

Humble yourselves before the Lord,  
and he will lift you up.

- James 4:10 (NIV)

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
**March 30, 2025**

**SERVICE THEME:**  
**Lent Resolves These Conflicts**



# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

## March 30, 2025 – St. Andrew Lutheran Church

### SERVICE THEME: Lent Resolves These Conflicts

**WELCOME** — We're so glad that you've joined us for this worship service! Please let us know if you need any assistance while you're here.

**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.

**Church Office:** 3650 S. Honore St., Chicago, IL 60609 (next door to church)

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### INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

*God's way of resolving conflict deals with our hearts before him. Our conflict with God is often behind our conflict with others. If we first get things right with God through faith in Jesus, then he will show us the path of wisdom and mercy.*

## 116

## In the Hour of Trial



1 In the hour of tri - al, Je - sus, plead for me  
 2 With for - bid - den plea - sures Should this vain world charm  
 3 Should your mer - cy send me Sor - row, toil, and woe,  
 4 When my life is end - ing, Though in grief or pain,



Lest by base de - ni - al I un - wor - thy be.  
 Or its tempt - ing trea - sures Spread to work me harm,  
 Or should pain at - tend me On my path be - low,  
 When my bod - y chang - es Back to dust a - gain,



When you see me wa - ver, With a look re - call,  
 Bring to my re - mem - brance Sad Geth - sem - a - ne  
 Grant that I may nev - er Fail your cross to view;  
 On your truth re - ly - ing, Through that mor - tal strife,



Nor for fear or fa - vor Ev - er let me fall.  
 Or, in dark - er sem - blance, Cross-crowned Cal - va - ry.  
 Grant that I may ev - er Cast my care on you.  
 Je - sus, take me, dy - ing, To e - ter - nal life.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: ST. MARY MAGDALENE (65 65 D) John B. Dykes, 1823–76.

### INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION 召唤，认罪及赦罪

**M:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C:** Amen.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY** 本日共祷文

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; 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 4: Luke 23:1-25 (EHV)** 耶稣受难的记载，第四部分：路加福音 23:1-25

#### *Jesus' Trial in Pilate's Court*

The whole group of them got up and brought him before Pilate.

<sup>2</sup>They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this fellow misleading our nation, forbidding the payment of taxes to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king."

<sup>3</sup>Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

"It is as you say," Jesus replied.

<sup>4</sup>Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for a charge against this man."

<sup>5</sup>But they kept insisting, "He stirs up the people, teaching all through Judea, beginning from Galilee all the way here."

#### *Pilate Sends Jesus to Herod*

<sup>6</sup>When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man was a Galilean. <sup>7</sup>When he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem during those days.

<sup>8</sup>When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad. For a long time, he had wanted to see him, because he had heard many things about him. He hoped to see some miracle performed by him. <sup>9</sup>He questioned him with many words, but Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup>The chief priests and the experts in the law stood there, vehemently accusing him. <sup>11</sup>Herod, along with his soldiers, treated him with contempt and ridiculed him. Dressing him in bright clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. <sup>12</sup>Herod and Pilate became friends with each other on that day. Before this they had been enemies of each other.

<sup>13</sup>Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people, <sup>14</sup>and said to them, “You brought this man to me as one who is misleading the people. Look, I have examined him in your presence. I have found in this man no basis for the charges you are bringing against him. <sup>15</sup>Herod did not either, for he sent him back to us.<sup>1</sup> See, he has done nothing worthy of death. <sup>16</sup>So I will have him flogged and release him.”

### *Barabbas or Jesus?*

<sup>17</sup>Pilate needed to release one prisoner to them at the Festival.<sup>2</sup> <sup>18</sup>But they all shouted together with one voice: “Take him away! Release Barabbas to us!” <sup>19</sup>Barabbas had been thrown in prison for a rebellion in the city and for murder.

<sup>20</sup>Pilate addressed them again, because he wanted to release Jesus. <sup>21</sup>But they kept shouting, “Crucify! Crucify him!”

<sup>22</sup>He said to them the third time, “Why? What evil has he done? I have found no grounds for sentencing him to death. So I will whip him and release him.” <sup>23</sup>But they kept pressuring him with loud voices, demanding that he be crucified. And their voices<sup>3</sup> were overwhelming. <sup>24</sup>So Pilate decided that what they demanded would be done. <sup>25</sup>He released the one they had asked for, who had been thrown in prison for rebellion and murder, but he handed Jesus over to their will.

**PSALM OF THE DAY** – Psalm 32 – CW93 p. 78 (text NIV84) – printed on the following page – 诗篇 32 — 在下一页

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<sup>1</sup>15 Some witnesses to the text read *for I sent you to him*.

<sup>2</sup>17 A few witnesses to the text omit verse 17. See Matthew 27:15 and Mark 15:6.

<sup>3</sup>23 Some witnesses to the text add *and the voices of the high priests*.

*Refrain*



Re - mem - ber your mer - cy, O Lord;



re - mem - ber your mer - cy and love.

*Psalm tone*



**Refrain**

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven,\*  
whose sins are covered.

When I kept silent, your hand was heavy upon me;\*  
my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you\*  
and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"\*  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**Refrain**

You are my hiding place;\*  
you will protect me from trouble.

Many are the woes of the wicked,\*  
but the LORD'S unfailing love surrounds those who trust in him.

**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**

**FIRST READING** – Judges 10:6-16 (EHV) – 士师记 10:6-16

<sup>6</sup>Once again the people of Israel committed evil in the eyes of the LORD. They served the Baals and the Ashtartes,<sup>b</sup> the gods of Aram, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the people of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines. In this way they forsook the LORD and did not serve him.

<sup>7</sup>So the anger of the LORD burned against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of the Philistines and into the hand of the Ammonites,<sup>8</sup> who shattered and crushed the people of Israel that year.

For the next eighteen years, the Ammonites oppressed all the people of Israel who were in the territory east of the Jordan, in the land of the Amorites, which is in Gilead. <sup>9</sup>When the Ammonites also crossed the Jordan to wage war against Judah and Benjamin and against the house of Ephraim, Israel suffered great distress.

<sup>10</sup>Finally the people of Israel called out to the LORD, “We have sinned against you, for we have forsaken our God and have served the Baals.”

<sup>11</sup>At this, the LORD said to the people of Israel, “Did I not deliver you from Egypt, from the Amorites, from the Ammonites, and from the Philistines? <sup>12</sup>When the Sidonians and Amalek and Maon<sup>c</sup> oppressed you, and you called out to me, I delivered you from their hands. <sup>13</sup>It is you who have forsaken me and served other gods. Therefore, I will no longer deliver you. <sup>14</sup>Go and cry out to the gods whom you have chosen! Let them deliver you in the time of your distress!”

<sup>15</sup>But the people of Israel said to the LORD, “We have sinned. Do with us whatever seems good in your eyes, but please save us today.”

<sup>16</sup>When they removed the foreign gods from their midst and served the LORD, he could no longer refrain from relieving<sup>a</sup> the misery of Israel.

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<sup>b</sup> Baal was the most worshipped god and Asherah the most worshipped goddess among the Canaanites. Ashtarte may originally have been a different goddess, but at times she seems interchangeable with Asherah. The forms are plural because Baal and Asherah/Ashtarte had many local forms and local shrines.

<sup>c</sup> The Greek Old Testament has the reading *Midianites*.

<sup>a</sup> Literally *his soul was cut short from*

**GOSPEL – Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 (EHV) – 路加福音 15:1-3, 11b-32**

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming to Jesus to hear him. <sup>2</sup>But the Pharisees and the experts in the law were complaining, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>He told them this parable:

“A certain man had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered together all that he had and traveled to a distant country. There he wasted his wealth with reckless living. <sup>14</sup>After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>He went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would have liked to fill his stomach with the carob pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, and I am dying from hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up, go to my father, and tell him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.” ’

<sup>20</sup>“He got up and went to his father. While he was still far away, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran, hugged his son, and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

<sup>22</sup>“But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick, bring out the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let us eat and celebrate, <sup>24</sup>because this son of mine was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found.’ Then they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>“His older son was in the field. As he approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the servants and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>The servant told him, ‘Your brother is here! Your father killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup>The older brother was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.

<sup>29</sup>“He answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I’ve been serving you, and I never disobeyed your command, but you never gave me even a young goat so that I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But



when this son of yours arrived after wasting your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’

<sup>31</sup>“The father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. <sup>32</sup>But it was fitting to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found.’”

*After the reading of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** 对儿童的讲道

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

387

**Drawn to the Cross**



1 Drawn to the cross, which you have blessed With heal - ing  
 2 How well you know my griefs and fears, Your grace a -  
 3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing  
 4 To pledge my la - bor will - ing - ly, Which shall so



gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in you my  
 bused, my mis - spent years; So now to you with  
 of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing through your  
 sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
 con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
 cross and pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
 en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

Text: Genevieve M. Irons, 1855–1928, alt.  
 Tune: JUST AS I AM (888 6) Joseph Barnby, 1838–96.

**SERMON** – James 4:7-10 – Lent Resolves These Conflicts – 讲道：基于 雅各书 4:7-10

<sup>7</sup>So, submit yourselves to God. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Come near to God, and he will come near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded people. <sup>9</sup>Lament, mourn, and weep. Let your laughter be changed into mourning and your joy into gloom. <sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he will lift you up. (EHV)

**APOSTLES' CREED** 使徒信经

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.**

**OFFERING** 奉献

*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. 19-20).*



304

Jesus Sinners Does Receive



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; Oh, may all this  
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich  
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray Are not by the  
 4 Come, O sin - ners, one and all, Come, ac - cept his  
 5 I, a sin - ner, come to you With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live  
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;  
 Lord for - sak - en; Wea - ry souls who lost their way  
 in - vi - ta - tion. Come, o - bey his gra - cious call;  
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



And from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope  
 Here their ills have per - fect heal - ing Who with hum -  
 Are by Christ, the shep - herd, tak - en In his arms  
 Come and take his free sal - va - tion! Firm - ly in  
 Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words



for all who grieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 ble hearts be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 that they may live— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 these words be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 my soul re - ceive— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** 教会公祷

**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 gospel ministry at St. Marcus Lutheran Church and School, Milwaukee:*

Triune God, you have blessed St. Marcus Lutheran Church and School with nearly 1,200 students throughout their three campuses. Less than 30 percent of their students report having a church home. We thank you for the approval of St. Marcus as a Home Missions enhancement so they could call a lay leader, Brent Krohn, to serve as the school chaplain for their third campus. Bless his work of connecting the students of all the campuses to Jesus' good news in Word and Sacraments at St. Marcus Lutheran Church. Bless the work of all the pastors, teachers, and staff at St. Marcus, so that your kingdom may continue to grow through their gospel ministry. 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 主祷文

**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.**

### PRAYER and BLESSING 祷告及祝福

**M:** O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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 – *Jesus Sinners Does Receive*, stanzas 6-7 – CW93 #304

6 Oh, how blest it is to know,  
Were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow  
By your blood and bitter passion,  
For these words I do believe—  
Jesus sinners does receive.

7 Jesus sinners does receive.  
Even I have been forgiven.  
And when I this earth must leave,  
I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to him I cleave—  
Jesus sinners does receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) *Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch*, Darmstadt, 1699, alt.

**ST. ANDREW'S MINISTRY THIS WEEK**  
**March 30 – April 6, 2025**

Today	9:30 AM	<b>Worship Service</b>
	11:00 AM	<b>Presentation on 316NOW's ministry</b>
	11:00 AM	<b>Sunday School</b>
Monday	6:30-8:00 PM	<b>Youth Confirmation Class</b>
Saturday	7:45 PM	<b>中文聚会 (Chinese Ministry)</b>
Sunday (4/6)	9:30 AM	<b>Worship Service w. Lord's Supper</b>
	11:00 AM	<b>Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible study</b>

*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 register 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 (773-217-8132 / pastor@standrewchicago.org). Please join us again soon!

**PRESENTATION TODAY ON 316NOW'S MINISTRY**

Today (March 30) during the Bible study time after the worship service, Pastor Mark Wagner will give a presentation about the ministry of 316NOW, which focuses on teaching God's Word to Chinese-speaking people around the world. Everyone is welcome to attend this

presentation after the worship service! ... Pastor Gawel will be out of town through this evening. If you have need of pastoral assistance during that time, please contact Pastor Gawel or ministry council member Brian Garcia, and we will help connect you to another pastor of our church body in the area.

### **VOTERS' MEETING – April 6, 11:00**

A voters' meeting will be held on April 6 after the worship service (starting about 11:00) to set the budget for 2025 and to elect officers for ministry council positions. In keeping with God's instruction to us in his Word (cf., 1 Timothy 2:12; 1 Corinthians 14:33-35), St. Andrew's constitution and by-laws authorizes men over the age of 18 who are current communicant members of this congregation to participate in voters' meetings. Any non-voting member may speak with a voting member or the pastor in advance of the meeting with any suggestions or concerns. Please pray for God's blessing on this meeting and on the gospel ministry of St. Andrew Lutheran Church.

### **EASTER CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SIGNUP**

On Easter Sunday (April 20th) after the worship service we'll be having a continental breakfast. If you plan to attend, please sign up on the signup sheet on the Bible study table in the back of the worship space. All are welcome!

### **CROSSROADS BIBLE STUDY AT BURNING BUSH BREWERY – Th., Apr. 10**

Our sister church on the north side, Crossroads, is hosting a Bible study on April 10 (Thursday) at 7:00pm at Burning Bush Brewery (4014 N. Rockwell St., Chicago). St. Andrew members and friends are warmly welcome to attend! Contact Pastor Gawel for more information.

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY: "Helping the Hurting with Hope" – Sundays 11:00**

This Bible study series seeks to help participants appreciate the role of compassion in a Christian's personal and congregational life. It provides gospel motivation for participants to go beyond their comfort zones and act in compassionate ways through the Spirit's power. By cultivating compassion, congregations will be better spiritual refuges for people with broken lives, and welcome people looking for a church family where they can walk a new path after release from prison, or in recovery from addiction, or starting a new life after a public fall into sin.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL – 11:00 / 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 8<sup>th</sup> grade. (High-schoolers are welcome to join adult Bible study in church during the same time.) All are welcome!

## **LENT DEVOTIONS: “IN THE SAVIOR’S STEPS”**

WELS Women’s Ministry is offering weekly devotions for the 2025 season of Lent. We’re used to traveling with Jesus during Holy Week from the upper room to the cross to the empty tomb. But these aren’t the only places Jesus visited during his earthly ministry. This Lent, join WELS Women’s Ministry as we follow in our Savior’s steps through a series of weekly devotions. Subscribe: <https://wels.net/wm-lenten-devotions/>

## **UPCOMING AREA PERFORMANCES OF BACH’S “MASS IN B MINOR”**

Over the next couple weeks, there are a few opportunities in the Chicago area to see performances of Lutheran composer Johann Sebastian Bach’s monumental “Mass in B Minor” – orchestral and choral settings of the historic liturgical songs that are familiar to us from our worship services. The Bach Cantata Vespers Chorus and Orchestra will be performing it this afternoon (March 30) at 4:00pm, at Grace Lutheran Church in River Forest. Admission is free, but a free-will offering is suggested. Info here: <https://bachvespers.org/season/march/>. Apollo’s Fire is performing it on April 11 (Fri.) at 7:30pm, at St. James Cathedral in Chicago, and again on April 12 (Sat.) at 2:00pm, at First Presbyterian Church in Evanston. Info and tickets here: <https://apollosfire.org/event/bach-b-minor-mass-chicago/>

## **WELS ONLINE TEEN BIBLE STUDY – Apr. 6 (Sun.), 6:00pm, via Zoom – “I Am Blessed!”**

Have you been unhappy lately? Maybe a little sad or unsettled? Maybe you know something’s wrong, but you can’t quite put your finger on it. Or maybe you do know what’s wrong. Maybe you see all the happiness and success of other people and you’re frustrated it can’t be yours. Why can’t I be happy? Why can’t I be blessed? If you’ve ever felt like that before, this Bible study is for you! Teens from all over the country will have the opportunity to read and study Psalm 32 together as they are reassured in this most important truth—“I am blessed!” More info and



registration link here: <https://wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/discipleship/national-teen-bible-study/>

### **WELS WOMEN’S MINISTRY WEBINAR – Apr. 10 (Th.), 7pm – “The Power of Connecting Women in Christ”**

Learn from webinar panelists how connections contribute to our encouragement and position us to share Jesus with others. Hear about a unique approach to women’s ministry in a congregational setting. Learn ways to understand your unique women-membership; hear ideas on how to partner that information with your congregation’s overall ministry needs; and get strategies to foster deeper, genuine connections by meeting women where they are at in their seasons of life. More info and registration link here: <https://wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/womens-ministry/womens-ministry-webinars/>

### **“TRAINING CAMP” WELS YOUTH CAMP – JULY 13-18, INGLESIDE, IL**

Proverbs 22:6 says, *“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.”* The purpose of Training Camp is to provide an opportunity for kids to grow in God’s Word and enjoy God’s creation. Youth entering grades 3 - 9 in the fall are eligible to be campers. Youth entering grades 11 and 12 in the fall are eligible to be junior counselors. Under the guidance of Christian counselors, campers will be involved in daily devotions and Bible studies, arts and crafts, hiking, boating, tower climbing, swimming, singing, and athletics of all types. The total cost per camper is \$500. This includes lodging, meals, camp T-shirt, and all activities. Training Camp is held at YMCA Camp Duncan, in Ingleside, IL. Pastor Paul Spaude from St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church in Niles, IL, is the head counselor of Training Camp. You may email him with questions at [paul.spaude@smniles.org](mailto:paul.spaude@smniles.org) . Register for camp and find more info at <https://smniles.org/overnight-bible-camp> .

### **YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS – Mondays 6:30pm; alt. time possible**

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. All are welcome! The class is currently held on Monday 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.

## **PASTORAL COUNSELING; PRIVATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

Pastor Gawel is available for confidential pastoral counseling on the basis of God's Word, and for private confession and absolution. Please feel free to make an appointment to see him. (You may 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 our church believes. 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, and we can schedule the class at a time and place that's convenient for you.

## **SATURDAY EVENING CHINESE MINISTRY 周六晚上7:45中文圣经学习**

On Saturday evenings at 7:45pm in our ministry center (the house next-door to church), we have Chinese ministry, which includes elements of a worship service, Bible study, and prayer, all in Mandarin Chinese. New friends are always welcome to join! Please invite any Chinese friends or neighbors. You may share with them the following invitation:

每周六晚上 7:45, 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(教堂旁边的房子)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!

## **“TABOO QUESTIONS” PODCAST/VIDEOS WITH PASTOR MIKE NOVOTNY**

Have you ever had questions you wanted to ask a pastor but felt silly or embarrassed to ask them? Questions about “taboo” topics (that is, topics that feel “off-limits”), like: sex, politics, porn, IVF, and mental illness? Well, there's a podcast for that! Hear how Pastor Mike Novotny from Time of Grace answers some real questions from people just like you, giving thoughtful, Bible-based answers that point people back to Jesus. New episodes published every week! Find even more questions and links to Apple and Spotify podcasts and YouTube videos at [www.timeofgrace.org/tabooquestions](http://www.timeofgrace.org/tabooquestions) . You can also order Pastor Mike's book, *Taboo: Topics Christians Should Be Talking About but*

Don't, at <https://www.tabobook.org/> . Pastor Gawel is also available for confidential, Bible-based conversation and prayer at any time, about these or any other matters.

### **“made. known.” WELS WEBSITE ON IDENTITY, GENDER, & SEXUALITY**

Identity and human sexuality have become key spiritual concerns with numerous cultural pivots over time. Many people have questions about sexuality and gender in connection with their faith. This new WELS website, <https://madeknown.net/> , exists to walk with you in faith through identity, gender, and sexuality, so that together we can all see how wide and high and deep is the love of Christ (Ephesians 3:18). *made. known.* is an effort of the WELS Committee on Identity, Gender, and Sexuality. The committee is made up of pastors, counselors, teachers, and other members of the WELS. Pastor Gawel is also available for confidential, Bible-based conversation and prayer at any time, about these or any other matters.

### **WELS Family Devotions**

Get your family into God's Word during the week! WELS has developed short devotions for the entire family to use. Each devotion comes complete with a set of questions for different age groups, a prayer, and hymn verses that can be sung or spoken. Downloadable printable versions are also available. Find the family devotions at [www.wels.net/family-devotions](http://www.wels.net/family-devotions)

### **Sign up today for Marriage Moments**

Every marriage has its “moments.” That's why marriages need moments of encouragement and refreshment. *Marriage Moments* are short, weekly videos highlighting one biblical marriage thought accompanied by a discussion question. Watch a video introduction and subscribe to receive the videos directly to your e-mail at [www.welscongregationalservices.net/marriagemoments](http://www.welscongregationalservices.net/marriagemoments)

### **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](mailto:del Laurentis.sam@gmail.com) with any questions.

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Budgeted need each month	Total offerings received in February
\$14,517.92	\$5,643.01

Offerings received last week: \$1,533.84

(budgeted need each week: \$3,350.29)

Total offerings received so far this month: \$6,069.74

**Ministry Attendance Last Week**

**In-church worship attendance last Sunday: 34** (26 adults, 8 children)

**Sunday service live-stream peak concurrent viewing devices: 8**

**Last weekend's Saturday Chinese ministry: 7**

**Adult Bible study attendance: 7** (Fri.: 3, Sun.: 4)

**Sunday school: n/a**

**Youth confirmation class: 4**

**God bless you this week as you share with others the joy of the good news of Jesus!**