

## THE SON OF MAN

MUST BE DELIVERED INTO THE HANDS OF SINFUL  
MEN, BE CRUCIFIED AND ON THE THIRD DAY  
BE RAISED AGAIN.

LUKE 24:7

### LENT ONE

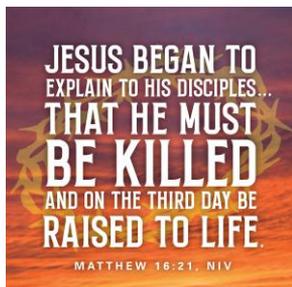
Living Hope Lutheran . . . . . February 22, 2026

# LIVING HOPE LUTHERAN

A Congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

3100 East Calumet Street • Appleton, Wisconsin •

[appletonlutheran.com](http://appletonlutheran.com)



Divine Worship. . . . 2pm

Bible Study . . . . 3pm

Andrew A. Schaller, Vacancy Pastor

Cell: (605) 880-7886

## LENT ONE

February 22, 2026

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP:

PSALM: 91

PRAYERS: Before Worship (Cover, LSB);

HYMNS: LSB 421 LSB 873 LSB 438

### OPENING PRAYER

#### OPENING HYMN:

**LSB 421** *"Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing"*

#### 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:**

## **GENESIS 22:1-14**

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>2</sup>He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." <sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." <sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" <sup>8</sup>Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. <sup>9</sup>When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>12</sup>He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called the name of that place, "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided." \*

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE LESSON:****HEBREWS 4:15-16**

<sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. \*

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 Apostle Matthew, from the 16<sup>th</sup> Chapter we read beginning at verse 21.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL LESSON:****MATTHEW 16:21-26**

<sup>21</sup>From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

<sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? \*

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 873** - *“Christ, Whose Glory fills the Skies”*

## **THE SERMON:**

## **MATTHEW 20:17-19**

<sup>17</sup>And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way he said to them, <sup>18</sup>“See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death <sup>19</sup>and deliver him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day.”\*\*

## **WHO HAD A HAND IN THE CRUCIFIXION?**

Part One: Jesus.

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 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.

**THE BENEDICTION:** (Pastor)

C: Amen.

### **CLOSING HYMN:**

**LSB 438** - *"A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"*

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 22, 2026

### THIS AFTERNOON AFTER WORSHIP:

✓ Bible Study; Sunday School

### THIS WEEK

**Thursday:** Confirmation Class 4pm; Lenten Service 6:30pm

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

### HOLY COMMUNION

*Living Hope's Council determined that Holy Communion would be offered on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Thursday February 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.*

## RETURN TO THE LORD

### **February 25, 2026 – Return from False Witness**

Pastor Andrew Schaller

**Matthew 26:57-68; Psalm 27:11-14; Acts 22:12-16**

**151 723 145**

### **March 25, 2026 – Return to the Kingdom of God**

Pastor Andrew Schaller

**John 18:12-14, 28-38; Isaiah 53:1-3; 1 Timothy 2:1-7**

**721 400 153**

### **Mauudy Thursday – Return to the Table**

Pastor Andrew Schaller

**Mark 14:12-26; Exodus 24:3-11; Psalm 116:12-19**

**310 311 313**

## **LENTEN WORSHIP**

*This Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 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
<b>Auxiliary Funds</b>					
ILC Improvement Fund (IF)	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
<b>Auxiliary Funds T totals</b>	<b>\$5,263,155</b>	<b>\$1,440,817</b>	<b>\$1,100,047</b>		<b>\$5,603,925</b>

**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**

*Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Rapid City, SD, has returned the call of 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. ● The CLC Call Committee for Educational Institutions has called Dr. Dan Sullivan to serve as professor at Immanuel, replacing Professor David Schaller. ● Pastor Tom Naumann of Mount Zion Lutheran in Madison Heights (Detroit) MI has been called by Grace Lutheran Church in Fridley MN. ● Living Hope Lutheran of Appleton, WI, has called Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld of Redemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, MI.*

### **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.*

<b>Amount Pledged 2025</b>	<b>Received as of 2/19/26</b>	<b>Amount Remaining</b>	<b>Approximate per Sunday (21)</b>
\$5,500.00	\$3,082.75	\$2,417.25	\$115.00

### **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.*

<b>General Budget</b>	<b>Received as of 2/19/26</b>	<b>Amount Remaining</b>	<b>Remaining Amount (46 Sundays)</b>
\$101,679.00	\$7,875.00	\$93,804.00	\$2,039.00

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## **BIBLE READING DEVOTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 23-28, 2026**

**Monday – Matthew 4:1-11** Jesus, our Substitute, was tempted in all ways like we are, yet without sin, that through both His living and His dying, we might be reconciled to God. He took no short-cuts to save us all.

**Tuesday - 2 Corinthians 6:1-10** Paul urges us to rely on God's abundant grace in all troubles, hardships, and difficulties. As the apostles were sustained through suffering, so shall all God's children also be upheld.

**Wednesday – Genesis 3** The whole reason for Jesus' suffering and death on the cross is laid out for us in this chapter. Adam and Eve's fall into sin is answered by the LORD's promise of victory over the Tempter (v15).

**Thursday – Psalm 16** During the Lenten season, this Psalm is worth repeating, as both Peter and Paul (Acts 2 and 13) quoted from it as referring to Jesus. In His suffering, He trusted in God's promise of resurrection(v10).

**Friday – Psalm 32:1-7** With the promise of forgiveness, the LORD invites us to acknowledge our sin, confessing our transgressions. The interludes (Selah) may give us pause to ponder the wonder of His deliverance.

**Saturday – Psalm 32:8-11** May our gracious God teach us always to walk in His ways, trusting in His mercy, that others may observe our rejoicing in the LORD and also be drawn to trust His forgiving grace in Christ.



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.