



FOR YOUR
STEADFAST
LOVE IS BEFORE
MY EYES, AND
I WALK IN YOUR
FAITHFULNESS.

Psalm 26:3, ESV

SEPTUAGESIMA

Living Hope Lutheran February 1, 2026

LIVING HOPE LUTHERAN

A Congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

3100 East Calumet Street • Appleton, Wisconsin •

appletonlutheran.com



Divine Worship. . . 2pm

Bible Study . . . 3pm

Andrew A. Schaller, Vacancy Pastor

Cell: (605) 880-7886

SEPTUAGESIMA

February 1, 2026

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP:

PSALM: 8

PRAYERS: Before Communing (Inside Cover, LSB);

HYMNS: LSB 724:1-4 LSB 779 LSB 724:7-10

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN: LSB 724:1-4 - "If God Himself Be for Me"

DIVINE SERVICE

(Setting 2, LSB Pg 167)

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

Congregation: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of us all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

C: ♪ Glory be to God on highest, and peace to His people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For You alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray...

C: Amen.

OT LESSON

JEREMIAH 9:23-24

²³ Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, ²⁴ but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord." *

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON:

PHILIPPIANS 1:27-2:4

²⁷ Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹ For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰ engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. *

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Please Rise.

**C: ♪ Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

P: The Gospel Reading is taken from the Gospel according to the Evangelist Luke, from the 10th Chapter we read beginning at verse 38.

C: ♪ Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL LESSON:**LUKE 10:38-42**

³⁸ Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. ³⁹ And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, ⁴² but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her." *

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪ Praise to You, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF FAITH:**THE NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN: LSB 779 - *"Come, My Soul, with Every Care"*

THE SERMON:

JONAH 2:1-10

Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the fish's belly. ² And he said: "I cried out to the LORD because of my affliction, and He answered me. "Out of the belly of Sheol I cried, *and* You heard my voice.

³ For You cast me into the deep, Into the heart of the seas, and the floods surrounded me; All Your billows and Your waves passed over me. ⁴ Then I said, 'I have been cast out of Your sight; Yet I will look again toward Your holy temple.'

⁵ The waters surrounded me, *even* to my soul; The deep closed around me; Weeds were wrapped around my head. ⁶ I went down to the moorings of the mountains; The earth with its bars *closed* behind me forever; Yet You have brought up my life from the pit, O LORD, my God. ⁷ "When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the LORD; and my prayer went *up* to You, Into Your holy temple.

⁸ "Those who regard worthless idols Forsake their own Mercy. ⁹ But I will sacrifice to You With the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation *is* of the LORD."

¹⁰ So the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry *land*.**

LEARN OF JONAH...

HOW TO PRAY IN DIFFICULT TIMES

Pray to the LORD, the True God with Thanks.

Pray to the LORD, recognizing that He alone can save.

P: Please Rise.

THE OFFERTORY

♪ What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take up the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

THE OFFERINGS OF THANKFUL HEARTS

We express our thanksgiving for what the Savior Jesus has done for us by supporting His Work with our time, talents and gifts.

PRAYER(S)

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God. Now we praise You that You sent to us Your only-begotten Son and that in him, being found as a man, you did show the fulness of Your glory. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

THE SANCTUS

C: ♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sins and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament.

Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end.

Graciously receive our prayers: deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as drink it, in remembrance of Me."

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

THE 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.

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

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

C: ♪ Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT:



Why doesn't our church pass the Sacrament out in the pews, as some churches do? Well, because we understand Communion very differently than others do. We understand the Lord's Supper to have just as great a potential for harm as it has for good. For that reason, we do not give it out until we have determined that it will work for your good and the good of the church. In fact, we do not even commune our own children until they have been properly instructed. For this reason, we trust that those of other faiths will understand our practice of asking all who wish to commune to prepare with the pastor first.

THANK THE LORD

C: ♪ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell eve'ryone what He has done. Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this spiritual gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION: (Pastor)

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: LSB 724:7-10 - *"If God Himself Be For Me"*

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in Jesus' name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us and hope that you will return again. If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please either speak with the pastor on the way out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 1, 2026

THIS AFTERNOON AFTER WORSHIP:

✓ **Bible Study** (Reformation Part Two); **Sunday School**.

THIS WEEK

Sunday: Worship 2pm, Bible Study/Sun School 3pm.

HOLY COMMUNION

Living Hope's Council determined that Holy Communion would be offered on the 1st and 2nd Sunday of each month during the vacancy. If any member should desire private communion, they need only speak with Pastor Schaller who would be happy to provide it.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation Class will continue resume this Wednesday February 4th at 4:30pm.

MINUTES OF THE LIVING HOPE ANNUAL MEETING

(January 18, 2026)

President Oster called the meeting to order the afternoon of January 18, 2026. Eight voters and Pastor Schaller were present.

Reports:

✓ *Mr. Johannes read the minutes from the November 11, 2025, Quarterly Voters Meeting. Mr. Youngerberg moved to accept the minutes as read. The voters supported and approved the motion.*

✓ *Mr. Dumke presented the Treasurer's report for the 4th quarter and year of 2025.*

✓ *Mr. King presented the Financial Secretary's Report for the 4th quarter and year of 2025. Offering statements have been emailed and/or printed and in mailboxes at church. Student Aid fund has been reallocated based on member updates.*

President Oster thanked the men for their reports.

Pastor's Report: *Pastor Schaller updated the voters on current classes and outreach to newer members and those that were having classes previously with Pastor Ude. He has also been updating the website with the weekly bulletin and FDL's service link.*

Committee Updates: *School Exploration: no updates at this time*

Building and Grounds: Roof replacement and Carpet cleaning has been postponed until spring. The Door knobs for the front and back door have been replaced.

Outreach: No update at this time.

Unfinished Business:

Housing and Insurance allowance: The council recommended that we increase our housing allowance the last \$200 to be up to date in preparation for a new pastor. A motion was made and approved by the voters to increase the housing allowance by that amount (\$1,550 per month to \$1,750).

New Business

Mr. Dumke presented the proposed budget for 2026. He mentioned that the number are a bit skewed since we currently don't have a full-time pastor. The voters moved to approve and accepted the proposed budget. Mr. Dumke was thanked for his work on this.

CBP Estimate. The council recommended that we set our CBP estimate the same as last year at \$5,500 as we did meet that amount as of the end of June. Motion was made to keep it at \$5,500 and was approved. Pastor Schaller will send this estimate to the CLC.

Lent Schedule. In the event we do not have a full-time pastor for lent the midweek and holy week services were discussed. Coordinating with Pastor Schaller the following was decided: Ash Wednesday service on Thursday night at 6:30PM. No midweek lent services (Pastor Schaller noted that he would be participating in a pulpit exchange for midweek Lenten services) Good Friday Evening service at 6:30 PM (FDL has Maundy Thursday evening service and Good Friday afternoon service) Easter would be at normal time (2PM) with brunch possibly before.

Council Election

The nomination list for the open council position due to the end of Mr. Kings' term was Mark King, Craig Youngerberg, James Harper, Dan Barthels. No further names were put forth. After two rounds of voting, Mr. King was reelected for another three-year term.

Other:

Items on hold during vacancy: Little Free Library, Depression Seminar, CDF Seminar

Reminder:

Mr. Dumke moved to adjourn the meeting. The voters supported and approved the motion. The Voters meeting of Living Hope Lutheran Church adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,
Michael Johannes
Living Hope Lutheran Church

"THIS SUNDAY IS CALLED 'SEPTUA-WHAT?'"

When the pastor organizes the worship service he uses what is called a Pericope (meaning literally: 'a cutting out') a set of verses that form one unit or thought. (FYI, we are following the Eisenach Pericope which was developed in 1896 to supplement the historic Scripture readings for each Sunday in the Church Year -- which are listed in the front of the Lutheran Hymnal).

This year our pericope has fewer Sundays after Epiphany and includes three pre-Lent Sundays: Septuagesima (meaning 70), Sexagesima (meaning 60) and Quinquagesima (you guessed it, meaning 50). These number names do not designate exact periods of time until Easter but are only general markers of time from Easter. Technically Speaking, from Septuagesima until the Saturday after Easter it is 70 days.

Septuagesima reminds of the 70 years of captivity that God's people underwent in Babylon. It urges us to begin the return journey from bondage to sin toward the Promised Land. This first Sunday pre-lent reminds us that it is God's grace alone which we can thank if we are called as His people.

How is My Mission Offering Used?



We are privileged to share in the work of God's Kingdom with our sister congregations in the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC).

Living Hope's Budget includes \$5,500.00 for the CLC General Fund. In addition to this, individual offerings that are designated for "Missions" are also contributions to the *General Fund* of the CLC. These offerings support our mission of sharing the Gospel through Christian Education at Immanuel Lutheran High School, College and Seminary (Regents); supporting mission congregations and outreach in North America, Latin America, Asia, and Africa (Missions); supporting Christian Education and Publishing (Education and Publications); and funding the business expenses of our church body (Trustees).

Offerings to the CLC General Fund are budgeted for the various ministries that we have undertaken as a church body. The budgeted total offering revenue for this fiscal year (July 1, 2025 — June 30, 2026) is \$1,265,097.

Your Mission Dollar FY26



Board of Regents
56 cents



Board of Missions
36½ cents

Brd of Trustees
5½ cents

Bd of Ed. & Pub
2 cents

Board of Regents — The CLC subsidizes the Christian education at Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary (ILC) in Eau Claire. In this fiscal year, the total ILC operating budget is \$1,724,100. The synodical subsidy is 42% of the operating budget. The balance of the operating expenses are funded via student revenue. www.ilc.edu

Board of Missions —These funds are used to aid the work of the gospel in our domestic (1 congregation) and foreign mission fields. The CLC currently has three full-time missionaries. www.lutheranmissions.org

Board of Education and Publications — The Board of Education and Publications oversees various publishing projects, provides resources and encouragement in Christian education (including assisting congregations to start Christian Day Schools—see EduK8 Fund below), and it oversees the CLC websites and CLC Book House.

Board of Trustees — These funds support the administration of the financial affairs of the church body and the “Old Retirement Plan” of the CLC.

Additional Funds have been created to support various efforts in the CLC as offerings allow. None of your Mission offerings go to these funds, however, an offering can be designated for these funds at any time.

Mission Development Fund (MDF) — This fund finances various extra-budgetary projects and aid efforts. Examples of MDF projects: Bibles for missions, translations, exploratory mission work, bicycles, motorcycles.

Kinship supports orphans in India and Nepal as well as seminary students and pastors’ widows. Kinship also provides aid after natural disasters and for other humanitarian needs among our foreign missions.

Student Aid Fund (SAF) —This fund supports the grants, loans, and work-study offered to students at ILC in an effort to make the Christian education at ILC as affordable as possible.

ILC Improvement Fund (IIF) — These funds are used for larger maintenance and capital improvement projects on the ILC campus and its buildings.

Church Extension Fund (CEF) — These resources are loaned to congregations at low mortgage rates for building projects. Mortgage payments replenish the fund.

EduK8 Fund — A fund for Christian Education for the purpose of assisting CLC congregations in the establishment and ongoing support of Christian Day Schools.

Immanuel Lutheran College Building Fund— This fund is used to pay for new building projects on the campus of Immanuel Lutheran College, High School, and Seminary.

CLC CALL NEWS

Messiah Lutheran Church of Eau Claire, Wisconsin has called Pastor Jonah Albrecht who serves Redemption Ev. Lutheran Church in Lynnwood WA (Seattle) and Ascension Lutheran in Tacoma, WA • Pastor Emeritus John Schierenbeck has returned the call to serve as Vacancy Pastor of Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane WA. • Pastor Johnathan Schnose of Bethel Ev. Lutheran Church, Morris, MN, has been called by Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church in Spokane, WA. • Mr. Peter Reim has returned the call to serve as Vacancy Pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Red Wing, MN. • Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea Lutheran School in Inver Grove Heights, MN has been called to serve Redeemer Lutheran School in Cheyenne, WY. • Living Hope Lutheran in Appleton, WI, has called Pastor Paul Agenten who currently serves Calvary Lutheran (Marquette) and St. Peter Lutheran (Stambaugh). • Pastor John Hein of Grace Lutheran Church in Fridley MN, has announced his retirement as of January 31, 2026. He has also resigned from the CLC Board of Regents.

Missions/Cooperative Budget Plan Pledge 2025-26

The Cooperative Budget Plan (CBP) is a pledge established by the Voters of Living Hope to participate in the work of the Church of the Lutheran Confession. This fiscal year runs from July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

Amount Pledged 2025	Received as of 1/25/26	Amount Remaining	Approximate per Sunday (25)
\$5,500.00	\$2,772.50	\$2,727.50	\$109.00

Living Hope General Budget 2026

The Voters of Luther Memorial established the General Fund Budget at the Annual Meeting on January 18, 2026. All Budgetary offerings are applied to this budget. This fiscal year runs from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026.

General Budget	Received as of 1/25/26	Amount Remaining	Remaining Amount (49 Sundays)
\$101,679.00	\$4,151.50	\$97,527.50	\$1,990.00

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HOME DEVOTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 2-7, 2026

Monday – Matthew 8:23-27 Jesus could sleep in the middle of a terrible storm because even the wind and the sea obey Him (v27)! Such is the glory of God's own Son!

Tuesday – Romans 13:8-10 Following Christ does not mean we do not pay lawful debts, but Christian love goes beyond the mere payments owed and serves the best interest of one's neighbor.

Wednesday – Isaiah 43:1-3 Jesus embodied the promises of old, was with the disciples when they passed through the waters (v2), and saved mankind from the fire that their sins deserve.

Thursday - Psalm 97 When the LORD rules, that is surely something to celebrate, for His righteousness wins over all evil, and all the peoples see His glory (v6). He guards, delivers, and brings light and joy to His people.

Friday – Psalm 2:1-6 Why? Why-ever would the people and rulers of this world rage against the LORD who saves by His Christ? Thankfully they cannot stop Him from establishing His King on the throne.

Saturday – Psalm 2:7-12 The Son speaks of the Father's decree, very much like the announcement at Jesus' baptism and transfiguration: "This is my beloved Son!" How blessed are all who take refuge in Him (v12).



These devotions are produced by Pastor/Professor Emeritus Paul Schaller and sent out on a weekly basis. Graphics in the bulletin are taken from Church Art Online via a regular legal subscription.