

10:00 WORSHIP
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 22, 2026

Prelude
Announcements
Please Stand

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Opening Hymn

“Glory Be to Jesus”

LBW 95

Greeting and Response—Psalm 130

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

C: And also with you.

P: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!

C: O Lord, hear my voice!

P: Let your ears be attentive

C: to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

P: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

C: O Lord, who could stand?

P: But with you there is forgiveness,

C: that you may be feared.

P: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

C: and in his word I hope;

P: my soul waits for the Lord

C: more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

P: O Israel, hope in the Lord!

C: For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.

P: And he will redeem Israel

C: from all his iniquities.

Prayer of the Day: *“Almighty God, our redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope in the world. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.” Amen*

Praise Song

“Change My Heart, Oh God”

BOB 33

Children’s Message

“Feed My Lambs” chorus only

BOB 55

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord.” So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord.”

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

2026 LWLC Council Contacts

President: Jackie Olson

Vice President: David Kruger

Secretary: Julie Berger

Treasurer/Finance: Shannon Vietmeier

Youth & Education: Laurie Maas

Sharon Hyde

Worship & Evangelism: Deb Buttke

David Kruger

Property Management: Tim DeJong

Kyle Schwandt

Newsletter: Nancy Kruger

Email: livingword@itcmilbank.com

Website: livingwordmilbank.com

Living Word Lutheran Women Officers

Coordinator: Sandy Christensen

Vice-Coordinator: Teri Hjelle

Secretary: Lori Kasuske

Treasurer: Annette Redepenning

Mission Action: Gloria Cooley

Mission Growth: Linda Wagner

Mission Community: Marcia Heinje

Advisor: Brenda Seehafer

Pastor: Melanie Reiners

Living Word's Calendar

SUNDAY (today)	8:45	Sunday School/1st Communion Class
	9:00	Coffee Fellowship
	9:00	April Servant Team Meets
	10:00	Worship
TUESDAY (03/24)	9:00	Quilting
WEDNESDAY (3/25)		Newsletter Items Due
	3:30	Confirmation
	3:30	Dynamic Disciples
	5:30	Lenten Meal (ham)
	6:30	Lenten Worship
THURSDAY (3/26)	9:00	Community Coffee Fellowship
SUNDAY (3/29)	8:45	Sunday School/1st Communion Class
	9:00	Coffee Fellowship
	10:00	Worship

Announcements

Prayers for Shirley Kindt, Jenna Johnson, Hailey Heinje, Keaton Johnson, Bob Hornstein, Myles Maas, Jon Liebe, Bob Johnson, Heather Zimny, Bruce Larson, and Heather Dorsey.

Meals on Wheels drivers are needed for the month of April. Signup sheets are in the fellowship hall. Please contact the church office with any questions you may have regarding the delivery of meals.

Midweek Lenten Offerings will go to the Impact the World fund.

Living Word Warriors are selling the annual merchant tickets, luminary bags, and quilt/cash tickets. If you are interested, contact a team member.

"What About Me?" is a new Bible study coming soon. More information and a signup sheet are in the fellowship hall.

Do you have any suggestions or are you willing to review the **Church Website**? Please contact the church office.

Items for Layette Kits are being collected in March by the women of the church. Needed items are listed on the baskets in the fellowship hall.

New Member Sunday is approaching. If you are interested in becoming a member of Living Word, please contact Pastor Melanie or the church office.

Dynamic Disciples are looking for helpers on March 25. Sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall if you are interested.



Mark Your Calendars

- April 9** 4:00-5:30 p.m. **Grief Share (13 weeks)** led by Jody Kuper
- April 15** 1:00 p.m. **Romans Bible Study** continues
5:30 **MCF Children's Choir** with a light meal to follow
- April 18** **Augustana District's 1st Men's Gathering**
Christ the King Lutheran, Hutchinson, MN.
"Prodigal: The Road Home"
Registration Deadline: April 4, 2026
(Brochures are available on the table in the back)
- April 25** **Augustana District's Annual Convention**
Mt. Carmel, Alexandria, MN
Registration Deadline: Before Holy Week
- May 31-June 4** **VBS Rainforest Falls**



Radio Broadcast

Prayerfully consider sponsoring a **Radio Broadcast** of our church service on KMSD Sunday mornings at 8:00 AM. The cost is \$65. Signup sheets for the radio broadcast and/or for providing flowers on the altar are on the table in the fellowship hall.

Noisy Change

Noisy Change for the month of March is designated to go to the Alpha Center. This nonprofit based in Sioux Falls provides a wide range of services to women and men involved in an unexpected pregnancy. The goal is to provide positive alternatives with practical support. The total collected to date is \$364.23.



Servant Team

April Servant Team. Servant Teams help usher, greet, furnish and/or serve treats for coffee fellowship, help with weddings if scheduled during the month, and help and/or furnish for funerals that may occur during the month. If every member who is able volunteers for several areas of service during their month, the work of the church will be easily accomplished throughout the year. Your help is greatly appreciated. Please prayerfully consider being a co-chairman for your Servant Team.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10)

****Co-chairs**

Berdan, Daniel & Rachel
Bien, Lance & Sheila
Bilben, Shane & Megan
Brown, Gerald & Sharon
Dahle, Collis & Brenda
DeJong, Jason
****DeJong, Tim & Sue**
Gullickson, Darrel & Cheryl
****Hallquist, Karen**
Hansen, Roger & Stephanie
Herreid, Bernice

Kanthak, Barbara
Keeton, Susan
Kiefer, Karen
Kinder, Robert & Mary
Meister, Aaron & Teresa
O'Connor, Donald & Terry
Quinn, Kristin
Sandvig, Brian & Janel
Van Peurse, Kendall & Nanci
Weber, Kyle & Gretchen

Welcome Visitors

Welcome visitors. Please sign our guest book located in the fellowship hall. Thank you for worshiping with us at Living Word Lutheran Church. We hope your worship experience is a blessing. If you live in the area and wish to know more about Living Word and the salvation found in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, please pick up a tote that contains a brochure with more information. Thanks for visiting Living Word, and come back often.

Shut-ins

Living Word Lutheran Church shut-ins would welcome a visit or phone call.

St. William's Care Center: Larry Brook, Lil Colberg, Betty Kloster, and Rita Raffety

Avantara: Lane Lindquist

Fairway View-Granite View: Bob Hornstein

Gospel: John 11:1-53

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept.

So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.