

Lutheran Church of the Cross



LENTEN SERVICE OF LIGHT

FIFTH GOSPEL

March 19, 2025

6:20 pm

LENT

March 19, 2025 6:20 p.m.

Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa, Minnesota

Rev. Drew Bakken

Rev. Michelle Ruen

WELCOME TO LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS!

On Ash Wednesday we began our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of repentance. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING DIALOGUE

L: Behold, our light has come, **C: Behold, our light has come,**

L: Death is no more, **C: Death is no more,**

L: Though the sun fades from our sight. God has sent sustaining light.

L: Behold, our light has come, **C: Behold, our light has come, Shine on us.**

Aaron David Miller©2013 Augsburg Fortress: OneLicense A-704268

HYMN OF LIGHT

Aaron David Miller©2013 Augsburg Fortress: OneLicense A-704268

Voice

1. O Trin - i - ty, O bless - ed light, O Un - i - ty of sov - 'reign might: as
you our morn - ing song of praise, to you our eve - ning prayer we raise; to

5
now the fi - rey sun de - parts, shed ho - ly light with - in our hearts.
you in awe we bend the knee from age to age, e - ter - nal - ly.

11
2. To
3. All glo - ry be to God a - bove and to the Son, the prince of love, and

17
to the Spir - it, One in Three! We praise you, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

EVENING

“Psalm 139”

see page 6

1 PETER 1:18-21

Pastor: For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

Pastor: The Light shines in the darkness

C: And the darkness has not overcome it.

LENTEN HYMN

“Lamb of God”

HYMN #336

1. Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side
To walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.

Refrain

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God.

Oh, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

2. Your gift of love we crucified. We laughed and scorned him as he died.
The humble king we name a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God.
3. I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side
To be led by your staff and rod and to be called a lamb of God.

Twila Paris; CCLI Song #16787©1987 Jubilee Communications; CCLI License #818662

READING

Jeremiah 29:11

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

LENTEN MESSAGE/FIFTH GOSPEL

Pete Mogensen

HYMN/OFFERING

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

HYMN #671

(please stand as you are able, during the last verse)

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father’s glory;

Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;

Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

1. Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.
2. As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Graham Kendrick©1987 Make Way Music; OneLicense#A-704268

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered 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.**

(please be seated)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSIONS

Refrain

**Watch, O Lord, with all those awake this night, watch, O Lord, with all those who weep;
Give your angels and saints charge over all who sleep.**

1. Tend your ailing ones; **in your love, Lord;**
Rest your weary ones; **in your love, Lord;**
Bless your dying ones; **in your love, O Lord of all.**
2. Soothe your suff'ring ones; **in your love, Lord.**
Heal afflicted ones; **in your love, Lord;**
Shield your joyous ones; **in your love, O Lord of all.**
3. Hold your grieving ones; **in your love, Lord;**
Raise your fallen ones; **in your love, Lord;**
Mend your broken ones; **in your love, O Lord of all.**
4. Guard your little ones; **in your love, Lord;**
Guide your seeking ones; **in your love, Lord;**
Grant us all your peace; **in your love, O Lord of all.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *(please stand if you are able)*

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

(please be seated)

COMMUNION

COMMUNION BLESSING *(please stand as you are able)*

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.**

BENEDICTION

“O Lord, Now Let Your Servant”

HYMN #313

1. O Lord, now let your servant depart in heav’nly peace,
For I have seen the glory of your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the nations unto your holy hill,
The glory of your people, your chosen Israel.
2. Then grant that I may follow your gleam, O glorious Light,
Till earthly shadows scatter, and faith is changed to sight;
Till raptured saints shall gather upon that shining shore,
Where Christ, the blessed daystar, shall light them evermore.

Ernest E. Ryden©1925 Augsburg Fortress;OneLicense#A-704268

Pastor: Return to the Lord your God, who is gracious & merciful.

C: Thanks be to God, we will.

Pastor: Go in Peace.



If you are visiting or interested in joining Lutheran Church of the Cross, please leave your contact information on the Welcome to Worship cards and place in the offering baskets. If you have questions about LCC, please feel free to call Pastor Drew or Pastor Michelle at 218-963-2564.

Lent services will be held Wednesdays, March 12 - April 9th at 6:20 pm in the Sanctuary. Soup & Sandwich Supper served by various ministry teams will be held each Wednesday during Lent from 5:30 to 6:10 pm in the Celebration Center. Many thanks to the following members for sharing their Fifth Gospel with us during Wednesday Evening Lenten Worship:

Gloria Thomas—March 12 Pete Mogensen—March 19 Mallory Maine—March 26
Robert Brown—April 2 Wanita Holsapple—April 9

Heartland Conference April 5, 2025 It may still be winter, but plans are underway for a wonderful **SPRING GATHERING** on **Saturday, April 5, 2025**, hosted by Women of the Cross/Women of the ELCA at **Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa**. (Link: <https://g.co/kgs/NjAxvu8>) We have a great day planned that includes faith, friends, and fun educational activities. Join us to make newborn kits, learn to help God’s creation through pollination, and learn what our brothers and sisters are going through in Ukraine and how we can help. Sprinkled in will be time to catch up with one another after a long winter over coffee/good food and maybe even a gift or two! See March Cross Currents newsletter for more details.

Psalm 139

Lord, You Have Searched Me and Known Me Allen Pote

Voice

Lord, you have searched me and known me, You know ev-ry-thing I
do. When I rise-up, when I lie-down, you are with-me through and
through. Be-fore a word is on my tongue, you know what I will say, your pres-ence fol-lows me day by
day. When can I flee from your spir-it?— Where can I go to run a-way?
If I go to heav-en— or live in hell, you are there, you are there.
Lord, you have searched me and known me, You know ev-ry-thing I do. When I
rise-up, when I lie-down, you are with-me through and through. Be-fore a
word is on my tongue, you know what I will say, Your pres-ence fol-lows me day by day.
Search me, O God, and know me, Try me and know my heart. See if there be an-y
wick-ed way in me, and lead me in the way ev-er-last-ing. A - - men.

Bible Studies: Men's Breakfast at The Side Track every Thursday at 8:15 AM.

Text Study on Wednesdays @ 8:30 am in Chapel Hall. All are welcome to be a part of this ministry! If you are interested, email laurie@lccnisswa.org and you will be added to the email list to receive the texts each week.

Bible in A Year - the Devotional Bible in Chronological order with commentary by F. LeGard Smith. If you would like to gather together for encouragement and accountability, we are gathering for a discussion on each week's readings on Wednesdays from 5:00-5:45 PM in the Conservatory. Come when you can. Led by Pr. Michelle.

life renewed Lenten Devotional - StoneHouse Friday - 12:00-1:00, March 7-April 18

Please pick up the **Lenten Devotional, life renewed**, in the narthex to accompany you on your Lenten journey: Ash Wednesday - Easter. Come for a peaceful time in God's Word at the **StoneHouse Coffee shop in Baxter next to Target on Fridays** as we travel through the season of Lent leading up to Easter. Bring your devotion book. Come for a coffee and a scone. Discussion led by Pastor Michelle. Fridays, March 7-April 18, 12:00 Noon - 1:00 PM

Art and Faith Gallery will be displaying LCC's Mark Smith's Exhibit "Swept Away" in the Celebration Center from Sunday, March 9th until Wednesday, April 2nd. Be swept away by Mark's handmade whisks, brooms and sweepers which are both useful and artful.

Novel Ideas Book Club meets on Tuesday, March 25th at 10:00 am in Chapel Hall. We will be discussing *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. Beverages and morning treats are provided. Bring a friend, or come alone—you'll be glad you joined us. Led by Jean Olson.

Rummage Sale: Donations accepted Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday from 8:30 am – 4 pm. Donation site closed Mon., Fri., Sat., & Sun. Please review the list of accepted/not accepted items available in the church office/website. Important: Call Laurie at 218-963-2564 prior to dropping off items. Thank you! **Note: Spring Rummage Sale Volunteer Information meeting will be held Tuesday, April 8 at 4 pm in the Celebration Center.** All are welcome ... new and experienced volunteers.

March is Food Share Month —a donation bin is located in the narthex. Bring in non-perishable food items and toiletries. Monetary donations welcomed—be sure to put LAFS on your memo line. **On March 23 and 26 we will host PACK THE PEWS and have a NOISY OFFERING.** For this event we encourage folks to fill a grocery bag with donations and bring them to church to place in the pews as a visual reminder of our compassion and caring and what an impact we can make TOGETHER. This year we are focusing our collection efforts on seed & nut butters, canned meats, and toiletries.

Lutheran Church of the Cross - News and Notes March 19—March 26, 2025

PRAYER REQUESTS

LCC Members: Karen Holmen, John Wallin, Gary Boche, Steve Suer, Dan & Kristin Neale Family, Terri Langerud, Bonnie Anderson, Mark Boesen, Nancy Schmidt, Kathleen Warden, Keith Both, Sarah Aga, Sue Pratt

Friends & Relatives of LCC Members:

Greta Frisch (Darrell & Candy Barnack's great neice), Steve Lang (Zach Malecha's step-dad), Bill Weiss & family (Gary & JoAnn Rivers' friends), Roxie Blomstrom (Candy Barnack's sister), Jo Quam (Mary Cram's friend), Keith Shepherd (Pete Mogenson's friend), Calvin & Carl Boeder (Wanita Holsapple's brothers), Julie Fink (Deb Van Roy's cousin), Frank Wastesicoot (Al & Linda Larson's friend), Bev Emery (Arlene Brodeur's friend), Shirley Huff (Tom Gerrety's fiancé), Harry Tollas (friend of Pete Mogensen), Shelli Farone (Annie Schmitz's sister), Grant Hanson (Sara Smith's friend), Jan & Pat O'Donnell (Mavis Zachary's sister & brother-in-law), Julie LaRose (Marv & Elvera Pelkey's friend), Pat Gunderson (Don Gunderson's wife), Judy Parkin (Mary Cram's friend), Martha Sather (Dick & Judy Rickbeil's daughter), Janelle Ellis (Sandy Hins sister), Mary Larson (Lisa Hagen's mom), Mary Kay Gergen (Colleen Both's friend), Joey Halvorson (Marty Halvorson's sister), Darrell Kempfert (John & Marilyn Quist's friend), Steve Hedtke (Chris Hedtke's dad), Brian Krawiecki (Kelsey Kuhn's father), Sabrina Lewandowski (Tracy Olson's friend), Dave Watson (Mark & Kari Erickson's friend), Merv Johnson (Kerri Nordby's dad), Pastor Tom Peterson (Keith & Colleen Both's friend), Annie (friend of Dave & Marie Olness), Karly & Caitlin Deal (Colleen Both's great nieces), Ronald Anderson (Jean Larson's husband), Andy Skjod (Dennis & Cynthia Skjod's nephew), LCC members in care facilities, all veterans and active servicemen and women, and those struggling with mental health or addiction issues.

Please call the church office to make updates to the prayer list. If you or someone you know is in the hospital or would like a visit, please call the church office at 218-963-2564.



Our sincere sympathies and prayers to Bryan and Missy Trees and family and friends on the passing of Missy's dad Tom Woog.

Funeral will be held at St. Christopher's Catholic Church in Nisswa on Friday, March 21st at 11:00 am. Visitation will be held March 20th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm and also one hour prior to service.

Please keep the Trees family and friends in your prayers as they grieve.



Our sincere sympathies and prayers to Aron & Lea Anderson and family and friends on the passing of Lea's mom Betti Labs.

Funeral will be held at LCC on Saturday, March 22nd at 2:00 pm. Visitation will be held half hour prior to service.

Please keep the Anderson family and friends in your prayers as they grieve.



Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

Summer Stretch registration packets will be mailed out in the next few weeks to all 4th—7th graders. We will be joining forces with Cross Lake Lutheran again this year for service work in the mornings and FUN in the afternoons! All are welcome to join us—dates are June 11, 18 & 25, July 9, 16 & 23. Check out Kari's bulletin board to see our tentative list of activities and plan to join us.

For older youth, completed 8th gr—HS grads, plan to participate in our 2025 Mission Trip the week of July 13—at St. Gabriel's Camp in Solen, ND. Watch for more details coming soon from Liz. **NO ROUTE 56 DURING LENT!**

Lenten Mentors have started—don't forget to make contact with each other and make plans to meet five times. Mentors/mentees will meet in CC following worship tonight. See Liz with any questions.

GET READY FOR PALM SUNDAY—it's a LIFT Sunday and we will serve yogurt 'sundaes', hear the King's Kids sing in worship, have CK2, AND...make an Easter Bonnet during Coffee Fellowship at our DIY Bonnet Bar!

First Communion Workshop on April 6, 11:30am—2:30pm. Participants must be accompanied by an adult. Let Kari know if you would like to attend, and plan on helping with the Maundy Thursday worship service on April 17 at 6:20pm.

Creation Care Green Tip

Submitted by Laura Raedeke, Creation Care Team

Wetlands, Aquifers, Rivers, Lakes and Oceans: What's In Our Water?

Our oceans are crucial for preserving Earth's fragile ecosystems, but they are threatened by **overfishing, shipping, mining and mounting global pollution**. A study published in the PLOS one journal found that our oceans are filled with more than **170 trillion pieces of plastic**, weighing roughly 2.4 million metric tons and doubling about every six years. An explosion in plastics production since 2004 has resulted in the world's oceans containing more than **21,000 pieces of plastic for each person on Earth**. Twice this past year, the world came together to address this issue of common concern: **1)** nearly 200 countries agreed to a plan called "**30 by 30**" that would conserve 30% of land, sea and inland waterways by 2030 to allow wildlife to survive; and **2)** an **ocean pact** covering two-thirds of the sea's surface beyond the waters generally controlled by nations that would preserve ocean biodiversity and address pollution. These aspirational plans require ratification by each country, so encourage your elected officials to **give them a fair hearing and sign them**.

THIS WEEK AT LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
March 19—March 26, 2025

WED, 3-19: *B-days: Nolan Kuhn, Nonie Stumvoll, Olivia Trosdahl*
 8:30 Text Study
 11:00 Funeral: Arlene Brodeur; visitation at 10:00 am
 4:00 Creation Care Team Mtg
 5:00 Bible in a Year
 5:30 Lenten Supper
 6:00 King's Kids
6:20 Lenten Worship with Communion
 7:00 Lenten Mentors/HSYG
 7:00 CYFM Team Mtg
 7:00 Sr. Choir Rehearsal

THUR, 3-20: *B-days: Cadence Anderson, Giina Clarine, Dawn Maine, Peter Nistler*
 8:15 Men's Breakfast
 10:00 Toning with a Purpose
 7:00 A.A.

FRI, 3-21: *B-days: Drew Bakken, Mark Hallan, Sandy Hins, Roger Johnson, Pete Mogensen, Jerry Raedeke, Carrie Taylor, Randy Thomson, Louise Warden*
CHURCH OFFICES CLOSE AT NOON
 12:00 Stonehouse Friday in Baxter

SAT, 3-22: *B-days: Brad Carlson*
 2:00 Funeral: Betti Labs; visitation 1:30 pm

SUN, 3-23: *B-days:*
3rd SUNDAY IN LENT/PACK THE PEWS & NOISY OFFERING
9:00 Worship w/ Communion & Online
 10:00 Coffee Fellowship
 10:00 Bible Confidence
10:30 Worship w/ Communion

MON, 3-24: *B-days: Gail Anderson, Sharon Endicott*
 8:30 Staff Meeting & Prayers
 10:00 Women's Bible Study: Sermon on the Mount
 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group

TUES, 3-25: *B-days: Kevin Kosobud, Val Lueck, Judy Swenson*
 9:00 Computer Lab
 10:00 Novel Ideas Book Club

WED, 3-26: *B-days: Karen Clarine, Sharon Holland, Linda Larson*
 8:30 Text Study
 4:00 Gather Bible Study
 5:00 Bible in a Year
 5:30 Lenten Supper
 6:00 King's Kids
6:20 Lenten Worship with Communion
 7:00 Lenten Mentors/HSYG
 7:00 Sr. Choir Rehearsal

**Lutheran Church
of the Cross
Daily Bible Reading
from Lectionary C**

Thurs., Mar 20, 2025
Daniel 3:19-30
Revelation 2:8-11
Psalm 63:1-8

Friday, Mar 21, 2025
Daniel 12:1-4
Revelation 3:1-6
Psalm 63:1-8

Sat., Mar 22, 2025
Isaiah 5:1-7
Luke 6:43-45
Psalm 63:1-8

Mon., Mar 24, 2025
Jeremiah 11:1-17
Romans 2:1-11
Psalm 39

Tues., Mar 25, 2025
Ezekiel 17:1-10
Romans 2:12-16
Psalm 39

Wed., Mar 26, 2025
Numbers 13:17-27
Luke 13:18-21
Psalm 39

Please take your bulletin home with you to use throughout the week as a reminder of upcoming events.



EASTER GARDEN

Please fill out the order form below to donate to the Easter Garden to help decorate our church and to memorialize or honor loved ones during this season. Your gifts will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletins. The cost is \$15.00 per tribute. You may drop your form and payment in the offering plate or bring it to the church office by **April 16, 2025**. Please write "Easter Garden" on the check memo line.

Thank you!

Please print legibly.

Name _____

_____ # plants donated at \$15 = ___ \$ _____

_____ in memory of _____

_____ in honor of _____

Thanks to our Worship Assistants!

Musicians	Cathy Taylor, Evan Kuhn
Ushers	Tess & Lola Chase
Altar Guild	Darrell Paske, Kari Erickson, Lyn Underdahl
Communion Asst.	Wanita Holsapple, Nancy Swenson
Tech Support	Dick Schmidt, Dan Davidson
Lenten Meal Ministry	Diane Dalzell, George Olson, Judy Rickbeil Worship & Music Ministry Team



To give with your mobile device, scan the QR code to the left. Online giving available at www.lccnisswa.org.

****Assistive Listening Devices are available in the Narthex. If you choose to use one, please leave it on the counter when you exit so it can be sanitized for the next use.**

DIRECTORY

Church of the Cross Office
218.963.2564
Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Friday 8:30—noon
Email: lcc@lccnisswa.org
Web Site: lccnisswa.org

Pastor

Rev. Drew Bakken

Children, Youth & Family Ministry

Kari Erickson

Youth Director

Liz Sawdey

Custodian

Todd Whipple

Office Manager

Laurie Hemish

Financial Secretary

Karen Wiele

ELCA Global Missionary

Pr. Bradn Buerkle

Pastor

Rev. Michelle Ruen

Volunteer Coordinator

Tracy Olson

Music Ministry/Organist

Cathy Taylor

Organist

Laura Raedeke

Senior Choir Director

Mike Smith

Bell Choir Director

Cheryl Karlgaard

King's Kids Director

Carol Smith

Lutheran Church of the Cross 5064 Co. Rd. 13, PO Box 29 Nisswa, MN
218-963-2564 www.lccnisswa.org lcc@lccnisswa.org