



1st Sunday in Lent
February 18, 2024

SERVICE THEME:
Conquerors through Christ



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February 18, 2024 – St. Andrew Lutheran Church

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WELCOME — We are so glad that you have joined us for this worship service! Please let us know if there is any way we can be of service to you at this time.

OUR MISSION — The mission of St. Andrew Lutheran Church is to guide people to know Jesus as their Savior, to grow in their faith, and to show Jesus to others.

OUR BELIEF — We believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and the only source of all Christian doctrine and teaching. We believe that the only true God is the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that we are saved not by anything we do, but only through faith in Jesus Christ, who gave his life for our sins. We will be happy to tell you more about what we believe!

OUR HISTORY — St. Andrew Lutheran Church was established in 1888 and is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), a confessional Lutheran church body with over 1,200 congregations in North America and with more than 30 sister church bodies worldwide.

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INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

The call to sinners in Lent is a serious call to struggle. Lent is not about trivial outward practices, like temporarily giving up something that we can easily go without anyway. Lent is about something far more difficult: repentance. Let's not replace the trivial externals with something even worse: assurances that we are so forgiven that we need not bother anymore with repentance.



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing In your
 2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion Fas - ci -
 3 If the world my heart en - tic - es With the
 4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me By your
 5 O my God, my Rock and Tow - er, Grant that



ho - ly wounds I find, Ev - 'ry hour that
 nate my sin - ful mind, Let me think a -
 broad and eas - y road, With se - duc - tive,
 wounds, Lord, is made whole; When I'm weak, your
 in your death I trust, Know - ing death has



I am feel - ing Pains of bod - y and of mind.
 bout your pas - sion, And new cour - age I shall find.
 sin - ful vic - es, Let me think a - bout the load
 cross re - vives me, Grant - ing new life to my soul.
 lost his pow - er Since you crushed him in the dust.



Should some e - vil thought with - in Tempt my treach - 'rous
 Or should Sa - tan press me hard, Let me then be
 You were will - ing to en - dure; Then I'll flee all
 Yes, your com - fort ren - ders sweet Ev - 'ry bit - ter
 Sav - ior, let your ag - o - ny Ev - er help and



heart to sin, Show the per - il, and from sin - ning
 on my guard, Say - ing, "Christ for me was wound - ed,"
 thoughts im - pure, Mas - ter - ing each wild temp - ta - tion,
 cup I meet; For your all - a - ton - ing pas - sion,
 com - fort me; When I die be my pro - tec - tion,



Keep me from its first be - gin - ning.
 That the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.
 Calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.
 Has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.
 Light and life and res - ur - rec - tion.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PASSION HISTORY READING, PART 1: Mark 14:1-26 (EHV)

The Plot to Kill Jesus

It was two days before the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the experts in the law were looking for some deceptive way to arrest Jesus and kill him. ²“Certainly not during the Festival,” they said, “or there will be a riot among the people.”

Mary Anoints Jesus

³While Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made from pure nard. She broke the alabaster jar and poured it over his head. ⁴But there were some who were indignant

and said to one another, “Why has this perfume been wasted?
⁵Certainly this perfume could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii¹ and given to the poor!” And they began to scold her.

⁶But Jesus said, “Leave her alone. Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing for me. ⁷In fact, you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you are not always going to have me. ⁸She did what she could. She anointed my body beforehand for burial. ⁹Amen² I tell you: Wherever the gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman did will also be told in memory of her.”

Judas Plans to Betray Jesus

¹⁰Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray Jesus to them. ¹¹When they heard this, they were glad and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

Jesus Celebrates the Passover

¹²On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples asked him, “Where do you want us to go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?” ¹³He sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the city, and there a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴Wherever he enters, tell the owner of the house that the Teacher says, ‘Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ ¹⁵He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.”

¹⁶His disciples left and went into the city and found things just as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷When it was evening, he arrived with the Twelve.

One Will Betray Jesus

¹⁸While they were reclining and eating, Jesus said, “Amen I tell you: One of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.”

¹⁹They began to be sorrowful and said to him one by one, “Surely not I?”

²⁰He said to them, “It is one of the Twelve, one who is dipping bread with me in the dish. ²¹Indeed, the Son of Man is going to go just as it has

¹⁵ A *denarius* was worth about one day’s wage.

² The inspired writer simply transliterated the Hebrew word that Jesus spoke, instead of using a Greek term. This translation does the same in English. The basic meaning is / solemnly tell you the truth.

been written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.”

The Lord’s Supper

²²While they were eating, Jesus took bread. When he had blessed it, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “Take it.³ This is my body.”

²³Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them. They all drank from it. ²⁴He said to them, “This is my blood of the new testament,⁴ which is poured out for many. ²⁵Amen I tell you: I will certainly not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God.” ²⁶After they sang a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

PSALM OF THE DAY – Psalm 3 – CWS p. 39 (text NIV84)

Refrain



From the Lord comes de - liv - er - ance,



there - fore we will not fear.

Psalm Tone



Refrain

O LORD, how many are my foes!
How many rise up against me!
Many are saying of me,
“God will not deliver him.”

But you are a shield around me, O LORD;

³22 A few witnesses to the text read *Take, eat.*

⁴24 As in *last will and testament*. See Galatians 3:15.

you bestow glory on me and lift up my head.
To the LORD I cry aloud,
and he answers me from his holy hill.

Refrain

I lie down and sleep;
I wake again, because the LORD sustains me.
I will not fear the tens of thousands
drawn up against me on ev'ry side.

Arise, O LORD!
Deliver me, O my God!
From the LORD comes deliverance.
May your blessing be on your people.

**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

Music: © 2005 Dale Witte.

FIRST READING – Genesis 22:1-18 (EHV)

Some time later God tested Abraham. He called to him, “Abraham!”
Abraham answered, “I am here.”

²God said, “Now take your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac,
and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt offering on one
of the mountains there, the one to which I direct you.”

³Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took
two of his young men with him, along with Isaac his son. Abraham split
the wood for the burnt offering. Then he set out to go to the place that
God had told him about. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw
the place in the distance.

⁵Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey. The
boy and I will go on over there. We will worship, and then we will come
back to you.” ⁶Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and
loaded it on Isaac his son. He took the firepot and the knife in his hand.
The two of them went on together.

⁷Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, “My father?”

He said, “I am here, my son.”

He said, “Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”

⁸Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So the two of them went on together. ⁹They came to the place that God had told him about. Abraham built the altar there. He arranged the wood, tied up Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.

¹¹The Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, “Abraham, Abraham!”

Abraham said, “I am here.”

¹²He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy. Do not do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.”

¹³Abraham looked around and saw that behind him there was a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴Abraham called the name of that place “The LORD Will Provide.”^a So it is said to this day, “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.”

¹⁵The Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, “I have sworn by myself, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will bless you greatly, and I will multiply your descendants greatly, like the stars of the sky and like the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the city gates of their enemies. ¹⁸In your seed^b all the nations of the earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

SECOND READING – Romans 8:31-39 (EHV)

³¹What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?

^a Or *Yahweh Jireh* or *Yahweh Who Sees*

^b The literal rendering *seed* is retained here to indicate the continuity of the Messianic promise from Eve, through Abraham and David, to Christ, who was the promised Seed of the Woman.

³³Who will bring an accusation against God’s elect? God is the one who justifies! ³⁴Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus,^b who died and, more than that, was raised to life, is the one who is at God’s right hand and who is also interceding for us! ³⁵What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶Just as it is written:

For your sake we are being put to death all day long.

We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.^c

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors^d through him who loved us.

³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither things present nor things to come, nor powerful forces, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL – Mark 1:12-15 (EHV)

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

¹²The Spirit immediately sent Jesus out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels were serving him.

¹⁴After John was put in prison, Jesus went to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom^c of God. ¹⁵“The time is fulfilled,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near! Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

After the reading of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

^b Some witnesses to the text omit *Jesus*.

^c Psalm 44:22

^d Or *we are completely victorious*

^c A few witnesses to the text omit *of the kingdom*.

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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

**HYMN OF THE DAY – *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* – CW93 #200 –
printed on the following page**

200

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A trust - y shield
 2 With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our loss
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, All ea - ger to
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main, Nor an - y thanks



and weap - on; He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
 ef - fect - ed. But for us fights the val - iant one
 de - vour us, We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
 have for it; He's by our side up - on the plain



That has us now o'er - tak - en. The old
 Whom God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask,
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us. This world's
 With his good gifts and Spir - it. And do



e - vil foe Now means dead - ly woe;
 "Who is this?" Je - sus Christ it is,
 prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
 what they will— Hate, steal, hurt, or kill—



Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
 The al - might - y Lord. And there's no oth - er God;
 He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done!
 Though all may be gone, Our vic - to - ry is won;



On earth is not his e - qual.
 He holds the field for - ev - er.
 One lit - tle word can fell him.
 The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite.

Tune: EIN FESTE BURG (87 87 55 56 7) Martin Luther, 1483–1546.

SERMON – Romans 8:31-39 – Conquerors through Christ

After the sermon, the congregation sings CW93 #419, st. 1-5:

1 If God him - self be for me, I may a
 2 This I be - lieve, yea rath - er, Of this I
 3 I build on this foun - da - tion: That Je - sus
 4 He can - celed my of - fen - ses, De - liv - ered
 5 No sin can now con - demn me Or set my
 host de - fy; For when I pray, be - fore
 make my boast, That God is my dear Fa -
 and his blood, A - lone are my sal - va -
 me from death; He is the Lord who clean -
 hope a - side. Now hell no more can claim
 me My foes, con - found - ed, fly. If Christ,
 ther, My friend who loves me most, And that,
 tion, My true, e - ter - nal good. With - out
 ses, My soul from sin through faith. In him
 me; Its fu - ry I de - ride. No sen -
 my head and mas - ter, Be - friend me from
 what - e'er be - tide me, My Sav - ior is
 him all that pleas - es Is val - ue - less
 I can be cheer - ful, Cou - ra - geous on
 tence now re - proves me; No guilt de - stroys
 a - bove, What foe or what dis - as -
 at hand Through storm - y seas to guide
 on earth; The gifts I have from Je -
 my way; In him I am not fear -
 my peace, For Christ, my Sav - ior, loves
 ter Can drive me from his love?
 me And bring me safe to land.
 sus A - lone have price - less worth.
 ful Of God's great Judg - ment Day.
 me And shields me with his grace.

OFFERING

Members of St. Andrew Lutheran Church use this time to respond to God's goodness with gifts of thanks and love. Our giving is guided by God's Word: "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits from your entire harvest" (Proverbs 3:9); "Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver. God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will overflow in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:7-8, EHV).

Feel free also to make use of online giving options: 1) via our website: go to <http://standrewchicago.org/>, then click on the "Giving" tab; or just click on [this link](#); or scan this QR code with your mobile device; or 2) via the Vanco Mobile app: use our invite code: GEVWA7, or search for our church name and address (links to the app & more info on p. 24).



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

C: **We confess that without your love we are lost.**

M: Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

C: **Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.**

M: Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

C: **By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.**

M: Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

C: **Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.**

M: Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

C: Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow, including the following special prayer:

for our sister church body in Mexico:

Holy Spirit, graciously protect and encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ who belong to Iglesia Evangelica Luterana Confesional, our sister church body in Mexico. There are over 125 million people in Mexico but only a few hundred members of this church. Yet you are working through them using technology like the *Academia Cristo* app. Bless the 60+ active students who are studying your saving Word through this app. We pray many more will download and use it. Continue to raise up a new generation of leaders and bless their efforts as they continue to declare the praises of him who has called them out of darkness into your wonderful light. Amen.

for the spread of the gospel in China:

Precious Jesus, our God and our Savior, you want all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth about your grace. Flood the nation of China with the good news that you are the only mediator between your Father and humankind. By the power of your gospel, bring hundreds of millions there to praise you for giving yourself as their eternal ransom. Amen.

Additional special prayers may be included.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy Supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this Supper, we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

Following the teaching of the Bible (1 Corinthians 10:17; 11:27-29; etc.), our church practices "close communion." We ask that only those who are communicant members of this church or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) partake of the sacrament today. If you are a visitor who is not a member of one of our sister churches, our pastor would be happy to speak with you about receiving the Lord's Supper with us in the future. Please mention it to him after the service.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
 O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

At the direction of the usher, communicant members of St. Andrew and our sister churches in the WELS and ELS may come forward down the center aisle, then wait until directed by an usher to go to the communion rail. Communicants may kneel or stay standing. Please hold out your hand to receive the bread. If you wish to partake of the common cup, do not take an individual cup when the assistant comes by with the tray. Those who need to receive grape juice instead of wine may take the purple individual cups in the center of the tray. The minister and assistant will use hand sanitizer before and/or wear sterile gloves during communion setup and distribution. Gluten-free wafers are available; please speak with the pastor or an usher to receive one.

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

PRAYER and BLESSING

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN – *If God Himself Be for Me* – CW93 #419, stanzas 6-7 –
printed on the following page

6 No danger, thirst, or hunger,
 No pain or poverty,
 No earthly tyrant's anger
 Shall ever vanquish me.
 Though earth should break assunder,
 You are my Savior true;
 No fire or sword or thunder
 Shall sever me from you.

7 My heart for joy is springing
 And can no more be sad.
 'Tis full of joy and singing,
 Sees only sunshine glad.
 The sun that cheers my spirit
 Is Jesus Christ, my King;
 The heav'n I shall inherit
 Makes me rejoice and sing.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr.; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, st. 1-3, 6-7, alt.; unknown, st. 4-5, alt.
 Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN (76 76 D) Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635, alt.

ST. ANDREW'S MINISTRY THIS WEEK
February 18-25, 2024

Today	9:30 AM	Worship Service w. Lord's Supper
	10:45 AM	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
Monday	7:00 PM	中文聚会 (Chinese Ministry)
Tuesday	6:30-8:00 PM	Youth Confirmation Class
Sunday (2/25)	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:45 AM	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study

The paraments are purple for the season of Lent. Purple, like black, is a penitential color. Purple dye was also very expensive in the ancient world and was therefore worn mostly by royalty; the Bible records that, as the Roman soldiers mocked and tortured Jesus on Good Friday, they put a purple robe on him to ridicule him and belittle the claim that he was a king. Therefore, purple is used during this penitential season of Lent as a vivid reminder of the contempt and scorn Jesus endured, and the sacrifice he made for our eternal salvation.

WELCOME, GUESTS! – We are glad to have you worship with us today! Please sign the guest book in the center church entryway so that we have a record of your visit. Our pastor, Adam Gawel, would be happy to speak with you if you would like; please contact him (see page 2 for contact information). Please join us for worship or Bible study again!

LENT DEVOTIONS & ARTICLES FROM *FORWARD IN CHRIST*

Forward in Christ, the monthly magazine of our church body, has a number of Lent-related articles and devotions in written, audio, and video formats available on its website: <https://forwardinchrist.net/lent/>. May God bless your meditation on his Word this Lenten season!

FUNDRAISER FOR BIBLES FOR THE NATIVE AMERICAN APACHE MISSION

The Lutheran Women’s Missionary Society (LWMS) will be raising funds for Native American Missions, specifically the Apache mission in Arizona served by WELS Apache pastor Kirk Massey, for its spring rally Befriend-a-Mission (BAM) offering. The BAM offering will raise funds for Bibles which will cost \$5/ Bible. What we at St. Andrew’s have chosen to do is to put hearts with candy inside on a Christmas tree; to make your contribution, simply put a \$5 bill for each Bible you would like to contribute... take the candy out of the heart and put the \$5 bill into it. If you prefer to write a check, please make your check out to “LWMS” and in the memo line write “Native American Missions.” The tree is on the back table in church.

BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR CHICAGO – Mar. 4 (Mon.), 6pm, in front of church

Our friends at the McKinley Park News (<https://mckinleypark.news/>) are planning a “birthday party” for Chicago on March 4 (Mon.) at 6:00pm at the center-of-the-city sign out in front of our church building. Plans are still developing, but a number of community organizations have been invited. If you’re able to attend, it would be great to have some of our members there to interact with our other members of our community on St. Andrew’s behalf!

UPCOMING SACRED MUSIC CONCERTS

- The **College Choir of Martin Luther College** in New Ulm, MN (our church-body’s college of ministry [for pastors, teachers, and staff ministers]), will be presenting a concert of sacred music at Trinity Lutheran Church in Crete, IL, on March 1 (Fri.) at 7:00pm.

- The **Prep Singers, the concert choir of Luther Preparatory School** in Watertown, WI (one of our church-body's preparatory high schools, which provides a general college-prep education and encourages students to consider studying for ministry at Martin Luther College), will be presenting a concert of sacred music at St. John Lutheran Church in Libertyville, IL, on March 16 (Sat.) at 7:00pm.
- **Hymns for Him concert and spaghetti dinner** – Some of the creators of the popular “Hymns for Him” (under “Camp Phillip” on Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/artist/5pEY9I72MNib2XvsvE3ZXU>) will be presenting a concert at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Aurora, IL, on March 24 (Sun.) at 4:00pm. A spaghetti dinner will be held afterward for \$5 per person, with opportunity for a free-will offering to benefit music development at Camp Phillip and to offset costs for those attending the WELS Youth Rally in Colorado in June. Youth who plan to attend the youth rally with Resurrection's group are welcome to help with serving the dinner and share in the funds raised to help defray the cost of their trip to the youth rally. If you plan to attend the dinner (either as just an attendee or a youth helper), please let Pastor Gawel know by March 21.
- Music of the Baroque is presenting **Johann Sebastian Bach's St. John Passion** on March 11 (Mon.) at 7:30pm at the Harris Theater (205 E. Randolph St., Chicago), and offering our members a 20% discount on tickets. “An intimate and deeply human account of Christ's betrayal, suffering, and death, Bach's *Passion According to St. John* sets Scripture and poetry in emotionally moving, expressively beautiful music. Dame Jane Glover leads the chorus, orchestra, and a roster of internationally renowned soloists in one of the greatest sacred works of all time.” **Use code SJP20 at checkout to receive 20% off all available tickets at the Harris Theater.** Tickets and concert information: baroque.org/stjohn .

Leadership Workshop | St. Matthew's, Niles, IL | Saturday, Feb. 24th

Christian leadership is important, but what does it look like at church, home, and in society? St. Matthew's in Niles is hosting a workshop to study what the Bible says about these things. Pastor Paul Prange, a veteran leader in WELS, will lead a study of the book of Titus as we learn about Christian leadership. This workshop is from 9:00am-2:30pm on Saturday, February 24th. Lunch is provided. You may register

online at smniles.org/leadership-workshop or when you arrive. This workshop costs \$25 to cover lunch and materials.

Reviving Relationships Through Biblical Hospitality webinar recording
WELS Women’s Ministry hosted a webinar on *Reviving Relationships Through Biblical Hospitality* on Thursday, January 18, 2024. Did you miss it?! Want to learn about using hospitality to reconnect with others at your church and also as an evangelism tool? This webinar will inspire you to rethink your relationships and get you thinking about your own church culture with new eyes. Panelists will talk about the importance of biblical hospitality in your home, at church, and even in public. Learn more and watch here: <https://wels.net/reviving-relationships-through-biblical-hospitality-webinar/> .

2024 WELS International Youth Rally – June 25-28, Fort Collins, CO

It’s time to start planning for the 2024 WELS International Youth Rally, which will be held June 25-28, 2024, at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO. Teens from across the country will gather at the foot of the Rocky Mountains to explore the many messages God delivers “From the Mountaintops” of Scripture. Find out more at www.welsyouthrally.net . Our teens (currently in grades 8-12) have been invited to join up with our sister church, Resurrection, in Aurora, IL, that has a group of teens and chaperones going. Please speak to Pastor Gawel or Sherry for more info.

WELS & ELS Singles Retreat: Living in Our Season

April 26-28, Camp Shiloh Lutheran Retreat Center, Pittsburg, Texas

We invite all single adult members of the WELS and ELS to join us this spring on April 26-28 for the 2024 WELS/ELS Singles Retreat at Camp Shiloh in Pittsburg, Texas, for a weekend of fun and fellowship. Register by April 8, 2024 at wels-els-singles.com/2024-texas-retreat . If you have single friends who are members of the WELS or ELS and would like to receive information about group events, they can sign up at wels-els-singles.com/subscribe .

SUNDAY SCHOOL – 10:45 / after worship

Sunday school is held after the worship service, either in the church basement or in the ministry center next-door to church. Sunday school is open to children from age 3 through 8th grade. (High-schoolers are welcome to join adult Bible study in church during the same time.) All are welcome!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: “10 Lies About God” – Sundays after worship

On Sundays in adult Bible study, we’re going through a series entitled "10 Lies about God," in which we use the Bible to evaluate some popular statements about God and religion that sound good but that actually contain serious errors. Feel free to join us whenever you’re able. All are welcome!

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS – Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00pm

Youth confirmation class is open to youth in grades 5 through 8, and to high-schoolers who have not yet been confirmed. If you have a potential student in mind, please speak with Pastor Gawel or St. Andrew’s elder for Christian education, George Lawson. All are welcome! The class is currently held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:00, but we can adjust the class day or time if needed, to accommodate the schedules of everyone who is interested.

MONDAY EVENING CHINESE MINISTRY

On Monday evenings at 7:00pm in the ministry center (the house next-door to church), we have Chinese ministry, which includes elements of a worship service, Bible study, and prayer. New friends are always welcome to join! Please invite any Chinese friends or neighbors. You may share with them the following invitation:

每周一晚上 7:00, 圣安得烈基督教路德宗教会成人中文圣经学习。欢迎您参加! 我们在教会的事工中心(教堂隔壁的房子)现场聚会; 地址是 3650 S. Honore St., Chicago。如果你想了解更多, 请联系高乐仁牧师: 手机: 773-217-8132。欢迎!

PASTORAL COUNSELING AND PRIVATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor Gawel is available for confidential pastoral counseling and for private confession and absolution. Please feel free to make an appointment to see him if you ever wish to do so. (You may call the church office, or call or text Pastor Gawel on his cell phone: 773-217-8132.)

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS

This class is open to anyone who is interested in learning more – or who would like a review – about what the Bible teaches and what Lutheran Christians believe. At the conclusion of the class, those who are in agreement in faith are invited to join our church, though this is not a

requirement for taking the class. Pastor Gawel is able to teach the class in English and Mandarin Chinese, and we have class materials in Spanish available as well. If you or someone you know are interested in starting Bible information class, please contact Pastor Gawel.

ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION

There are a number of ways to give to St. Andrew online: 1) via our website: go to <http://standrewchicago.org/>, then click on the “Giving” tab; or just click on [this link](#); or scan this QR code with your mobile device; or 2) via the Vanco Mobile app: use our church’s invite code: GEVWA7, or search for our church name and address. You can download the Vanco Mobile app from the [Apple App Store](#) for iOS devices or the [Google Play Store](#) for Android devices. Please contact St. Andrew’s elder for stewardship, Sam DeLaurentis del Laurentis.sam@gmail.com with any questions.



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Budgeted need each month	Total offerings received in January
\$14,517.92	\$5,892.08

Offerings received last week (through 2/13): \$2,013.98
 (budgeted need each week: \$3,350.29)

Total offerings received so far this month (thru 2/13): \$3,935.46

Ministry Attendance Last Week

In-church worship attendance last Sunday: 46 (32 adults, 14 children)

Sunday service live-stream peak concurrent viewing devices: 7

Ash Wednesday in-church worship attendance: 29

Ash Wednesday live-stream peak concurrent viewing devices: 11

Monday Chinese ministry: 5

Adult Bible study attendance: 10 (Wed.: 5; Thu.: 3; Fri.: 2)

Sunday School: 6

Youth Confirmation Class: 5