

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday; Exodus 20:1-24, Luke 4:1-15

Monday; Exodus 22:20—23:13, Luke 4:16-30

Tuesday; Exodus 23:14-33, Luke 4:31-44

Wednesday; Exodus 24:1-18, Luke 5:1-16

Thursday; Exodus 25:1-22, (Exodus 25:23—30:38) Luke 5:17-39

Friday; Exodus 31:1-18, Luke 6:1-19

Saturday; Exodus 32:1-14, Luke 6:20-38

Sunday; Exodus 32:15-35, Luke 6:39-49

(4) but he (Jesus) said to them, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose." Luke 4:43

Business Manager Hours

Business Manager, Jaylene Miller, will be in the office this week Monday – Wednesday.

Please feel free to leave Jaylene a message by calling the church office or emailing her at business@1stglencoe.org or emailing her personal account at gsus1st@live.com.

ATTENDANCE 04/02 04/03 04/05

	04/02	04/03	04/05	
Worship Total	175*	269	704	*Numbers based on stats given to the office.
Communed	185*	225	125	
Visitors	5	6	5	
Adult Bible Study	NA	NA	NA	
Sunday School	NA	NA	NA	

Sunday School Offerings

We are donating our offerings to Heifer, International. So far, we have enough for one goat and one flock of chicks. We are about \$30 away for having enough for a pig. The animals go to families in need who use them to help support their needs. For example, the goat can be utilized for cheese production to help support a family or to sell as a source of income.

First Lutheran Sunday School thanks everyone who has assisted us in collecting offerings to help support a family in need!



E-Giving for Members and Visitors

We thank all givers for supporting our mission with your gifts. For those who choose to give electronically, in just seconds you can make a donation. It allows you to give anytime and anywhere, donate to your favorite funds, Ways to e-Give: and make your gifts recurring.

1. Give on-line via: www.firstglencoe.org
2. Vanco Mobile Faith – Download from the app store and search for First Ev. Lutheran.
3. Text \$ (your \$ amount) and "Give" to 855-976-9619.
4. Use the QR Code. It is provided to the left.

FIRST EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH – Missouri Synod

925 13th St. E. Glencoe, MN | 320-864-5522 | www.firstglencoe.org

SENIOR PASTOR: Reverend Daniel Welch | 320-864-2753 or 612-214-8912 | dwelch@1stglencoe.org

ASSISTANT PASTOR: Reverend Michael Ewert | 414-795-8257 | pastor@1stglencoe.org

DCE: Deaconess Megan Polzin | 320-854-1204 or 952-232-9844 | mpolzin@1stglencoe.org

CHURCH SECRETARY: Amy Welch | 320-864-5522 | office@1stglencoe.org

BUSINESS MANAGER: Jaylene Miller | business@1stglencoe.org

FIRST LUTHERAN SCHOOL

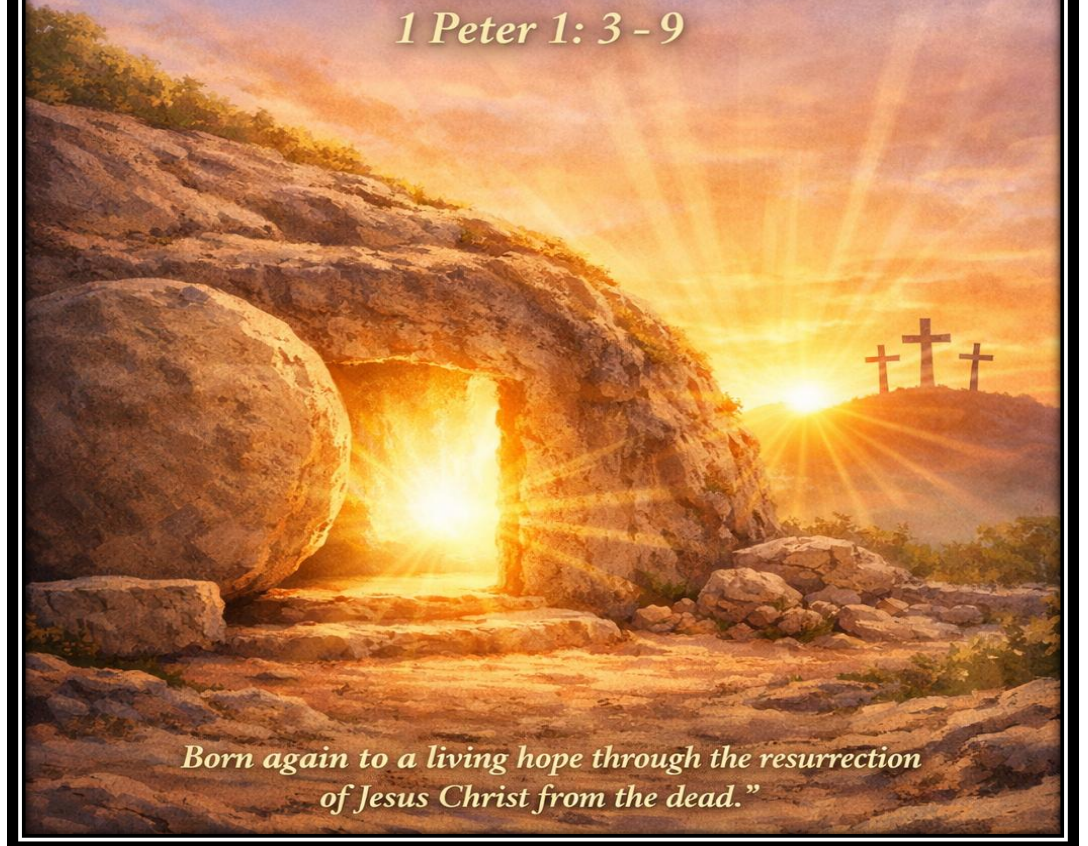
1015 E. 14th Street Glencoe, MN | 320-864-3317 | www.firstglencoe.org

PRINCIPAL: Perry Miller | 402-750-4377 | principal@1stglencoe.org

SCHOOL SECRETARY: Michelle Alsleben | malsleben@1stglencoe.org

A Real Hope That's Living and Joyous!

1 Peter 1: 3 - 9



Born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 12, 2026
8:00 a.m. and 10: 30 a.m.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church ~ Missouri Synod

925 13th Street E.
Glencoe, MN 55336
320.864.5522

office@1stglencoe.org and www.firstglencoe.org



Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 12, 2025 – Heritage Sunday

Divine Service: Setting 3, Page 184

AS WE GATHER Persecution cannot silence those who teach and preach Christ crucified, dead, and risen. This unwavering testimony is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Trials, sorrows, and temptations will never eclipse the revelation of Jesus to whom belongs all glory and honor. Just as Jesus, risen and scarred, stood in the midst of His disciples, so also He remains steadfast in the church, through bread and wine, reminding us of His wounds, nourishing our faith, and bestowing peace on all who see Him.

HYMNS:

8:00 AM #463, 470 (st. 1 – 5), 470 (st. 6 – 9), 474, 805

10:30 AM #463, 470 (st. 1 – 5), 470 (st. 6 – 9), [469, 818, 487], 474, 805

BIBLE READINGS: First Reading ~ Acts 5: 29 - 42
Epistle Reading ~ 1 Peter 1: 3 - 9
Gospel Reading ~ John 20: 19 – 31

SERMON: "A Real Hope That's Living and Joyous!"
1 Peter 1: 3 – 9 ~Pastor Dan Welch

SPECIAL MUSIC:

8:00 AM ~ First Lutheran School Preschool
"God Made Me"

CABLE TV, CHANNEL 10:

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. & Fridays, 5:30 p.m.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Trustees

SPECIAL SERVICE NOTES:

Today the poled baskets will be used for offering at both services.

Thank you for sharing your Time, Talents, & Treasures for service today in God's House!

INCLUDED IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

-- Family and Friends of Lorraine Krumm. Lorraine went home to be with her Savior last Friday. Blessed are those who die in the saving grace of our Lord! Funeral services for Lorraine will be here on Thu., May 7 at 11:00 a.m.

-- Lee & Randall Carrigan, Marcia Dummer, Arlyce Grack, Joel Grack (Brother of Norma Mathews), Willis Herrmann, Bob Hallowell (Father of Megan Polzin) who has cancer, Howard Hoecke, Brenda Ide (Wife of Lars Ide), Doris Jungclaus, Shirley Krienke, Kali Marshall (11-year-old daughter of Angela Templin-Marshall and Tony Marshall) who is undergoing chemo for leukemia and lives in Panama City, FL; Pastor Ronald Mathison, Laurie Meyer (Twin Sister of Linda Donnay), Randee Petterson (Mother of Justin Petterson), Judy Rickheim, Braelynn Schrunk (Great-Granddaughter of Gayle Schwarze) who has leukemia, Ashley Smith (Cousin of Danielle Petterson) who has cancer, Matt Solmonson (Son-in-law of DeLue & Mary Grams) who has Stage 4 Melanoma, Earl VonBerge, Charlotte Wolter

Please Note: At 1:50 p.m. each day, we have "Congregation in Prayer."

This Week at First Lutheran

Sunday, April 12 2nd Sunday of Easter

HERITAGE SUNDAY

8:00 AM – Divine Service, FLS Preschool 🎵

9:00 AM – Fellowship Time

9:15 AM – Education Hour

10:30 AM – Divine Service with Communion

6:30 PM – Blaze

Monday, April 13

9:00 AM – Crochet for a Cause

1:00 PM – Quilt Tying

3:15 PM – FLS Staff

6:00 PM – Christian Education

6:30 PM – Young Adults Bible Study

Tuesday, April 14

10:30 PM – GlenFields

1:15 PM – Staff Meeting

1:30 PM – Mat Makers

7:00 PM – Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, April 15

3:30 PM – Catechism

6:15 PM – Senior Choir

Thursday, April 16

8:15 AM – Chapel

1:30 PM –FLS Kindergarten visits Grand Meadows

6:00 PM – Daily Office

7:00 PM – Church Council

Sunday, April 19 3rd Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM – DS with Com., Senior Choir 🎵

9:00 AM – Fellowship Time

9:15 AM – Education Hour

10:30 AM – Divine Service

4 to 6:30 PM – Grief Seminar

SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Thank you for being with us here today! For our Visitors, please stop by one of the Welcome Centers on your way out. Evangelism Board has gift bags for all ages!

SPECIAL FLORAL PLANT TODAY

The beautiful plant by the cross today is given in Memory of Jerome Ehlers, by his Family. Services for Jerome were last week.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

A very grateful Thank You is extended to Danielle Petterson for taking care of some of the custodial duties during this interim before a full-time custodian is hired.

General Church Announcements

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

April 12 – Second Sunday of Easter

1 Peter 1:3-4 "He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you."

We have an inheritance waiting for us, a treasure gathered where moth and rust do not destroy. That should change our perspective on the treasures of this earth. They are fleeting. They come and go. But we can use the treasures of this earth for the work of the kingdom that will not fade away.

MESSAGE ABOUT STEWARDSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Psalm 142:5 – "I cry to you, O LORD; I say, 'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.'" The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves us through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, He is in control, so we can follow His Word in confidence.

CHILDREN IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

Located at the sanctuary entrances, there are English and Spanish Children's Bibles, Noah's Ark busy bags (actually, backpacks), and a sensory bag (puzzle backpack). You are invited to use these during the Divine Service, as well as the Children's Bulletins, Children's Devotional Books, and Children's Pew Cards.

PASTORAL VISITS

Pastor Ewert makes monthly visits to our Senior Care facilities and brings Word and Sacrament to our members there. If you or your family members wish for an additional visit, please contact the church office so that we may schedule a visit with one of our pastors. (If you don't contact the church office, we don't know that you or your loved one wishes to have a visit, **that is in addition to those regularly scheduled.** Please call us.)

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT
(March 30-April 5)

Last Week Giving ** \$46,094

Weekly Budget Need \$28,301

YTD Giving \$942,568

YTD Budget Need \$1,132,040



** Includes Maundy Thurs, Good Friday, & School Tuition

Special Announcements for Today



Today's Flowers for Heritage Sunday The Flowers provided for today's Heritage Sunday are given by Mary Jenneke. The flowers are in Memory and Honor of those with Wedding Anniversaries during the month of April. The 27th Wedding Anniversary of Mary's late husband David and herself would have been on April 10th.



Beautiful Donation in Memory of Kathy & Jerome Ehlers A beautiful cross stitch picture of the Lord's Prayer was donated by the Family of Kathy & Jerome Ehlers in their memory. Jerome was recently called home to be with the Lord. Kathy was a long-time teacher here at First Lutheran, member of the Altar Guild, and handbell ringer. Blessed be the memory of Kathy and Jerome! Thank you to their Family for this wonderful gift!

A Brief Financial Update

Our church has reached a point where our regular offerings are no longer keeping pace with our basic expenses. To avoid serious shortfalls—especially in meeting payroll—we're asking each household to prayerfully consider increasing their giving. Our staff serves faithfully every week, and sustaining their work is essential to our ministry. Even small increases, shared across our congregation, will make a meaningful difference. Thank you for your continued generosity and commitment to our church's mission.

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)

"Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to." Deuteronomy 15:10 (NIV)

We are hiring at First Lutheran!



Seeking Church Custodian First Lutheran Church and School are currently seeking a custodian to join our team. Full-time or part-time applicants will be considered. Prior custodial experience with the ability to work independently preferred. Having a current boiler's license would also be a plus. **IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.** (More information is in the April Newsletter, back page of the calendar.)



We're hiring!! Seeking a full time 4th grade teacher for the 2026-2027 school year. Please inquire with Mr. Miller at principal@1stglencoe.org

Time, Talents, & Treasure Opportunities



Silent Stories Tour We're looking for volunteers to help read scripts at our upcoming **Sunday, May 17th** Silent Stories (Cemetery) Tour. Stop by the table at the south entrance to browse the available roles. If you're interested in taking part, please reach out to Cindy E. at 612-840-6308.

We're in need of both readers and tour guides. It's simple to do—and should be fun and very interesting!



Available Serving dates in 2026 There are only 4 Fellowship Hour serving dates left! **Sun., July 26; Sun., Aug. 16; Sun., Sept. 6 (Labor Day weekend); Sun., Sept. 27.** If you or your organization are interested, please contact the church office.



Handcrafted Crosses So far, **about 400** crosses have been submitted by members and students. The range of craftsmanship is remarkable, with so many unique styles. Please keep creating, as we expect to need **about 1,000 more** crosses for our Special Anniversary Service on July 12!



Heritage Sunday Floral Basket On Heritage Sundays (the 2nd Sunday of each month in 2026), we will utilize this floral basket to display arrangements/ plants on the side of the altar. If you are interested in sponsoring one (or two) baskets in memory of, or in honor of, someone or an occasion, please contact Dennis Wolter. (Months of Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec. are available.)



April Abundant Blessings Drive For April, we are asking for donations for the Lutheran Social Services Mankato Crisis Nursery PJ Drive. New pajamas may be dropped off at church. Thank you for your generosity!

Angel Seeds

Angel Seed Designations Fourth Quarter (April – June) Angel Seeds are for First Evangelical Lutheran mission projects.



Handbell Donations With the revival of the Handbell Choir, we are in need of funds for the refurbishing of the bells and for new music. You may designate your offerings for this cause, or you may bring a donation to the church office. Thank you in advance! We look forward to our debut at the Anniversary Service on July 12!

~ Miscellaneous Announcements ~



Sincere Thank You's

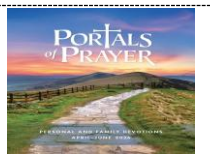
- Thank you to Everyone who helped beautify the Church for Easter with the purchase of lilies, those who donated time for decorating and set-up, and for those who decorate the tables and narthexes!
- Thank you to Everyone who helped with the Easter Egg Hunt in any way and who donated items for the Easter Egg Hunt! **We're so blessed by our Volunteers!**



UPDATE: Church Directory Roster The new church directory has been typed up. We did our best to portray the church membership accurately, and in respect to which types of personal information our members want published. We sincerely apologize for any inaccuracies.



Honoring Our Veterans To help honor the sacrifice our veterans have given, we're giving our brave men and women "Quilts of Valor." Our veterans deserve recognition! If you or a loved one at First Lutheran has served, please contact Beverly at (612) 578-1713, RaNay at (320) 510-0804, or the church office.



Help Strengthen Yours and Your Family's Faith! The April-June 2026 editions of the Portals of Prayer are now available on the entrances to the sanctuary. All sizes can be found. There are also children's devotion books, Strength for the Day and other resources which are free for you to use. Please pick up your copies today!

YOUTUBE PAGE

Here is the link to the YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/@1stGlencoe/videos>



LCMS Health Ministry

<https://files.lcms.org/file/preview/national-mission-bulletin-blurbs-and-newsletter-articles-april-2026>

The English word, "Easter," is the term we use in referring to Christ's Resurrection Day. "Easter" comes from the same word as "east," the direction from which the sun rises every morning. East is the direction of dawn. In Christ's Resurrection — in His Easter — we, His people, are given a new morning; the light and eternal life of Christ now dawns in us also. As the prophet Malachi foretold, indeed the Sun of Righteousness has risen with healing in His wings (Mal. 4:2). In Baptism, this healing has been applied to us and is renewed in us as we daily rise in Christ, the Dayspring (Dawn) of Life (Luke 1:78 NKJV). Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He has come to bring health and healing to all!

~ First Lutheran Events ~



Important Youth-related Announcements for the School Year

- The last BLAZE is Sunday, April 12 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- The last IMPACT is on Sunday, May 3 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- Gertens Flower Pick-up is Mon., May 11 from 3 – 6:00 p.m.
- The last IGNITE is Tuesday, May 19 from 3:00 – 4:45 p.m.



First Edition Book Club The First Edition Book Club will be meeting on **Mon., April 13** for discussion of the book A Murder of Innocents (book 2) by Michael Swiger. The ladies will be meeting again on May 18 to discuss Promise Me This by Cathy Gohlke. The Book Club meets at 7:00 p.m. on the blue couches in the south narthex. For questions, please contact Linda Donnay.



Mat-Makers Mat-Makers will meet Tuesday, April 14 at 1:30 p.m. Devotions: The Holy Spirit Gives Me Power ~Acts 1:8. Conversation starter: Have you ever experienced a power outage?

New Mat-Makers and guests are always welcome. Please drop in and experience how plastic grocery bags are crafted into sleeping mats!



Handbell Choir Handbell Choir has begun! We are meeting on **Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.** No experience necessary! If interested, please join us! For questions, please contact Pastor Ewert.



Daily Office We will have Daily Office this **Thu., April 16 at 6:00 p.m.** Please join us before the Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.



Church Council Church Council is this **Thu., April 16 at 7:00 p.m.**



Called to Grieve Pastor Tom Evans will be here to talk about grief. Everyone thinks we only grieve the loss of a loved one, but it is much more than that. Please join us for his presentation on **Sunday, April 19th from 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.** at First Ev. Lutheran Church. Light refreshments will be provided.



**Celebrating
150 Years**

**1876
-
2026**

**JOIN US!
SUNDAY, JULY 12 - 10 AM
ANNIVERSARY
WORSHIP SERVICE & MEAL**

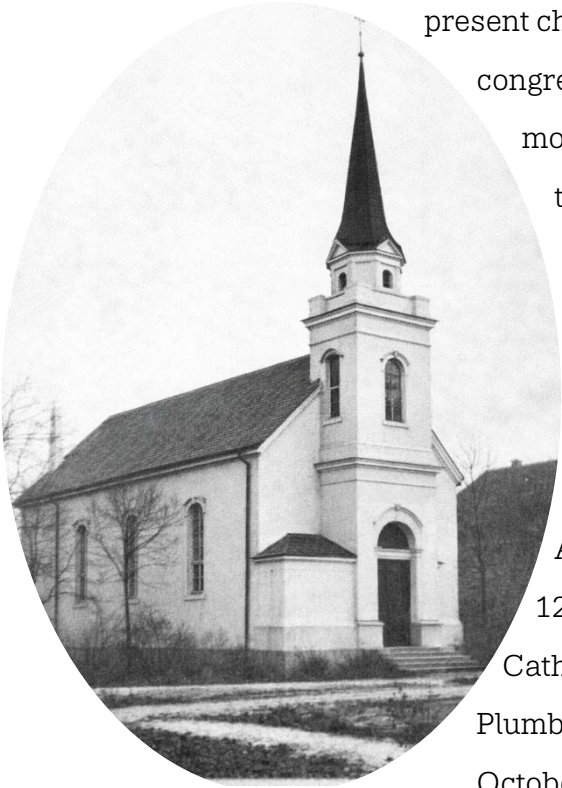
Our First Church Building

(1880-1905)

After four years of gathering first in a home and then in a hall, the need for a permanent church building became evident. Before purchasing land, the congregation needed to be formally established. On January 20, 1880, nine founding members drafted and signed a constitution. With that action, First German Evangelical Lutheran Church of Glencoe, MN was officially formed. Just six days later, the



This photo is of the first church on the same site as our present building. Note the open space, fences, and farm buildings in this photo taken prior to 1888.



The Old Church

present church property was purchased for \$75. The

congregation also committed to “erect a modest house of worship adequate for

the immediate need.” Soon after, a contract was awarded for the construction of a frame church with a steeple, at a total cost of \$1,668.42 including furnishings. Building began in February, and the church was dedicated on June 20, 1880, drawing a large crowd from the surrounding countryside. At that time, the membership consisted of 12 families: within ten years, it had grown to more than 100 families, or about 350 communicant members. In 1904, when plans were made to construct a larger brick church, the wooden building was moved into the street so it could continue to be used for worship during construction.

After the new brick church was completed in 1905, the wooden structure was relocated to the corner of 12th St. and Ford Ave., where it remained useful for a variety of purposes. It was used by groups such as the Catholic Order of Foresters, First Congregational Church Christmas programs, Adelman Brothers Heating & Plumbing, and H.H. Bruckschen Implement Co. After standing for 92 years, the building was torn down in October 1972.

April 2026

“...let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works...” (Hebrews 10:22-24).



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
EDUCATION HOUR 9:15-10:15 AM 2s-4s in Flames Room K-4th in Room 111 5th-8th in Library 9th-Adult in Fellowship Center			01 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer	02 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer	03 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer Verse of the Week “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1).	04 9-11 AM Easter Egg Hunt!
05 The Lord's Day The Resurrection of our Lord Happy Easter! 6:00 AM Divine Service 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Divine Service 10:30 AM Divine Service Note: No Education Hour	06 1:00 PM Quilt Tying 1:30 PM Lutheran Women in Mission 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer	07 1:30 PM Mat Makers 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study	08 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer	09 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer	10 Verse of the Week “Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved” (Romans 10:9-10).	11 9:00 AM Church Kitchen Spring Cleaning
12 The Lord's Day Heritage Sunday 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM Education Hour 10:30 AM Divine Service 6:30-8 PM Blaze	13 9-10 AM Crochet for a Cause 1:00 PM Quilt Tying 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer 6:30-7:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study @ Hoffmann's	14 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study	15 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer	16 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer 6 PM Daily Office Service	17 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer	18 Verse of the Week “Now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility” (Ephesians 2:13-14).
19 The Lord's Day 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM Education Hour 10:30 AM Divine Service 4-6:30 PM Grief Seminar	20 1:00 PM Quilt Tying 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer	21 1:30 PM Mat Makers 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study	22 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer 7 PM Public Review of Catechumens	23 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer	24 Final Collection for Abundant Blessings (Lutheran Social Services: Crisis Nursery—Pajamas Infant-sz. 8) 8 AM-4 PM Crafted Crosses Drop Off (in Church Office) 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer	25 Verse of the Week “Jesus answered, ‘The most important [commandment] is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these” (Mark 12:29-31).
26 The Lord's Day 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM Education Hour 10:30 AM Divine Service & The Rite of Confirmation	27 1:00 PM Quilt Tying 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer 6:30-7:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study @ Hoffmann's	28 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study	29 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer 6:30 PM First Lutheran School Fine Arts Festival	30 1:50 PM Congregation in Prayer	Heritage Sunday Graphics, Special Music, Historical Prayers, Hymns, and Sermons and “Historical” Church Clothing!	Verse of the Week “Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth” (John 17:17).

TEACHING THE FAITH — April 1-15

This month, The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod celebrates the many ways that God’s children are instructed, encouraged and strengthened in the faith. By teaching the faith, we nurture the faithful and reach the lost. **Remember how God works to strengthen the faith of His people as you pray:**

1. with thanksgiving for the gift of faith received at Baptism. Ask the Lord to continue to strengthen that faith — and the budding faith of our children — until we depart this life and are united with the Lord.

2. with thanksgiving to God for the gift of His holy and inspired Word, the Sacred Scriptures; and for the Book of Concord and the many teaching aids that help us understand that Word aright and rejoice in its consolation.

3. for Christian families, that the Lord would provide the assistance and tools necessary to overcome every challenge — big or small — that might drive them apart.

4. for strong Christian marriages, that husbands and wives would cling to each other in the Lord, despite life’s challenges, and raise their children to walk in the way of the Lord.

5. for Christian parents, that they would make teaching the faith to their children a

priority. Pray that they set aside time to worship together, talk about faith issues, study the Bible and have family devotions.

6. that family members would treat each other with kindness and patience, so that each member might be built up in the family of God.

7. for our children and young people, who face daily assaults on their Christian beliefs, that God would strengthen and encourage them to stand firm while sharing the Gospel.

8. for our churches, that they would provide useful education and programs to help equip people at every stage of life — teens, husbands and wives, parents, caretakers of aging parents and more.

9. that God would continue to provide faithful church workers to serve as role models and teach people about their identity as a baptized child of God.

10. that church members would eagerly volunteer their time and talents to support the congregation’s educational programs,

such as vacation Bible school, Sunday school and groups for young families.

11. that LCMS members would eagerly participate in Bible studies, small-group discussions and private study

12. with thanksgiving for faithful parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers and other role models who help to “train up a child in the way he should go” (Prov. 22:6).

13. for the Concordia University System and the Synod’s two seminaries, that the Lord would bless their work in training new generations of workers to serve the Church.

14. for the Synod’s directors of Family Life Ministry, that God would bless their efforts to support healthy relationships in the families of our congregations.

15. that we might have hearts that are willing and eager to serve the Lord in every way.

MINISTRY TO THE ARMED FORCES — April 16-30

Since the Civil War, LCMS pastors have served as military chaplains. Today, the Synod’s Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) supports active duty, reserves, National Guard and Civil Air Patrol chaplains. MAF recruits, interviews and endorses all military chaplains and supports them throughout their careers. MAF also provides a network of care for our nation’s military members, families and veterans through Operation Barnabas. **Remember God’s work through LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) as you pray:**

16. that God would bless and guide the work of the MAF director and assistant director.

17. for the President of the United States. Ask God to guide our commander in chief to lead with wisdom for the protection of the innocent against evil.

18. for LCMS military chaplains serving on active duty for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

19. for our LCMS Reserve and National Guard chaplains, especially those who have been mobilized stateside or overseas and taken from their parishes to extended active duty assignments, for those deployed, their families and their home parishes.

20. for Operation Barnabas, which is designed to meet the needs of congregations in the event their pastor/chaplain is mobilized. Operation Barnabas also seeks to assist veterans and military families during and after deployment.

21. for all congregations that reach out to members of our military through Operation Barnabas, that they would

uphold them in prayer as they help to meet their physical, psychological and spiritual needs through the training they have received and the Lord’s provision.

22. for increasing opportunities for LCMS chaplains to spread Christ’s message of salvation, hope and restoration to those they serve.

23. for all chaplains returning home, that they would receive a hero’s welcome for their sacrifice to this country so that in freedom we can continue to openly worship the one true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

24. for those who suffer from battle stress and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Pray that God would bring healing and renewal to those who have served or who are currently serving.

25. for all chaplains who are sick or have sick family members, that the Father of all mercies and the God of all comfort would look with favor upon them, and as it pleases Him, restore them to health or give them the grace to accept this tribulation with courage and hope.

26. for all chaplains in harm’s way, that God would not let their hearts despair

nor their faith fail them, but sustain, guide and comfort them.

27. for all members of the military who were disabled during their duty, that our heavenly Father would mercifully guide, aid and strengthen all those with physical disabilities, enabling them to find fulfillment in their lives and encouragement for all their endeavors.

28. with thanksgiving to God for providing LCMS chaplains to serve members of the armed forces. Please pray that military chaplains would have every opportunity to share the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with members of the military and anyone with whom they work and live.

29. for all military chaplains upon their return, that they would be reunited with their families, find gainful employment and receive all the care they need to heal their minds, bodies and souls. Grant that they would always look to Christ as their rock and their redeemer.

30. for those who minister to the armed forces, that by God’s gracious working, they may honor Christ and advance the good of those committed to their care, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.