



Offerings collected during our Midweek Lenten services will go to Lutheran Senior Care Ministry. LSCM was started in 1924 to provide a Word and Worship ministry to people living in nursing homes, assisted living centers, and adult day care services in the greater Fort Wayne area. Approximately 600 residents from care facilities gather for worship led by LSCM chaplains each week. Their worship includes hymn singing, scripture readings, prayers, a sermon, and a benediction. LSCM is funded by local Lutheran congregations. We are blessed to be able to support this program which in turn blesses so many!

Offerings collected above what we pledged to Lutheran Senior Care Ministry will go to Emanuel's Endowment fund for Lutheran Higher Education.

#### **THE WORSHIP LEADERS**

Preacher: Rev. Scott A. Zeckzer

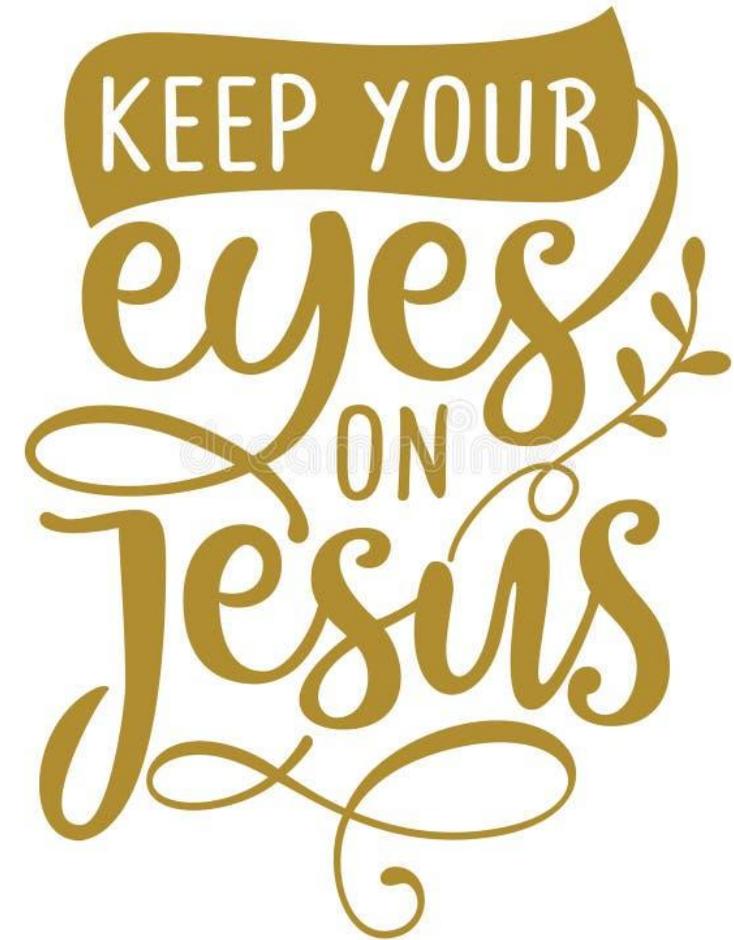
Organist: Doug Reynolds

Acolytes: Coltyn Richeson, Freya Lantrip (7:00)

Elder: Dennis Herman (10:30)

Wade Benjamin (7:00)

Ushers: Group 5 (Mike Schultz) (7:00)



***Lenten Midweek  
March 11, 2026***



# Keeping Our Eyes on Jesus

*Service of Prayer and Preaching ~ Page 260*



**WELCOME** to those visiting us this Lord's Day. It is our joy to have you worshipping with us. We invite you to come again and worship the Lord.

**AS WE GATHER** ~ Exodus chapter 14 records how all Israel walked on dry land between those towering water walls to safety on the opposite shore. That was more than courage. Pharaoh and Egypt's crack troops had courage too, but the Red Sea's cascading waters drank them down to the last man. Israel passed safely through by trusting God's promise. The Red Sea was no barrier to their faith, neither were the walls of Jericho's frowning fortress. Those walls were built to withstand the assaults of mighty armies but not the tramp and the trump and the triumphant shout of faith. Incredibly, the walls fell on that seventh day as faith became sight.

Within Jericho's walls was one who also saw by faith, Rahab the prostitute. By God's amazing grace this woman of tarnished profession and Gentile background had come to know and trust the God of Israel. Joshua chapter 2 records her faith and her actions in hiding Israel's spies who had come in advance into Jericho. By faith she risked her life and ended up saving it. While all the other inhabitants (described as "disobedient" because that's what unbelief is) were killed, Rahab and her family were spared in Jericho's fall. And by God's grace her portrait hangs in the hall of faith. Another example of keeping your eyes on Jesus.

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE BELLS

### ♪ OPENING HYMN ↓

*Glory Be to Jesus*

*LSB 433*

**Glory be to Jesus, who in bitter pains  
Poured for me the lifeblood from His sacred veins!**

**Grace and life eternal in that blood I find;  
Blest be His compassion, infinitely kind!**

**Blest through endless ages be the precious stream  
Which from endless torment did the world redeem!**

**Abel's blood for vengeance pleaded to the skies;  
But the blood of Jesus for our pardon cries.**

2

**Oft as earth exulting wafts its praise on high,  
Angel hosts rejoicing make their glad reply.**

**Lift we, then, our voices, swell the mighty flood;  
Louder still and louder praise the precious blood!**

### OPENING VERSICLES ~ Page 260 ↑

Pastor: This is the day which the Lord has made;

**People: let us rejoice and be glad in it.** (Psalm 118:24)

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**People: the name of the Lord is to be praised.** (Psalm 113:3)

Pastor: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

**People: slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.** (Joel 2:13)

Pastor: Jesus said: if any man would come after Me,

**People: let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.** (Matthew 16:24)

Pastor: Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

**People: He was bruised for our iniquities.** (Isaiah 53:5)

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**People: the name of the Lord is to be praised.** (Psalm 113:3)

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### ♪ OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE ~ Page 261-262 ↑

(Isaiah 12:2b-6)

*Refrain:* **The Lord God is my strength and my song,  
and He has become my salvation.**

**With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation.**

**And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name,  
Make known His deeds among the peoples, proclaim that His name is exalted."**

*Refrain*

**Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously;**

**Let this be made known in all the earth.**

**Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion,**

**For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

*Refrain*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Refrain**

## † READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE †

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** ↓ *The Fall of Jericho* **Joshua 6:1-20 (ESV)**

Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in. <sup>2</sup>And the Lord said to Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. <sup>3</sup>You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. <sup>4</sup>Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. <sup>5</sup>And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him.” <sup>6</sup>So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord.” <sup>7</sup>And he said to the people, “Go forward. March around the city and let the armed men pass on before the ark of the Lord.”

<sup>8</sup>And just as Joshua had commanded the people, the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Lord went forward, blowing the trumpets, with the ark of the covenant of the Lord following them. <sup>9</sup>The armed men were walking before the priests who were blowing the trumpets, and the rear guard was walking after the ark, while the trumpets blew continually. <sup>10</sup>But Joshua commanded the people, “You shall not shout or make your voice heard, neither shall any word go out of your mouth, until the day I tell you to shout. Then you shall shout.” <sup>11</sup>So he caused the ark of the Lord to circle the city, going about it once. And they came into the camp and spent the night in the camp.

<sup>12</sup>Then Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the Lord. <sup>13</sup>And the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord walked on, and they blew the trumpets continually. And the armed men were walking before them, and the rear guard was walking after the ark of the Lord, while the trumpets blew continually. <sup>14</sup>And the second day they marched around the city once, and returned into the camp. So they did for six days.

<sup>15</sup>On the seventh day they rose early, at the dawn of day, and marched around the city in the same manner seven times. It was only on that day that they marched around the city seven times. <sup>16</sup>And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, “Shout, for the Lord has given you the city. <sup>17</sup>And the city and all that is within it shall be devoted to the Lord for destruction. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall live, because she hid the messengers whom we sent. <sup>18</sup>But you, keep yourselves from the things devoted to destruction, lest when you have devoted them you take any of the devoted things and make the camp of Israel a

thing for destruction and bring trouble upon it. <sup>19</sup>But all silver and gold, and every vessel of bronze and iron, are holy to the Lord; they shall go into the treasury of the Lord.” <sup>20</sup>So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted a great shout, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they captured the city.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING** ↓**Hebrews 11:29-31; 12:1-2 (ESV)**

<sup>29</sup>By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. <sup>30</sup>By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup>By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

*Jesus, Founder and Perfector of Our Faith*

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING** ↑**Mark 8:34-38 (ESV)**

<sup>34</sup>And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? <sup>37</sup>For what can a man give in return for his soul? <sup>38</sup>For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORY ~ Page 263** ↑

(1 John 2:1; [Mark 10:33]; Psalm 32:1)

Pastor: We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

**People: He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

Pastor: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

People: **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

Pastor: We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

People: **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

† CATECHISM †

TEN COMMANDMENTS

(Exodus 20:2-17)

You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant,  
his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty.

From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life † everlasting. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13)

Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be Thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;

give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

♪ HYMN OF THE DAY ↓ *Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses* (1, 4, 6) *LSB 667*

Saints, see the cloud of witnesses surround us;

Their lives of faith encourage and astound us.

Hear how the Master praised their faith so fervent: "Well done, My Servant!"

Come, let us fix our sight on Christ who suffered,

He faced the cross, His sinless life He offered;

He scorned the shame, He died, our death enduring, our hope securing.

You, Jesus, You alone deserve all glory!

Our lives unfold, embraced within Your story;

Past, present, future – You, the same forever – You fail us never!

SERMON ↓

*Eyes on Jesus – The Red Sea and Jericho*

♪ HYMN ↓

*On My Heart Imprint Your Image*

*LSB 422*

On my heart imprint Your image, blessed Jesus, King of grace,

That life's riches, cares, and pleasures never may Your work erase;

Let the clear inscription be:

Jesus, crucified for me, is my life, my hope's foundation, and my glory and salvation!

READING FROM THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ↓

PRAYER ~ Page 265 ↑

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

### COLLECT OF THE DAY ~ Page 265 ↑

Pastor: O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### COLLECT FOR THE WORD ~ Page 265 ↑

Pastor: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER ~ Page 266 ↑ (10:30)

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

### LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER ~ Page 266 ↑ (7:00)

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

### BLESSING ~ Page 267 ↑

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

(Psalm 103:1)

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**People: Amen.**

### ♪ CLOSING HYMN ↑

*Abide with Me* (verses 1, 4, 6)

**LSB 878**

**Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.**

**The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.**

**When other helpers fail and comforts flee,**

**Help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

**Swift to its close ebbs our life's little day;**

**Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;**

**Change and decay in all around I see;**

**O Thou who changest now, abide with me.**

**Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;**

**Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.**

**Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;**

**In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.**

### POSTLUDE