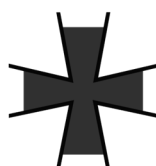


# Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024



MEMORIAL  
**LUTHERAN**  
CHURCH

# Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

**Prelude:** *“My Song is Love Unknown”* - arr. Michael Burkhardt  
*Lois Theesfield, organ*

## Welcome

**Gathering Hymn:** *“My Song is Love Unknown”* ELW #343

## Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who writes the law on our hearts,  
who draws all people together through Jesus.

**Amen.**

Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin  
in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin  
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors  
are hungry and cold.**

**We speak in ways that silence others.**

**We are silent when we should speak up.**

**We keep score in our hearts.**

**We let hurts grow into hatred.**

**For all these things and for sins only you know,  
forgive us, Lord.**

**Amen.**

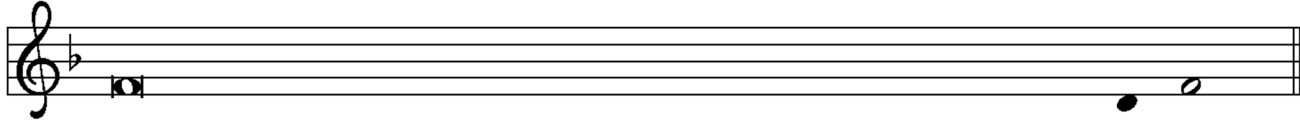
Here is a flood of grace:  
Out of love for the whole world,  
God draws near to us,  
breaks every snare of sin,  
washes away our wrongs,  
and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

# Kyrie



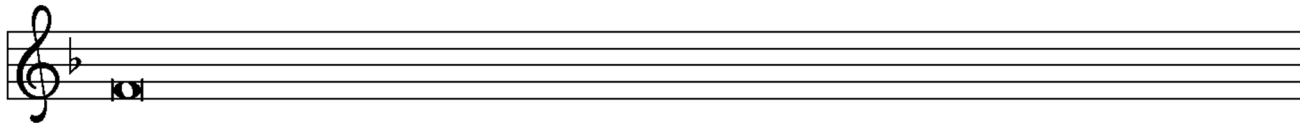
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



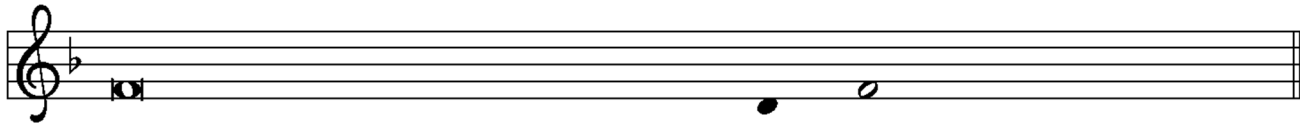
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



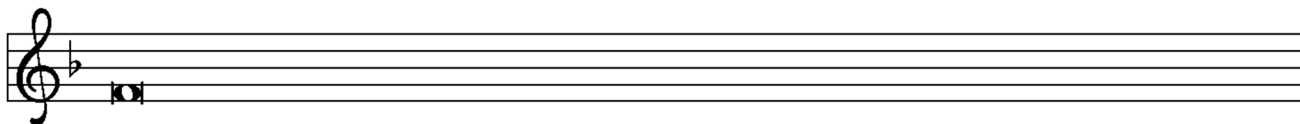
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



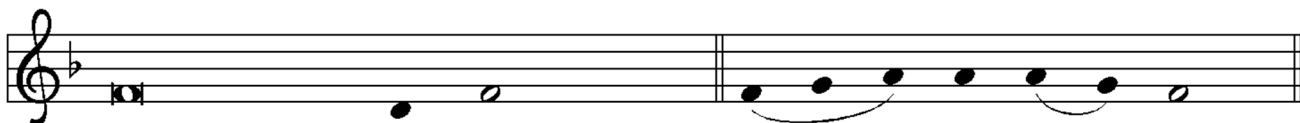
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



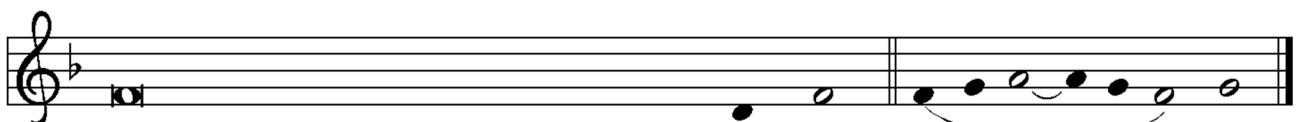
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## Prayer of the Day

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## First Reading - Jeremiah 31:31-34

31The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. 33But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: “Love Your Neighbor and Forgive”** - words by Anna Strickland, music by Richard Redhead

*Please see insert*

## Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

<sup>5</sup>Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

<sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup>and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Children at Heart Sermon

## Gospel Acclamation



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.

Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

## Gospel Reading: John 12:20-33

The Gospel according to John

**Glory to You, O Lord**

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."

<sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup>"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

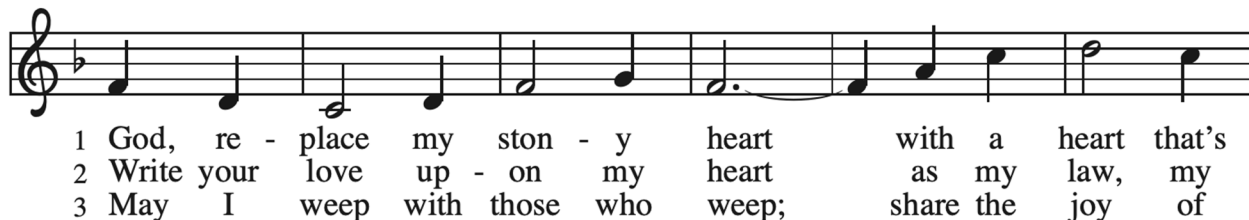
The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ**

## Sermon

# Hymn of the Day: "Spirit, Open My Heart" ACS #1043

*Refrain*



*Refrain*



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved.

Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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## **Apostles Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

**The peace of Christ be with you always.  
And also with you.**

### **Offering**

**Music Voluntary:** *"O Sacred Head Now Wounded / Beneath the Cross of Jesus"*

- arr. Tim Doran

*Duet: Emily Dalthorp, handbells; Kathleen Lotz, cello*

### **Offering 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.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

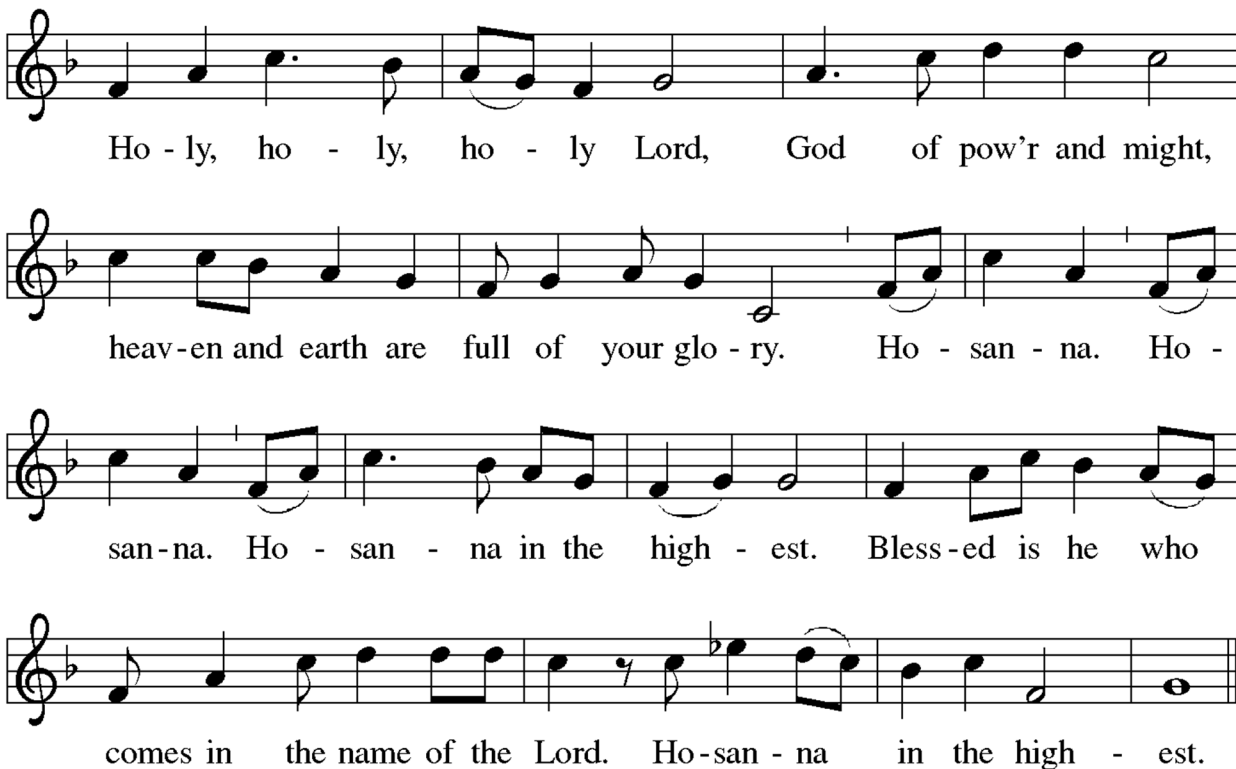
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en 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 who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



## Words of Institution

### 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.

### Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

### Communion Hymns

*"Lamb of God"* - ELW Setting 3

*"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"* - ELW #759

### Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace.

## **Prayer after Communion**

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.**

## **Announcements**

### **Blessing**

Beloved,  
we are God's own people,  
holy, washed, renewed.  
God bless you and keep you,  
shower you with mercy,  
fill you with courage,  
and + give you peace.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Hymn: "Restore In Us, O God" ELW #328**

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Journey with Jesus.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** *"Prelude in A Minor"* - J.S. Bach  
*Lois Theesfield, organ*

## Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email [pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org](mailto:pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org) or [emily@mlcnevada.org](mailto:emily@mlcnevada.org), or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

*Please keep Julie and Brad Samson and their family in prayer  
following the death of Brad's father*

*Please keep the family of +Brett Anderson in your prayers following his death*

*Prayers for Bonnie Storey and her daughters Mindy Farmer, Amanda DeMoss, and Tina Skei  
following the death of her brother, +Doug Harrison*

*Please keep Linda Mjelde and family in your prayers  
following the death of her husband, +Gregg Mjelde*

*Please keep Lyndsey DeVos and family in your prayers  
following the death of her mother, +Sheila Collingwood*

*Please keep the family of +Bob Klopping in your prayers following his death*

*Please keep the family of +Ernie Ruhde in your prayers following his death*

*Please keep the family of +Dick Settle in your prayers following his death*

Kathy Bergmann	Marlene Waddell	Jackie Byers
Wayne Johnson	friend of Virginia Palmisano- Goettsch	daughter of Shellie Black
Steve Halverson	Sandy Muesburger	Donna See
Troy Vincent	friend of Virginia Palmisano- Goettsch	Norma Dannan friend of Betty Runge
Kati Stieler sister-in-law of Dan Stieler	John Bass son-in-law of Ron & Gloria Jacobson	Jami Tharp
Johann Thiel	Carol Vincent	Fred Samuelson
Paul Johnson	Cassie Harrell	Jaylee Bartleson
Mike Neal	Jean Smith	George Forsyth
Kathy Lynn Johnson	Ellie Lynch	Janeen Driscoll
Christina King	Janet Jacques	Julie Sutherland
Sherry Kluever	Easton Farrington	Jan Cook
Kim Elliott	Janice Hartz	
Marsha Kane		
Pr. Marcia Kisner		

***Hospitalizations:*** *If you are in the hospital or are going to be in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf.  
Unless directed otherwise, your name will be placed on the prayer list and included in electronic notifications.*

## Announcements

### **TODAY @ 3:00 PM: Faith & Family Day with the Iowa Wolves**

We have a group of nearly 30 signed up to spend the afternoon at the Iowa Wolves Faith & Family Day! **Important: if you signed up and have *not* received and accepted your tickets via text, please contact Emily Dalthorp ASAP.** Please note that attendees will need to provide their own transportation to Wells Fargo Arena. More information on seating should be in your ticket information. If you haven't turned in your payment already (\$17 per ticket for attendees over the age of 2), please bring this to the church office or drop it in the secure box outside Emily's office. Please make checks out to "Memorial Lutheran Church". Thank you!

### **Holy Communion Workshop**

*Wednesday, March 27, 6:30-7:30 pm in the Sanctuary*

This workshop is intentionally geared to students in 1st - 3rd Grade and their grown-up(s), but all ages are welcome.

Come learn about what we as Lutherans believe and practice regarding Holy Communion. All who participate are then invited to be recognized with a special time of blessing before receiving Communion alongside their family the next evening at the Maundy Thursday service on March 28 at 7 pm. Please e-mail Pastor Kathleen or call the church office if you have any questions or to let us know you're coming - thank you!

### **Easter Lily Dedications Due March 27**

Dedicate an Easter lily in honor or memory of a loved one and help decorate the church for Easter! Please fill out a form in the Narthex or contact the church office at 515-382-6509 or [emily@mlcnevada.org](mailto:emily@mlcnevada.org) to place your order. A suggested donation is \$8 per lily (payments may be brought to the church office or dropped in the secure box outside Emily's office). Thank you!

### **YSS Suicide Prevention Night**

*Wednesday, March 27 at 6:30 pm*

Memorial Lutheran Church is excited to host YSS Suicide Prevention night at youth group on March 27! Come ready to learn with an open mind about common myths and facts surrounding suicide. You will get the opportunity to ask questions to an expert that will answer them with age-appropriate information. Leaders from Memorial will also be present and help guide the conversation. Parents are invited for the session and are welcome to reach out to facilitator Kalli-Ann Kennel at [kkennel@yss.org](mailto:kkennel@yss.org) with any questions or concerns at any time.

## **St. Patrick's "Walk to the Cross"**

St. Patrick's is inviting all to join on a walk symbolizing Jesus' walk to the cross. We will walk from Central Presbyterian to St. Patrick's as 12:00 PM on Good Friday, March 29. After arriving at St. Patrick's, we will pray the Stations of the Cross.

## **Pizza-Pie-Looza**

The Pizza Pie Looza activities committee is switching things up a bit this year. The committee is planning to rent some games and inflatables and is looking for people to run them. The hope is that the churches will help provide volunteers for this and a few other games that are planned for the day. The date is Mother's Day weekend - Saturday, May 11, from 2-5 pm downtown. If you are interested and would like to help please contact Pastor Kathleen. Thank you!

## **Calling all Prayer Warriors**

Memorial is developing a Prayer Team and is looking for individuals that would like to commit to praying for prayer requests as they arise. Prayer requests will be shared with the group primarily through email. If you would be interested in serving in this way please contact Pastor Kathleen.

## **Have you designated your Thrivent Choice Dollars? A special message from Jim Pappas of Memorial's Thrivent Choice Committee:**

*"Hey Memorial, just a reminder: if you haven't already designated your Thrivent Choice Dollars, the deadline of **March 31, 2024** is fast approaching. Also, we are looking for new committee members! Please see me if you would like more details. Thank you for your consideration!"*

## **Donations Needed for Crisis in Middle East**

A word from our wider church body: *"Due to escalating conflict in Gaza and Israel, a severe humanitarian crisis is rapidly unfolding in the Holy Land. The ELCA has a longstanding relationship with partners in the region, including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and Augusta Victoria Hospital. Lutheran Disaster Response has a history of providing support for our partners and will be prepared to answer calls for assistance when the time comes.*

*Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to this and other disasters, whenever and wherever they strike. Gifts designated for "Middle East Crisis" will be restricted to and used in full (100%) for those affected by disasters in the region."*

**Please go here to donate: <https://community.elca.org/middle-east-crisis>**

## A Special Note Regarding Tithe.ly Fees

We so appreciate all that give using the online/mobile giving platform Tithe.ly! If you haven't already, please consider including Tithe.ly processing fees as part of your one-time and recurring gifts. To do this, simply check the "Cover Fees" box when setting up your gift. If you have already set up a recurring gift and would like to start including the fees, you'll need to delete this gift and set it up again with "Cover Fees" checked.

## Important Reminder Regarding Giving to Special Projects

We so appreciate gifts received for special projects such as "A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place" (heating and cooling) and "Drive for the Drive" (pavement). If you would like to support these projects, please make sure to specify the project name with your gift. This ensures that your gift goes directly to the project and helps us keep an accurate record of funds received / still needed. Thank you for your support!

## Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/give> or by scanning the QR code. ***Did you know?*** In Tithe.ly, you can select to give to the **General Fund, A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place** (heating and cooling project), or the **Drive for the Drive** pavement project!



## *Save the Date*

### **TODAY: Faith & Family Day with the Iowa Wolves**

*Important notice: Tickets for those who signed up have been sent via text.*

*If you have **not** received and accepted your tickets, please contact Emily Dalthorp ASAP.*

When: Sunday, March 17, 3:00 PM

Where: Wells Fargo Arena

### **Mid-week Lenten Worship & Supper featuring Chili/Soup Cook-off**

When: Wednesday, March 20, supper at 6:00 PM followed by worship at 7:00 PM

### **Holy Communion Workshop**

When: Wednesday, March 27, 6:30—7:30 PM

### **YSS Suicide Prevention Night**

When: Wednesday, March 27, 6:30 PM

## *Holy Week Services*

March

**24**

**Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday | 9:00am\***

March

**28**

**Maundy Thursday | 7:00pm\***

Holy Communion Celebration

March

**29**

**Good Friday | 7:00pm\***

Meditative harp music will be provided 30 minutes  
before worship begins

March

**31**

**Easter Dawn | 7:00am\*\***

**Easter - He is Risen! | 9:00am\***

Egg Hunt to follow 9:00am service

\* This service will be held in-person as well as livestreamed through YouTube and Facebook

\*\* This service will be held in-person only

**Memorial Lutheran Church**  
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Memorial Lutheran

Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry  
Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement  
Mike Coverdale, Custodian