

LENT 3

March 3, 2024

10:00 AM FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road Okemos, MI 48864 517-349-0620

To make disciples for Jesus Christ. we **Gather** in faith for worship, prayer, study and fellowship . . . we **Equip** the people of God with a faith that works in real life . . . we **Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ

Pastor	Bruce Thorsen
Music Director	Deb Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist	Bruce Williams
Administrative Assistant	Connie Denbrock
Youth & Education Director	Pam Williams
Sound Technicians	Cody Boyan & Raymond Herek
Church email	faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website	www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page	facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

WIFI: Faith Lutheran; Password: LutheranFaith

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

PRELUDE

"Canticle of the Turning"

arr. Ron Schmoltze

"Make me to know your ways, O God; teach me your paths." Psalm 25:4

Confession and Forgiveness

[All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.]

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

Amen.

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

[Silence is kept for reflection.]

Holy God,

We confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.

We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

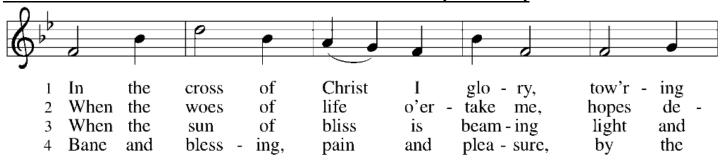
For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.

Amen.

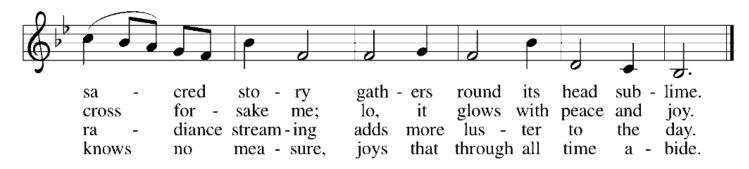
Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through \oplus Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN – IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY (ELW 324)







Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872

Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815-1867

One License Licensing Permission Reprinted/Streamed with Permission under One License #A-708005

GREETING

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

And also with you.

KYRIE – Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery – (ELW 334)



Lent 1

From the dawning of creation you have loved us as your own; stay with us through all temptation, make us turn to you alone.

Lent 2

In our call to be a blessing, may we be a blessing true; may we live and die confessing Christ as Lord of all we do.

Lent 3

Living Water of salvation, be the fountain of each soul; springing up in new creation, flow in us and make us whole.

Lent 4

Give us eyes to see you clearly; make us children of your light. Give us hearts to live more nearly as your gospel shining bright.

Lent 5

God of all our fear and sorrow, God who lives beyond our death, hold us close through each tomorrow, love as near as every breath.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

One License Licensing Permission Reprinted/Streamed with Permission under One License #A-708005

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

A reading from Exodus.

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

- ¹³You shall not murder.
- ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.
- ¹⁵You shall not steal.
- ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 19

- ¹The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.
- ²One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.
 - ³Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,
- ⁴their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.
- ⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- ⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- ⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
- ⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- ⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- ¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
 - ¹²Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.
- ¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- ¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

- ¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,
 - "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

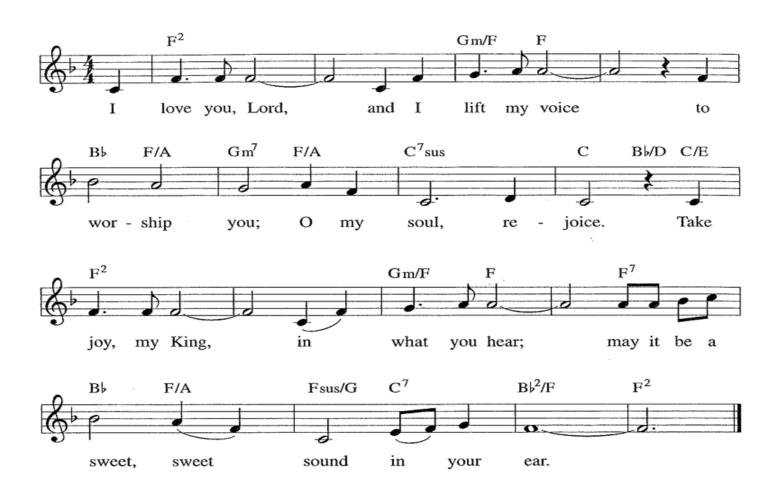
²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION — I Love You, Lord Words and Music by Laurie Klein



GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

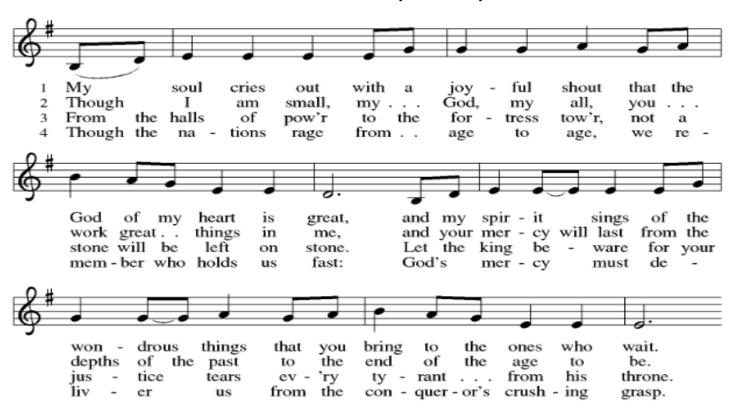
The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

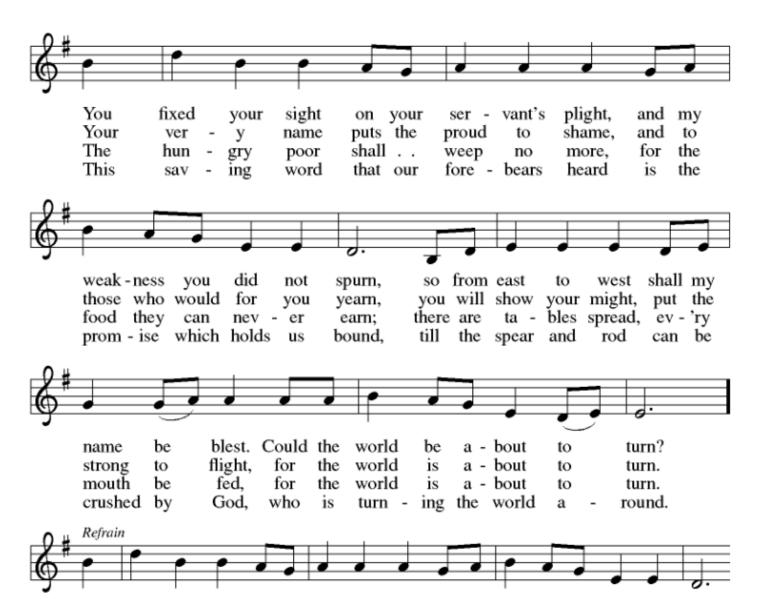
Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY – CANTICLE OF THE TURNING (ELW 723)





My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus-tice



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

One License Licensing Permission Reprinted/Streamed with Permission under One License #A-708005

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PRAYER SONG - Open Our Eyes (W&P 113)



Text and music: Bob Cull

Text and amsic 1976 Maranatha! Music, admin, The Copyright Company

CCLI: Streaming License #CSPL141616 Size B. CCLI Church Copyright License #720217

 $O_{\text{NE}} \ \text{License Licensing Permission Reprinted/Streamed with Permission under One License \#A-708005}$

Prayers

Sing PRAYER SONG again (repeat above)

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERING

"There Is a Green Hill Far Away"

Bradley Ellingboe

Chancel Choir

[Please stand if you are able.]

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered so that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

Amen.

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.

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - (ELW 190)



Music: Deutsche Messe, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937 Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

One License Licensing Permission Reprinted/Streamed with Permission under One License #A-708005

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kin[g]-dom 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 kin[g]-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

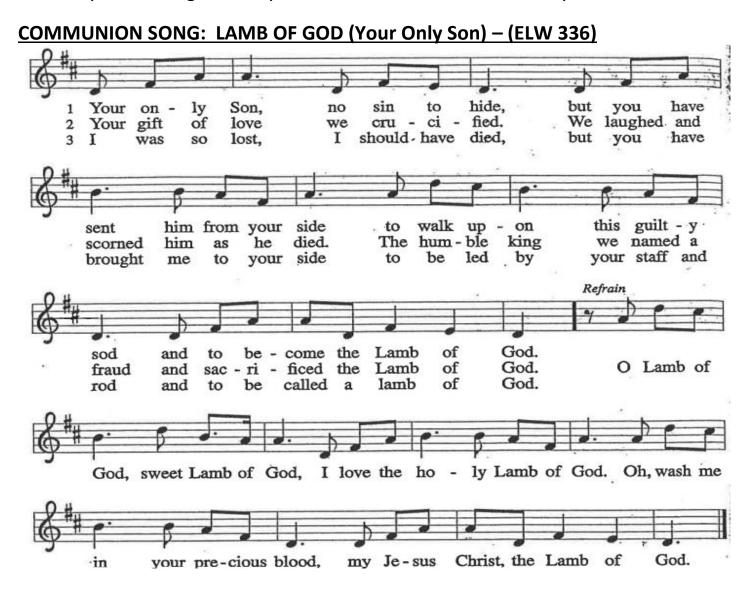
Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bread for the journey.
A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

"In the Cross of Christ, I Glory/Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

arr. Wilbur Held

[Please stand if you are able.]

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

Amen.

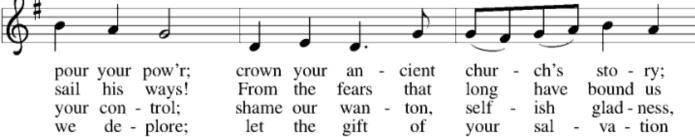
BLESSING

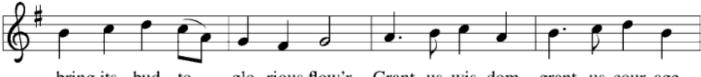
Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and \oplus give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG – GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY– (ELW 705)





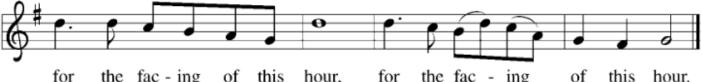


bring its bud to free our hearts to rich in things and our glo - ry be

glo-rious flow'r. faith and praise. poor in soul. ev - er - more.

Grant us wis-dom, Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age, Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age,

grant us cour-age



the fac - ing of this the liv - ing for of these days, we miss your king-dom's goal, serv - ing you whom we a - dore,

this hour. the fac - ing for the liv ing of these days. lest we miss king-dom's goal. vour serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932

ONE LICENSE LICENSING PERMISSION REPRINTED/STREAMED WITH PERMISSION LINDER ONE LICENSE #A-708005

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share God's grace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"God of Grace and Glory"

Paul Manz

FAITH VOLUNTEERS

Reader: Jamie Royalty Greeter(s): Chris & Jean Lewis

Lay Assistant: Randy Royalty Altar Care: Diane Hill

Ushers: McCracken/Milne Acolyte: Makayla Marquart

Coffee Hour: Fellowship Hall

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORTS

February 18, 2024		February 25/26, 2024				
Loose Cash	\$	85.00	Loose Cash	\$	75.00	
General Fund	\$	1,605.00	General Fund	\$	\$ 11,105.00	
Pantry Fund	\$_	251.00	Flowers	\$	20.00	
Subtotal	\$	1,941.00	Other- Bldg. Rental	\$	100.00	
<u>Vanco</u>			Youth	\$	50.00	
General Operating	\$	1,675.50	Memorial	\$	15,000.00	
Building	\$	25.00	Pantry Fund	\$	275.00	
Caring Committee	\$	0.00	Parish House	\$_	310.00	
Parish House	\$	200.00	Subtotal	\$	26,890.00	
Pantry Fund	\$	25.25	<u>Vanco</u>			
Youth (Pancake Suppe	er <u>)\$</u>	345.00	General Operating	\$_	835.00	
Subtotal	\$	2,270,75	Subtotal	\$	835.00	
TOTAL	Ś	4,211.75	TOTAL	\$	27,725.00	

FLC SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 3:

- 9:00 am Sunday School
- 10:00 am Worship Service: 3rd Sunday in Lent
- 11:00 am Conversation with the Congregation
 - 。 Chili Cook-off / Cookie Bake-off

Monday, March 4:

- Girl Scouts Meeting @ 6:15 pm Old Fellowship Hall
- Boy Scouts Meeting @ 7:00 pm Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 5:

- Bible Study @ 12:00 pm Zoom Call
- Private Event @ 7:00 pm FELLOWSHIP HALL

Wednesday, March 6:

- Quilters Meet @ 9:30 am
- Faith Bells Rehearsal @ 6:15 pm
- Holden Evening Prayer @ 7:15 pm
- Singing Sinners Rehearsal @ 7:45 pm

Thursday, March 7:

Alzheimer's Caregivers' Meeting @ 7:00 am

Friday, March 8:

Stoney Lake Confirmation and Youth Retreat

Sunday, March 10:

- 9:00 am Sunday School
- 10:00 am Worship Service: 4th Sunday in Lent
- Private Event @ 1:00 pm SANCTUARY

Let's Celebrate Easter

Saturday, March 16th 9:30am to 11:30am [Easter Egg Hunt @ 11:00am]

All are welcome to come!!

Location: Faith Lutheran Church, 4515 Dobie Rd. Okemos Contact: pwilliams@faithlutheranokemos.org or call us at 517-349-0620.

Silent Auction for Two Beautiful Quilts!

To raise money to continue their work, the quilting team here at Faith has completed two beautiful queen/king size quilts for silent auction. The quilts will be on display in the Narthex from Sunday, February 18 through Sunday, March 17, so place your bids! Bidding sheets are located next to the quilts. (If you don't need a quilt, there's also a donation can, and all amounts are welcome!)

The quilting team meets at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings in the church basement. We work for an hour, break for coffee and snacks, and then continue working until 11:30 a.m. or so. Come join in when you have time. You don't need to know how to sew, and we'd love to have more people. More hands can make more quilts, and we know there's a need.

Copyright Information

Acknowledgments: Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAfirst S000803. CCLI: Streaming License #CSPL141616 Size B. CCLI Church Copyright License #720217 Size B. Podcast/Streaming and Music printed by permission under OneLicense #A-708005. Scripture is from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. The Inclusive Bible, Copyright 2007 Future Church.