISM

JANUARY 29, 2023



EVAN MATEO NUNEZ-FIORILLO

BORN: SEPTEMBER 26, 2022

SPONSORS:

BOB & LINDA REAN

PASTOR & LORI JORDAN

## CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

A divine call has been extended to Candidate Brennan DeForest, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Please pray that he will be sent when calls are assigned on April 25, 2023. Graduation is May 19, 2023. Pastor Jordan will retire, effective 1 July 2023.

## QUARTERLY MISSION SUPPORT

- 1Q Redeemer Charity Fund - Faith Lutheran Church, Ukiah, California
- 2Q Missionary Dennis Meeker, Kenya, Missionary Daniel Conrad, Mexico
- 3Q Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Lutheran Deaf Ministry, Pastor Seeger
- 4Q Women's Resource Clinic,; KKXX Sermons; The Lutheran Hour; Issues, Etc.

*Grants are funded by the Mission Trust Fund interest, 30% school rent income, and your mission gifts.*

## WE NEED YOUR HELP FOR FLOCKNOTE

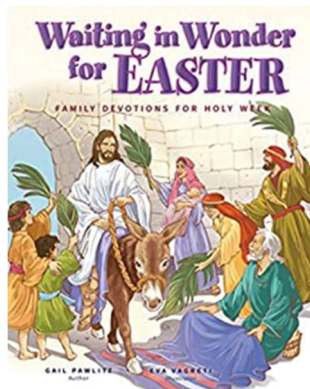
Provide your current email and phone number for text messages to the office manager. 66% of emails are opened. 95% of texts are opened. If you do not have email or text capability, update your phone number for voice messages. This is important to receive prayer requests and announcements. Do not reply to Flocknote messages, except for administrative purposes. Pastor Jordan does not receive nor read Flocknote email or text replies.



## Children's Resources

*And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (Deut 6: 6-7 ESV)*

As parents do you ever feel like you are “a day late and a dollar short?” This may not be a familiar saying to you but if you ask your parents or grandparents they will certainly recognize this quip. Quick translation: not being ready.



In doing some research there are several resources available for Lent that are good for family devotions, but we are already into the Lenten season. However, do look at some of what is available at Concordia Publishing House and perhaps bookmark one or two of the resources to purchase at the end of the year to be ready for next year.

This book, however, is one to consider for this year as it centers on Easter and the days of Holy Week. The age range is for 4 to 8 and focuses on many of the questions your children might ask. It is also available as an ebook which is something to consider in addition to the printed book so that you as a parent can read and think about when you have a few minutes of waiting time during your day.

May you be blessed as you prepare your own hearts and minds for Easter during this Lenten season; and blessings also as you spend focused, intentional time with your family devotions.

*"We need to hear the Gospel every day because we forget it every day." - Martin Luther*

## TECHNOLOGY

### Technology... memorizing scripture



*<sup>11</sup> Your word I have hidden in my heart,  
That I might not sin against You. Psalm 119:11*

In years past many of you might have had a stack of business sized cards with scripture verses that you planned to memorize. How did you do with these? Or, you might have been encouraged to use 3x5 cards and write out a verse you wanted to memorize. Again, how did you do with that method? For some these were successful methods, but what about today in our world of technology?

Whether your cellphone is on the Apple platform or the Android platform you can find a variety of apps to help you memorize scripture. Go to your app store and type in “scripture memory” or “Bible verse memory” and you will find a good selection of apps. Choose one that you want to try but don’t be discouraged if at first you don’t really like it. Try another one and another until you find one that clicks with your personal learning style.

Some of the apps include game-like activities and others include rewards of some sort like badges for each verse memorized. One app is based on singing the verse which can be very helpful for some. If competition encourages you find somebody to embark on this activity with you whether it is a family member or a friend.

If you frequently switch between cellphone, tablet or laptop computer make sure that you verify that the app can work on all of your devices. Many say they do, but for some they work great on your phone but have some glitches on a laptop. Decide how you will generally use this app and make sure it works well on that device and if not having an A+ on another device is a deal breaker for that app.

Next time you are tempted to mindlessly scroll through social media click on your Bible memory app and review verses you have memorized or add a new verse to your memory library. Remember that technology can be a godly tool for your life!

## QUILTERS



The quilters have resumed. The schedule will stay the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 9:00-12:00. It is a time for fellowship and working to provide comfort lap robes for our members in need. Surplus robes are donated to needy causes in our community. Each robe comes with a label from Redeemer. We welcome any woman or man who may be wanting to participate in this local mission project. No special skills are required. This is an "on the job training" experience. Coffee and fellowship provided..



## Always Mercy Presentation, Sunday, March 5, 8:45 a.m.



Pamela Boehle-Silva has the joy of being able to blend the profession of nursing with the vocation of deaconess.

She graduated from Concordia Theological Seminary in 2011 and now serves as deaconess at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Rocklin, California.

She has traveled to Kenya, Sudan, South Africa, Tanzania and India working alongside deaconesses and pastors to promote Christ's mercy of body and soul. She has been to Kenya over a dozen times and continues to provide mercy work there.

In 2022, working with Kenyan Pastor David Chuchu, Pamela helped create Rehema Open Door, a palliative care/hospice center in rural western Kenya. Rehema is currently under construction.

In 2023, Always Mercy, a U.S. nonprofit was created to support the mercy work in Western Kenya, including Rehema Open Door.



### **Pamela Boehle-Silva**

Deaconess Pamela Boehle-Silva, R.N., Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
916-624-8185 | [deaconess@holycrossrocklin.org](mailto:deaconess@holycrossrocklin.org)  
4701 Grove St.  
Rocklin, CA 95677  
<https://alwaysmercy.org/>

**QUESTION:** Is the use of a crucifix a uniquely Roman Catholic practice? Doesn't the empty cross provide a better symbol for Lutherans? [Note: A crucifix is a cross with a statue of the crucified Christ on it].

**ANSWER:** A common misunderstanding among some Lutherans is the opinion that a crucifix, or the use of a crucifix, is a "Roman Catholic" practice. The history of Lutheranism demonstrates that the crucifix was a regular and routine feature of Lutheran worship and devotional life during Luther's lifetime and during the period of Lutheran Orthodoxy. It was also the case among the founding fathers of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Dr. C.F.W. Walther had a large painting of the crucifix in his study, actually, a particularly grotesque painting. If you were to visit many of the original congregations of the LCMS here in the United States you would find lovely crucifixes adorning their altars, and in addition, beautiful statues on the altar of Christ and the four evangelists, or other such scenes. There is nothing uniquely Roman Catholic about this. Many Lutherans and Lutheran congregations use crucifixes. Crucifixes are displayed prominently in the chapels of both of our seminaries.

Lutheranism has always considered the crucifix to be a powerful reminder of the sacrifice our Lord Jesus made for us and our salvation, on the cross. A crucifix vividly brings to mind the Apostle Paul's divinely inspired words, "We preach Christ and Him crucified" (1 Cor. 1:23). Interestingly enough, while there is certainly nothing "wrong" with an "empty" cross, the practice of using an "empty cross" on a Lutheran congregation's altar comes from non-Lutheran sources. At the time of the Reformation there was conflict between Lutherans and Reformed Christians over the proper place of pictures, images, statues and the like in the church. Lutherans stood with historic Christendom in realizing that such art in the church was not wrong, and was a great aid for helping to focus devotional thoughts on the truth of the Word of God, no greater truth can be found than the death of Jesus Christ our Lord for the world's salvation.

The "empty cross" is not a symbol of Christ's resurrection, as some say, for the fact is that the cross would have been empty regardless of whether or not Christ had risen from the grave. The point to be kept clear here is that both an "empty cross" and a crucifix, symbolize the same thing: the death of Christ our Lord for the salvation of the world. The empty cross is not a symbol of Christ's resurrection, but of his death and crucifixion. Many feel that the crucifix symbolizes this truth more clearly and strikingly. That has been the traditional opinion of

historic Lutheranism, until the last fifty years ago, due to the influence we will now mention.

Some Lutherans began to move away from crucifixes during the age of Lutheran Pietism, which rejected much of Lutheran doctrine and consequently many Lutheran worship practices. At the time, Lutheran Pietists, contrary to the clear position of Luther and the earlier Lutherans, held that symbols such as the crucifix were wrong. This was never the view of historic Lutheranism. Here in America, Lutherans have always felt a certain pressure to "fit in" with the Reformed Christianity that predominates much of the Protestant church here. Thus, for some Lutherans this meant doing away with things such as crucifixes, and vestments, and other traditional forms of Lutheran worship and piety. It is sad when some Lutherans are made to feel embarrassed about their Lutheranism by members of churches that teach the Word of God in error and who do not share Lutheranism's clear confession and practice of the full truth of the Word of God.

Lutheranism has always recognized that the use of any symbol (even the empty cross) can become an idolatrous practice, if in any way people are led to believe there is "power in the cross" or that a picture or representation of a cross has some sort of ability, in itself, to bring us into relationship with Christ and His Gospel. Any of God's good gifts can be turned against Him in this life and become an end in themselves.

Lutherans have never believed that banning or limiting proper artwork in the church is the way to prevent its improper use. Rather, we believe that proper teaching and right use is the best way, and the way that is in keeping with the gift of freedom we have in Christ to use all things to the glory and honor of God. Thus, many Lutherans use and enjoy the crucifix as a meaningful reminder of our Lord's suffering and death.

In short, and this is the most important point of all: there is nothing contrary to God's Holy Word, or our Lutheran Confessions, about the proper use of the crucifix, just as there is nothing wrong with the proper use of an empty cross, or any other church symbol by which we are reminded of the great things God has done for us. We need to guard against quickly dismissing out of hand practices that we believe are "too Roman Catholic" before we more adequately explore their use and history in our own church.

In Christian freedom, we use either the crucifix or an empty cross and should not judge or condemn one another for using either nor not using either symbol of our Lord's sacrifice for our sins.

## LECTIONARY SUMMARIES

### SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

(5 March 2023)

*Genesis 12:1–9*

*Romans 4:1–8, 13–17*

*John 3:1–17*

THE WORD OF THE GOSPEL OPENS THE EYES OF FAITH AND FIXES THEM ON CHRIST JESUS

The Lord called Abram (Abraham) to leave his home and go to a land that God would show him. He also promised to make of Abram “a great nation,” to bless him and make his name great as a blessing to “all the families of the earth” (Gen. 12:2–3). “Abram went, as the LORD had told him” (Gen. 12:4), and in Canaan “he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD” (Gen. 12:8). He “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness” (Rom. 4:3). Here the grace of God is manifested, that He “justifies the ungodly” (Rom. 4:5), not by works of the Law, but through faith in His promises. He removes all of our sins and lawless deeds through Jesus Christ, the offspring of Abraham in whom all the Lord’s promises are realized. This forgiveness of sins is the Word of the Gospel, the voice of the Holy Spirit, which “gives life to the dead” (Rom. 4:17). It opens the eyes of faith to behold Christ Jesus, the Son of Man lifted up on the cross, “that whoever believes in him may have eternal life” (John 3:14–15).

### THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

(12 March 2022)

*Exodus 17:1–7*

*Romans 5:1–8*

*John 4:5–26 (27–30, 39–42)*

WE WORSHIP THE FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE SPIRIT AND TRUTH OF HIS GOSPEL

Though the Lord had brought them out of Egypt, “all the congregation of the people of Israel” grumbled against Him because “there was no water for the people to drink” (Ex. 17:1). Despite their quarreling, the Lord graciously provided for them. He did not strike the people for their sins, but by the hand of Moses He struck the rock instead and brought forth water for the people. In the same way, living water flows from the pierced side of Christ at “about the sixth hour” (John 4:6; 19:14), when He is lifted up on the cross for the sins of the world. He is “the gift of God” (John 4:10), the well from which the Holy Spirit is poured out and becomes in His people “a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (John 4:14). By this grace in which we stand, being at peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, we “worship the Father in spirit and truth” (John 4:23). “We rejoice in hope of the glory of God” because “God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us” (Rom. 5:2, 5).

### FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

(19 March 2023)

*Isaiah 42:14–21*

*Ephesians 5:8–14*

*John 9:1–41 or John 9:1–7, 13–17, 34–39*

BY HIS WORD OF THE GOSPEL, JESUS CALLS US OUT OF THE DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT

The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, yet in mercy He does not forsake them. He restrains His anger and keeps His peace, until He opens their ears and eyes to hear and see Him. “For his righteousness’ sake,” He magnifies His Word and makes it glorious in the coming of Christ Jesus (Is. 42:21). Jesus turns “the darkness before them into light” (Is. 42:16) because He is “the light of the world” (John 9:5). The incarnate Son of God does the works of His Father and displays the divine glory in His own flesh “while it is day,” until that night “when no one can work” (John 9:4). By the washing of water with His Word, He opens the eyes of the blind and grants rest to the weary. Therefore, though “at one time you were darkness,” now “you are light in the Lord” (Eph. 5:8). By our Baptism into Christ, we live in the eternal day of His resurrection, wherein He shines upon us. As often as we fall back into the darkness of sin, He calls us by the Gospel to “awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead” (Eph. 5:14).

### FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

(26 March 2023)

*Ezekiel 37:1–14*

*Romans 8:1–11*

*John 11:1–45 (46–53) or John 11:17–27, 38–53*

JESUS CHRIST IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

The illness and death of Lazarus happened “that the Son of God may be glorified through it” (John 11:4). Jesus’ miracle of raising Lazarus prompted His arrest and crucifixion, whereby He would die “for the nation” and gather “into one the children of God who are scattered abroad” (John 11:51–52). As He called Lazarus from the tomb and commanded others to “unbind him, and let him go” (John 11:44), Jesus also calls us and releases us from the bondage of sin and death. We would not “submit to God’s law,” nor could we “please God” (Rom. 8:7–8), but “he condemned sin” in His own flesh so “that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us” (Rom. 8:3–4). Now through the Gospel, “the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells” in us (Rom. 8:11). His Word breathes His Spirit into our mortal flesh, animating us with His own life. As His ministers preach according to His divine command, the Lord Jesus calls us from the grave into the good land that He gives us (Ezek. 37:12, 14).



## LECTIONARY SUMMARIES

### PALM SUNDAY / SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

(2 April 2023)

*Isaiah 50:4–9a*

*Philippians 2:5–11*

*John 12:12–19 (Procession)*

*Matthew 26:1–27:66 or Matthew 27:11–66 or John 12:20–43*

#### NOW IS THE HOUR WHEN THE SON OF MAN IS GLORIFIED

“Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming.” He comes in gentle humility, “sitting on a donkey’s colt,” yet also as the King of Israel “in the name of the Lord” (John 12:13, 15). His royal glory is faithful obedience and self-sacrificing service “to the point of death, even death on a cross” (Phil. 2:8). The love of God is manifested in the cross and Passion of His Son for the salvation of sinners. Since He has borne our sins and suffered our death, “God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name” (Phil. 2:9), and He exalts us in His resurrection. Our Lord did not hide His face “from disgrace and spitting” (Is. 50:6), but He trusted His God and Father, who raised Him from death and the grave and exalted Him to His right hand. This same King Jesus now comes to us in gentle humility in His Supper, where He feeds us with His body and cleanses and covers us with His blood, so that “after his resurrection” we also shall rise and enter the holy city (Matt. 27:52–53).

### EASTER DAY

(9 April 2023)

*Acts 10:34–43 or Jeremiah 31:1–6*

*Colossians 3:1–4*

*Matthew 28:1–10*

#### THE VICTORY OF CHRIST CRUCIFIED IS GIVEN TO YOU IN THE PREACHING OF HIS RESURRECTION

Every Sunday is the Lord’s day, the day of His resurrection, “after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week” (Matt. 28:1). In the Divine Service, the Church enters upon the eternal “eighth day.” The Lord Jesus, “who was crucified,” who “has risen, as he said” (Matt. 28:5–6), is the firstborn from the dead and the firstfruits of the new creation. Because “you have died” with Him in Holy Baptism, “you have been raised with Christ” and “your life is hidden with Christ in God” (Col. 3:1, 3). The Lord Jesus has become our God, as surely as He is “the God of all the clans of Israel,” and we now belong to His people (Jer. 31:1). In this, He “shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34), but “everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name” (Acts 10:43). As “God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power” and “raised him on the third day,” He also raises us up and pours out His Spirit upon us through the Gospel (Acts 10:38, 40).



### SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (16 April 2023)

*Acts 5:29–42*

*1 Peter 1:3–9*

*John 20:19–31*

#### CHRIST JESUS BREATHES HIS SPIRIT AND HIS LIFE INTO US BY THE MINISTRY OF THE GOSPEL

The crucified and risen Lord Jesus establishes the ministry of the Gospel in order to bestow His life-giving Holy Spirit and His peace upon the Church. To those who are called and ordained to this office, and to those they serve in His name, He grants the Holy Absolution of all sins. By the fruits of His cross, He replaces fear and doubt with peace and joy, and thus gives “repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins” (Acts 5:31). Through the preaching of His sent ones, He calls us to believe that He “is the Christ, the Son of God,” so that by such faith we “may have life in his name” (John 20:31). In His resurrection, we have the “living hope” to which we have been “born again” and by which we are guarded “for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time” (1 Peter 1:3, 5). Until then, “though you have not seen him, you love him,” and by the mercies of God “you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory” (1 Peter 1:8).

### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (23 April 2023)

*Acts 2:14a, 36–41*

*1 Peter 1:17–25*

*Luke 24:13–35*

#### THE RISEN LORD JESUS IS WITH US IN HOLY BAPTISM AND IN ‘THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD’

From “before the foundation of the world” until heaven and earth pass away, “the word of the Lord remains forever” (1 Peter 1:20, 25). This “living and abiding word of God” is the preaching of Christ Jesus, namely that God “raised him from the dead and gave him glory” (1 Peter 1:21, 23). By this living word, we “have been born again” to eternal life (1 Peter 1:23) and ransomed from our sinful and mortal life “with the precious blood of Christ” (1 Peter 1:18–19). This living word also calls us to repentance, to dying and rising in Holy Baptism “in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins” (Acts 2:38). In this, we receive the Holy Spirit “for you and for your children and for all who are far off” (Acts 2:39). Through the preaching of His cross and resurrection, Jesus draws near to bring us “into his glory” (Luke 24:26). As He opens the Scriptures, He opens our minds to comprehend “the things concerning himself” (Luke 24:27), and He brings us to know Him “in the breaking of the bread” (Luke 24:35).

## LECTIONARY SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (30 April 2023)

*Acts 2:42-47*

*1 Peter 2:19-25*

*John 10:1-10*

THE CRUCIFIED AND RISEN LORD JESUS CHRIST IS OUR GOOD SHEPHERD

Although we “were straying like sheep,” the Lord Jesus Christ has willingly suffered and died for us, bearing our sins “in his body on the tree” (1 Peter 2:24-25). We are healed by His wounds (1 Peter 2:24), and in His resurrection He gathers us to Himself as our Good Shepherd, by whose righteousness we “have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). Now through other shepherds whom He calls and sends in His name, He guards and keeps us in the green pastures of His Church, leading us beside the quiet waters of our Baptism and spreading the feast of His table before us. Since He has called us by the Gospel to be His own dear sheep, we also “hear his voice” and “know his voice” (John 10:3-4) in the faithful preaching of His Gospel, and we follow Him by faith. When we receive His Gospel, we have the abundant life and common unity of the entire flock under one Good Shepherd, in “the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship” and in “the breaking of bread and the prayers” (Acts 2:42).

### BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP LUNCHESES

Please join us on the following dates for lunch following the Lenten Services:

Wednesday, March 1 - Soup and bread

Wednesday, March 15 - Tacos

Wednesday, March 29 - Chili and cornbread



We refrain from serving dessert at these meals in honor of the Lenten season. If you can help by bringing something for one of the meals, please sign up on the sheets in the Parish Hall.

Easter Breakfast, April 9th from 8:30 to 9:30am - a sign-up sheet is available in the Parish Hall for requested items for the breakfast.



## Lutheran Women in Mission 2022-2024 CNH Mission Grants

1. *VBS for Lord's Disabled* - \$3,300  
Women in Mission LWML, St. Andrew's, Stockton, California
2. *Living Water for the Homeless* - \$7,988  
Mercy Holistic Ministry & Town and Country Lutheran, Sacramento, California
3. *Fort Wayne Seminary Food Co-op* - \$2,500  
Concordia Theological Seminar, Fort Wayne, Indiana
4. *Hmong Lent Family Retreat* - \$13,000  
Redeemer Lutheran, Fresno & St. Paul, Merced, California
5. *Outreach Ministry to Homeless* - \$8,000  
Bridging Initiatives International & Town and Country Lutheran, Sacramento, California
6. *Music Ministry for At-Risk Children* - \$2,072  
Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Minot, North Dakota
7. *Walking with Women Leaders* - \$18,050  
LINC Bay Area, Hayward, California
8. *International Seminary Students-St. Louis* - \$10,000  
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri
9. *Be Thou My Vision- Eyeglass and Evangelism* - \$6,000  
MOST Ministries, (Mission Opportunities Short Term), Ann Arbor, Michigan
10. *Spanish Braille Bibles, So. America* - \$3,500  
Lutheran Braille Workers
11. *CNH Cross Cultural Outreach Training* - \$2,500  
POBLO International
12. *Spanish Devotions* - \$7,500  
Lutheran Heritage Foundation
13. *Hope for the Hopeless* - \$5,000  
LCMS Mission Advancement
14. *Connecting Mercy & Church Planting* - \$5,000  
LCMS Office of International Mission, Latin America and the Caribbean Region
15. *Matongo Seminary Chapel* - \$5,000  
LCMS Office of International Mission, Africa Region
16. *Gospel Outreach in Thailand* - \$3,500  
Lutheran Hour Ministries
17. *Indonesian Hymnal Project* - \$5,000  
LCMS Office of International Mission, Asia Region

Learn more about these grants on our web page:  
[www.lwmlcnh.org](http://www.lwmlcnh.org)



Seminarian Brennan DeForest Support:

January/February

Scholarship Fund: \$4,491.78

Coins for Christ: \$140.91

Recycle & Calendar Sales: \$81.84



## MERCY MINISTRY

The deacons, plus three women and three men, are presently participating in mercy calls and visitations. Many of our members are in nursing facilities. Non-members are also being served. The goal is to share the Word and extend Christian friendship to those who are lonely. Visits are also made to those who have other special needs while still residing in their homes. We want to thank those members of the congregation who have so faithfully attended to the needs of many.

## LWML MISSION GRANTS

The total amount for the 2022-2024 biennium is \$107,910. #6 has been funded, which is "Music Ministry for At-Risk Children at Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Minot, North Dakota

The mite boxes and information are provided for any woman, man or child who would like to support the mission projects of Lutheran Women's Missionary League by giving of small change or gifts of money. The mite boxes are found in the narthex and it is suggested that donations be deposited in large blue box monthly. Jay Erwin, Chairman

## 2023 SPECIAL SERVICES

LENT MIDWEEK WEDNESDAY

12:00 Noon

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

PALM SUNDAY

Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

HOLY (MAUNDY) THURSDAY

April 6, Divine Service 12:00 p.m.

No Bible Class/No Evening Service

GOOD FRIDAY

April 7, Chief Service 12:00 p.m.

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD - EASTER

SUNDAY - April 9

Easter Breakfast/Flowering of the Cross, 9:00 a.m.

Divine Service, 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 29 Divine Service, 5:00 p.m.

The Ascension of Our Lord 12:00 noon

May 18, Matins

## WORK DAY

SATURDAY APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>, 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON

We will be doing general facility spring cleaning before we celebrate Holy Week. Projects will include windows, planter boxes, and other misc. clean-up. Contact Bruce Holderbein at 530-570-0884 for more information.



**WORKDAY AT THE  
CHURCH**

## THANK YOU FROM WOMEN'S RESOURCE CLINIC

Dear Supporter,

As we kick off a New Year, thank you for being a big part of getting us off to a great start in 2023. Our goal this year is to take several steps toward being the first choice for every woman in our area facing an unplanned pregnancy. Every day when I walk in this door, I want this ministry to be just a slight bit better than the day before. We're looking at every area of ministry, finding ways where we can more effectively reach women and families that come in our door. Your gift helps us toward that goal. Obviously, we need strong funding to do many of the things God is calling us to do and you are a part of this vital area of ministry. Thank you then, for your gift. It makes a difference, and takes us one step closer to becoming the first choice that we believe the Lord would have us to be.

Lovingly in Him,

Brenda K. Dowdin  
Executive Director

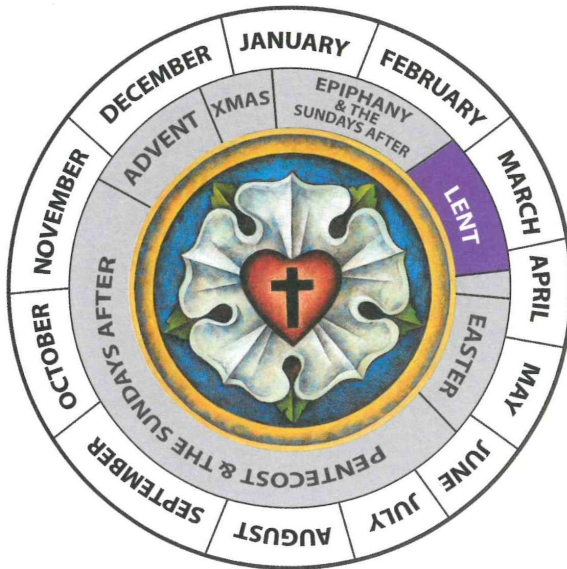
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thank you, Brenda".

40 DAYS for Life peaceful vigil in front of  
Planned Parenthood, 3100 Cohasset Rd, is  
February 22 to April 2. Come each Friday,  
9:00 a.m. as we pray for an end to  
abortion. Contact Pastor Jordan.



## THE TIME OF EASTER LENT

*Begins on Ash Wednesday and ends  
with midday prayer on Holy Saturday.*



The Time of Easter invites us into the story of Jesus' sacrificial death and His glorious resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus gives proof that our salvation has been completed and that our hope for eternal life with God is secure.

Easter was the major celebration of the Early Church, which also set aside a period of preparation to celebrate the Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter). Lent was a period of preparation first prescribed for baptismal candidates. During this period, the candidates were examined in preparation for Baptism at the Easter (or Paschal) Vigil. Later, these forty days were associated with Jesus' forty days in the desert prior to His temptation (Matthew 4:1–11) and with the forty years the children of Israel spent in the wilderness (Numbers 14:34), becoming a period of preparation for every Christian.

The Sundays during this season are not "of Lent" but "in Lent." Thus the Sundays retain an Easter tone and may be less solemn than the mid-

week services that congregations typically offer. The observances of Lent are concrete reminders of the greater solemnity of this season, yet Lutherans emphasize the Gospel of Christ as central even to this penitential season.

### In Lent, we prepare our hearts to receive our crucified and risen Lord.

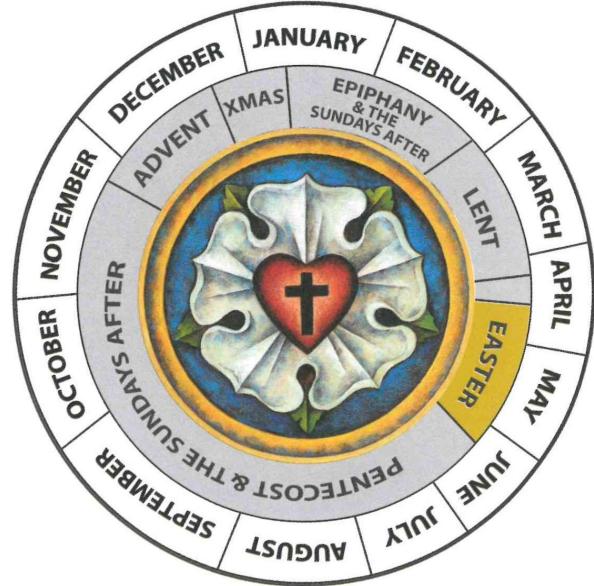
Psalm 51                      Isaiah 58:6–12                      Joel 2:12–13  
Matthew 4:1–11                      Matthew 6:1–18                      Romans 6:1–4

### LENT PRACTICES AND TRADITIONS

- ♦ The church is decorated in violet, the color of royalty and repentance. This period of repentance is marked by a purposeful turning away from our sin and turning toward Christ for His mercy and forgiveness.
- ♦ Ash Wednesday begins the observance of Lent. Ashes on the forehead is a sign of penitence and a reminder that we, too, shall die and therefore need forgiveness from Jesus. Black may be used to decorate the church on Ash Wednesday.
- ♦ *Alleluia* is the Hebrew word for "Praise the Lord." It is a joyous expression of faith in God. During Lent, we forego using this joyous response in order to focus on our need for repentance and faith.
- ♦ As in Advent, so in Lent, we do not sing the Gloria in Excelsis in the Divine Service. We do this to focus our worship on repentance.
- ♦ Fasting is giving up eating at a particular meal or time in order to devote that time to prayer and meditation on the Word of God.
- ♦ Many churches observe Lent by gathering for midweek services. These additional times of worship and gathering around God's Word help us prepare to observe Holy Week and celebrate Easter.

## THE TIME OF EASTER EASTER AND ITS SEASON

*Begins with evening prayer on Holy Saturday  
and ends with midday prayer on Pentecost.*



Easter is not merely a one-day celebration; it is a fifty-day season from the Day of the Resurrection of Our Lord to the Day of Pentecost. This extended season—one seventh of the year—is a victory celebration, a time for all Christians to proclaim boldly their faith in a risen and victorious Savior.

The first celebration of Easter is the Easter Vigil, the evening of Holy Saturday. The Vigil includes a service of light, in which fire symbolizes Jesus as the light of the world. The service is designed to take the Christian from the solemnity of Good Friday to the predawn joy of Easter.

Easter is the richest and most lavishly celebrated festival of the Church Year. Congregations may hold a sunrise service, commemorating the surprise of the women visiting the empty tomb of Christ, as well as services that celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. While not as lavish, this joyous and celebratory tone echoes down through the Sundays of the Easter season.

Forty days after Easter, the Church celebrates the Ascension of Our Lord, who ascended into heaven not only as God but also as man. The final Sunday of the Easter season, celebrated as Pentecost, was adopted by early Christians to commemorate the first great harvest of believers for Christ. Thus, Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian Church, as the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples and they gave their compelling witness about the resurrected Lord. The color for the Day for Pentecost is red, representing fire and blood. Red recalls the tongues of fire received on the first Pentecost and the martyrs who shed their blood for the faith.

### During Easter, we rejoice in our salvation.

Matthew 28                      Luke 24  
John 12:24–25; 20:1–29; 21:1–14                      Acts 1:6–11; 2:1–4

### EASTER PRACTICES AND TRADITIONS

- ♦ The colors of Easter are white and gold. White, the color of our Lord's holiness, is everywhere on Easter, from the paraments and vestments to the traditional Easter lilies. Gold decorations remind us that our resurrection life in Christ is precious and eternal.
- ♦ After a long absence in Lent, *Alleluia* returns at Easter and is heard everywhere in the propers appointed for the weeks after Easter. Also, the joyous Hymn of Praise and the Gloria Patri return and are sung as part of the liturgy once again.
- ♦ During the Easter season, we greet one another with a special Easter greeting and response: "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" "He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"



# Organ Concert

Renata Peperkorn, Organist

Sunday, March 5 - 4:00 p.m.

Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church

750 Moss Avenue

Chico, California

530-342-6085

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



Renata Peperkorn is a senior attending Concordia University Nebraska. She will graduate in December 2023 with a Bachelors of Music in K-12 Music Education and Church Music with a Lutheran Teacher's Diploma and a History minor. In her time at Concordia she has participated in the A Capella Choir, Concordia Handbell choir, the University Orchestra, and the Chamber Choir. She has taken organ with Dr. Jeffrey Blersch, as well as some piano and voice lessons. After graduating she plans to take a call to serve a Lutheran Church, school, or combination of the two things.

Some of the pieces that will be featured in her recital include Durufle's *"Theme and Variation on Veni Creator Spiritus"* (Come Holy Ghost, Creator Blest), Bach's Prelude and Fugue in E minor (The Wedge), and Widor's Symphony No. 6 Movement 1 Allegro. These three pieces represent a wide variety of organ styles and eras, starting with the German Baroque Prelude and Fugue, to the grand French Romantic Symphony by Widor, and finally the contemporary Durufle. In addition to these pieces there will be other chorale preludes by Dr. Charles Ore, Paul Manz, and Johann Ludwig Krebs.

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WEB ADDRESS:	www.redeemerchico.org
Facebook:	facebook.com/RedeemerLutheranChico

### Our Mission Statement

Welcome to Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, a community of believers saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

As a people enabled by the Spirit, we are committed to regular worship and the use of the sacraments, studying and teaching the Bible, praying, using our gifts and talents in God's service, for the caring and nurturing of others and sharing the message of God's salvation so that God is glorified and all people may know Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

## March/April 2023



## March/April 2023

Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Missouri Synod  
750 Moss Avenue  
Chico, CA 95926