

**Who is he, this King of glory?
The **LORD** Almighty -
he is the King of glory.**

Psalm 24:10



QUINQUAGESIMA

Luther Memorial Church February 15, 2026

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

A Congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

134 21st Street • Fond du Lac, Wisconsin • fdllutheran.com

**Yea, all kings
shall fall down
before him: all
nations shall
serve him.**



Psalm 72:11

Bible Study/Sunday School. 9am

Worship. 10am

Andrew A. Schaller, Pastor

Church: (920) 922-7421; (605) 880-7886

QUINQUAGESIMA

February 15, 2026

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP:

PSALM: 14 (TLH Pg. 124);

PRAYERS: 74 (Pg. 109); **73** (Pg. 109).

HYMNS: 718 361 341 658

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN: 718 - "O Jesus, King of Glory"

A SERVICE OF THE WORD

(Worship Supplement Pg. 22)

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

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

Congregation: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

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

C: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We stand forgiven. With boldness and confidence, we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: 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.

OT LESSON:

JEREMIAH 8:4-9

4 "You shall say to them, Thus says the Lord:

When men fall, do they not rise again? If one turns away, does he not return? **5** Why then has this people turned away in perpetual backsliding? They hold fast to deceit; they refuse to return. **6** I have paid attention and listened, but they have not spoken rightly; no man relents of his evil, saying, 'What have I done?' Everyone turns to his own course, like a horse plunging headlong into battle.

7 Even the stork in the heavens knows her times, and the turtledove, swallow, and crane keep the time of their coming, but my people know not the rules of the Lord.

8 "How can you say, 'We are wise, and the law of the Lord is with us'? But behold, the lying pen of the scribes has made it into a lie.

9 The wise men shall be put to shame; they shall be dismayed and taken; behold, they have rejected the word of the Lord, so what wisdom is in them? *

EPISTLE:

1 CORINTHIANS 1:21-31

21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. **22** For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, **23** but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, **24** but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25** For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

26 For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”*

GOSPEL:

JOHN 11:47-57

⁴⁷ So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. ⁴⁸ If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.”

⁴⁹ But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all. ⁵⁰ Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.” ⁵¹ He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, ⁵² and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. ⁵³ So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

⁵⁴ Jesus therefore no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there to the region near the wilderness, to a town called Ephraim, and there he stayed with the disciples.

⁵⁵ Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. ⁵⁶ They were looking for Jesus and saying to one another as they stood in the temple, “What do you think? That he will not come to the feast at all?” ⁵⁷ Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him. *

CONFESSTION OF FAITH:

APOSTLES CREED

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.

HYMN: 361 - "O Jesus King Most Wonderful"

THE SERMON:

ZECHARIAH 6:12-13

¹² Then speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: "Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, and He shall build the temple of the LORD; ¹³ Yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD. He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne, And the counsel of peace shall be between them both."**

THE MAN WHOSE NAME IS 'THE BRANCH'

He will build the Temple of the Lord

He will be both KING and PRIEST

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. Should you wish to leave a gift, there are offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary. As our gifts are brought forward to His Altar, we sing His Praise.

THE OFFERING HYMN

(LSB 397:1-2,4)

¶ As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold; As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright; So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee.

¶ As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare, So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy, All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.

¶ Holy Jesus, ev'ry day Keep us in the narrow way; And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

PRAYER(S) /THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: 341 - *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"*

THE BENEDICTION: (Pastor) CONGREGATION: "Amen."

CLOSING HYMN: 658 - *"Onward, Christian Soldiers"*

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in Jesus' name. If you have any questions about our church or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please either speak with the pastor or with an usher on the way out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 15, 2026

THIS WEEK

Tuesday: LM Mission Committee 6pm

Thursday: LH Confirmation Class 4:00pm

Sunday: Bible Study/Sunday School 9am; Worship 10am

GENERAL BUDGET

The 2026 General Budget has been set by the Voters in our Annual Meeting at: \$120,120.00. We have thus far received: \$ 13,891.74 toward that budget.

COOPERATIVE BUDGET PLEDGE

We have pledged to send \$22,000 to support the work of the LORD in our church body, the Church of the Lutheran Confession in 2025-26. This fiscal year runs from July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026. Thus far we have received \$ 14,245.00 toward that pledge.

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP HOUR 2026

There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board for those who would like to host a Family Fellowship Hour during 2026. Please take a look and sign up when you can host!

"BUSINESS CARDS"

On your way out you may notice some 'business cards' on the stand with the Guestbook. Feel free to take a few and share them with any unchurched friends. They read: "If we meet and you forget me You have lost nothing. But if you meet Jesus Christ and forget Him You have lost everything!" There is information about Jesus and Luther Memorial on the back of each card.

FUNERAL OBITUARY

After having written more than 50 Funeral Obituaries, I have had a number of people ask me to write theirs in advance. If you would like the pastor to work on that for you, feel free to ask him.

"THIS SUNDAY IS CALLED 'QUINQUA-WHAT?'

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. It is roughly 50 days from Quinquagesima until Easter Week.

Quinquagesima historically pictures our Savior Jesus in His way up to Jerusalem. His disciples follow with fear and anxiety. He alone can see. He alone knows the goal. But He graciously opens our blind eyes so that we may also 'go up to Jerusalem' with joyful, seeing eyes.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HELPERS

The schedule for 2026 for Communion Distribution Helpers is on the LM Calendar, which can be accessed on the website at – www.fdllutheran.com If you are a voter and would like to be added to the schedule, speak with Pastor Schaller.

WORSHIP CREW

We are always in need of help in carrying out our worship service without an organist. If you've been thinking that you could help with the slides or the streaming service and would like to learn how to do it, please speak with Mr. Rodney Kern.

PASTORAL SHORTAGE IN THE CLC

Please pray that the Lord Jesus provide workers for our CLC Pulpits. Most recently Pastor John Hein retired for health reasons (cancer), leaving Grace Lutheran in Fridley MN without a pastor. Pastor Richard Kanzenbach has recently announced his intention to retire in the summer of 2026, which will leave St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Lemmon, SD without a pastor. Pastor Ted Barthels has also announced his retirement from the pastoral ministry April 30th, 2026.

As it stands now, we have or will have 8 churches, 9 openings in the pastoral and teaching ministry: 1) Grace in Fridley MN; 2) Trinity in Spokane WA; 3) Holy Cross in Phoenix AZ; 4) Our Redeemer's in Red Wing MN; 5) St. Luke's in Lemmon, SD; 6) Messiah in Eau Claire, WI; 7) Living Hope of Appleton, WI; 8) St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran in Austin, MN; 9) ILC is short a professor. We anticipate 1 graduate from Seminary in the next 3 years and we have 21 Pastors and Professors over 60 years old, 19 that are over 65 and 9 that are over 70 years of age. There are 14 men in the Pre-Theology Program at ILC, but it will take at least 7 years to graduate them...if they continue. We may have a shortage for at least the next decade. We have 50 pastors serving 65 congregations in the CLC. But don't think that this is an issue facing only the CLC. In the CLC, 11% of our congregations have vacancies. In the WELS they are also at 11%. The LCMS is at 20% and the ELCA seems to be much higher, for every 200 pastors that are graduated, 400 retire. What is the point of all this? Be thankful that you have a pastor and pray that God moves other men to serve.

LENTEN WORSHIP

This Wednesday, February 18th is Ash Wednesday and marks the beginning of the 40-day penitential season of Lent. The Lenten Series chosen this year is entitled: "Return to the Lord your God." This season we will focus on God's call to His people to repent and remove the things that could get in the way of our returning to God. It is God's desire to be our God and for us to be His people. The themes are: A Call to Return, Return to Prayer, Return from Betrayal, Return from False Witness, Return from Denial, Return to the Kingdom of God, Return to the Table (Maundy Thursday), Return to Truth (Good Friday).

Our Lenten Theme includes a pulpit rotation with our sister congregations: Ascension Lutheran in Batavia IL (Chicago), Messiah Lutheran in Hales Corners (Milwaukee), and Peace Through Christ in Middleton (Madison).

CLC Financial Report - January 2026

Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2025	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 7 Months	Balance 1/31/2026
General Fund	0	722,388	706,295	737,975	16,093
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	1,179,375	968,274	1,035,440	211,101
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	99,143	23,494	30,499		92,138
ILC Building Projects	2,066,713	398,746	340		2,465,119
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	148,402	186,887	149,006		186,283
Kinship	169,472	137,704	124,852		182,324
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	2,503,796	515,109	600,222		2,418,683
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	101,689	124,817	165,128		61,378
EduK8 Fund	70,311	51,739	30,000		92,050
Reserve Fund	103,629	2,321	0		105,950
Auxiliary Funds Totals	\$5,263,155	\$1,440,817	\$1,100,047		\$5,603,925

General Fund – The positive balance in the General Fund increased slightly this month and now sits at about \$16,000, which is \$20,000 ahead of last year.

ILC Operations – January, the first month of the second semester at ILC, is generally a good month for revenue and this year is no exception. Revenues were about \$50,000 more than disbursements, increasing the ending balance by that amount.

Kinship – Contributions continue to be strong and are up 54% over the same period last year.

Church Extension Fund – Year to date revenue consists of regular monthly payments received from congregations on loans they owe the CLC and a lump-sum payoff of one loan for a total of about \$347,000. Revenue also includes \$167,000 from increases in the market value of the investments. Disbursements include \$559,000 loaned to a member congregation for their building project.

EduK8 Fund – Another \$10,000 was disbursed in January to assist one of our Christian day schools.

Other Auxiliary Funds – The activity in the other funds in the table above is similar to the activity in the same period a year ago.

Stephen R. Lentz, CLC Treasurer
Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

CLC CALL NEWS

Messiah Lutheran Church of Eau Claire, Wisconsin has called Pastor Tim Daub who serves Prince of Peace Lutheran in Hecla, SD. Pastor Daub has returned the call of Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire. • Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Rapid City, SD, has been called by Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Phoenix, AZ. • Pastor Emeritus John Schierenbeck has accepted the call to serve as Vacancy Pastor of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Red Wing, MN. • Seminarian Sam Radermacher, in conjunction with his vicarship under Pastor Wayne Eichstadt of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA, has received the summer vacancy call to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Spokane, WA. • Pastor Ted Barthels of St. Paul Lutheran in Austin, MN, has announced his retirement from the pastoral ministry as of April 30, 2026.

Missions/Cooperative Budget Plan Pledge 2025-26

The Cooperative Budget Plan (CBP) is a pledge established by the Voters of Luther Memorial 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 2/8/26	Amount Remaining	Approximate per Sunday (23)
\$22,000	\$14,245.00	\$7,755.00	\$337.00

The Offerings of Thankful Hearts – LM Offerings 2/8/26

Attendance: 2/8 - 74

General Fund (Budgetary)	General Missions (CBP)	LM Building (Non-Budgetary)	M& I Fund (Non-Budgetary)
\$2,835.00	\$585.00	\$20.00	\$500.00
Total Offerings: \$3,940.00			

Luther Memorial General Budget 2026

The Voters of Luther Memorial established the General Fund Budget at the Annual Meeting January 18, 2026. The fiscal year is from January 1 – December 31, 2026.

General Budget	Received as of 2/8/26	Amount Remaining	Remaining Amount (47 Sundays)
\$120,120.00	\$13,891.74	\$106,228.26	\$2,260.00

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READINGS FOR DEVOTIONS FEBRUARY 16-21, 2026

Monday – Matthew 17:1-9 With Jesus on the mountain, Peter, James, and John beheld the Lord's glory as He spoke with Moses and Elijah. His face and clothing shined, but His word was what they should listen to.

Tuesday - 2 Peter 1:16-21 Years later Peter still remembers the Lord's heavenly majesty on that special mountain, but he points us to the prophetic word, which is like a lamp shining in a dark place (v19).

Wednesday – Matthew 6:16-18 *Ash Wednesday.* As we prepare for Easter with a season of penitence, may fasting and all our customs be acts of repentance and thanksgiving, not mere shows to gain earthly honor.

Thursday - Matthew 6:19-21 There are treasures on earth and there are treasures in heaven. Those in heaven outlast anything on earth, are far more worthy of our heart's desire, and freely ours in Christ.

Friday - Isaiah 59:12-21 Our many sins are in fact rebellion against the Lord (vv12-15). The LORD sees there is none to work salvation, so His own arm will work salvation for Zion (vv16-21). Thanks be to God!

Saturday – Psalm 51 As we recognize with David our need for cleansing, we turn to a gracious God, asking Him to create a clean heart within us (v12), that our joy in His salvation may be shared with other sinners (v13).



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.

HYMN SHEET

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PSALM 14

¹The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good.

²The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God.

³They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.

⁴Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call upon the Lord?

⁵There they are in great terror, for God is with the generation of the righteous. ⁶You would shame the plans of the poor, but the Lord is his refuge.

⁷Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the Lord restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.*

PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP

FOR PEACE

O God, you are the author of peace. Defend us, your humble servants, against every assault of our enemies, that we, surely trusting in Your defense, may not fear the power of any adversary; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOR THE BLESSEDNESS OF HEAVEN

Almighty, Everlasting God, who gave Your only Son to be a High Priest of good things to come, hereafter grant to us, Your unworthy servants, to have our share in the company of the blessed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN:

O JESUS, KING OF GLORY

1. O Jesus, King of glory, Both David's Lord and Son! Your rule endures forever; In heaven is Your throne. Help that in earth's dominions, From pole to farthest pole, Your reign may spread salvation To each benighted soul.

2. The eastern Magi, coming Their gifts of love to bring, Bear witness to Your glory And worship You, their King. To You the star is pointing And the prophetic Word; So joyously we hail You: Our Savior and our Lord.

3. You are a mighty monarch, As by Your Word is told, And yet You care but little For earthly goods or gold. You do not come displaying Your power and renown. You dwell in no high castle; You wear no jeweled crown.

4. Oh, look on me with pity Though I am weak and poor; Admit me to your kingdom To dwell there, blest and sure. I pray, Lord, guide and keep me Safe from my bitter foes, From sin and death and Satan; Free me from all my woes.

5. Then let Your Word within me Shine as the fairest star; Keep sin and all false doctrine Forever from me far. Help me confess You truly And with all Christendom Here hail You King and Savior And in the world to come.

HYMN

O JESUS, KING MOST WONDERFUL

1. O Jesus, King most wonderful, Thou Conqueror renowned, Thou Sweetness most ineffable, In whom all joys are found!

2. When once Thou visitest the heart, Then truth begins to shine, Then earthly vanities depart, Then kindles love divine.

3. O Jesus, Light of all below, Thou Fount of life and fire, Surpassing all the joys we know, All that we can desire—

4. May every heart confess Thy name And ever Thee adore And, seeking Thee, itself inflame To seek Thee more and more!

5. Thee may our tongues forever bless, Thee may we love alone, And ever in our lives express The image of Thine own!

THE OFFERING HYMN

(LSB 397:1-2,4)

¶ As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold; As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright; So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee.

¶ As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare, So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy, All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.

¶ Holy Jesus, ev'ry day Keep us in the narrow way; And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

HYMN**CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS**

1. Crown Him with many crowns The Lamb upon His throne; Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns All music but its own. Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee And hail Him as thy matchless King Through all eternity.

2. Crown Him the Virgin's Son, The God incarnate born, Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow adorn; Fruit of the mystic rose, As of that rose the stem; The root whence mercy ever flows, The Babe of Bethlehem.

3. Crown Him the Lord of Love. Behold His hands and side, Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified. No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight, But downward bends his wondering eye At mysteries so bright!

4. Crown Him the Lord of Life Who triumphed o'er the grave And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save. His glories now we sing Who died and rose on high, Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.

5. Crown Him the Lord of Heaven, Enthroned in worlds above, Crown Him the King to whom is given The wondrous name of Love. Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall; Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns For He is King of all.

HYMN**ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS**

1. Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war, With the cross of Jesus Going on before. Christ, the royal Master, Leads against the Foe; Forward into battle See His banners go! Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war, With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

2. Like a mighty army Moves the Church of God; Brothers, we are treading Where the saints have trod. We are not divided, All one body we, One in hope and doctrine, One in charity. Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war, With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

3. Crowns and thrones may perish, Kingdoms rise and wane, But the Church of Jesus Constant will remain. Gates of hell can never 'Gainst that Church prevail; We have Christ's own promise, And that cannot fail. Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war, With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

**4. Onward, then, ye faithful, Join our happy throng, Blend with
ours your voices In the triumph-song; Glory, laud, and honor Unto
Christ the King; This, through countless ages, Men and angels sing.
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war, With the cross of
Jesus Going on before. Amen.**