

Seek
the LORD and
Live

Amos 5:6

SEXAGESIMA

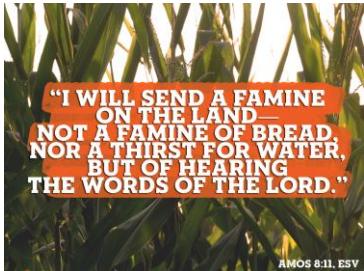
Living Hope Lutheran February 8, 2026

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

SEXAGESIMA

February 8, 2026

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP:

PSALM: 62

PRAYERS: Before Communing (Inside Cover, LSB);

HYMNS: LSB 908 LSB 523 LSB 577

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN: LSB 908 *"Lord, Open Now my Heart to Hear"*

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

AMOS 8:11-12

¹¹ “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord God, “when I will send a famine on the land— not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. ¹² They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of the Lord, but they shall not find it. *

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON:

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-21

¹² I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³ so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴ And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

¹⁵ Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. ¹⁶ The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁷ The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. ¹⁸ What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice, ¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰ as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. *

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 John, from the 11th Chapter we read beginning at verse 20.

C: ♫ Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL LESSON:

JOHN 11:20-27

²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.” *

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♫ Praise to You, O Christ.

CONFESION 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 523 - "O Word of God Incarnate"

THE SERMON:

AMOS 8:11-14

¹¹ “Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord God, “That I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the LORD. ¹² They shall wander from sea to sea, And from north to east; They shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD, But shall not find *it*.

¹³ “In that day the fair virgins And strong young men Shall faint from thirst. ¹⁴ Those who swear by the sin of Samaria, Who say, ‘As your god lives, O Dan!’ And, ‘As the way of Beersheba lives!’ They shall fall and never rise again.” **

THE WORST POSSIBLE FAMINE: OF THE WORD

Dismiss the Word of God...and this famine will come.
Spiritual Weakness...is the result.

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: J] 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 577 - "Almighty God, Your Word is Cast"

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 8, 2026

THIS AFTERNOON AFTER WORSHIP:

- ✓ Bible Study; Sunday School.

THIS WEEK

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

CALL MEETING

As you have all heard, Pastor Paul Agenten has returned our call. A Call meeting is scheduled for next Sunday February 15th following worship.

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 Thursday February 12th at 4:00pm.

"THIS SUNDAY IS CALLED 'SEXA-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. Technically Speaking, from Sexagesima until the Saturday after Easter it is 60 days.

Sexagesima pictures God as the Heavenly Sower who goes through the world and scatters the seed of His Word. God's power can make good ground out of stony ground, ground which will bring forth much fruit.

PASTORAL SHORTAGE IN THE CLC

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

As it stands now, we have or will have 7, possibly 8 churches without a pastor: 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) 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. Be thankful that you have a pastor and pray that God moves other men to serve.

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

Pastor Jonah Albrecht has returned the call of Messiah Lutheran Church of Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Messiah has since called Pastor Tim Daub who serves Prince of Peace Lutheran in Hecla, SD. • Pastor Johnathan Schnose has returned the call of Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church in Spokane, WA. • Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea Lutheran School in Inver Grove Heights, MN has been called to serve Redeemer Lutheran School in Cheyenne, WY. • Pastor Paul Agenten has returned the call of Living Hope Lutheran in Appleton, WI. • Pastor Wayne Eichstadt has been appointed to finish the term of Pastor John Hein on the CLC Board of Regents. He has accepted that appointment. He will remain the CLC Secretary until a replacement is appointed by President Michael Wilke. • Pastor Emeritus John Schierenbeck has been called to serve as vacancy pastor of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Redwing, MN. • Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Rapid City, SD, has been called by Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Phoenix, AZ.

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 9-14, 2026

Monday – Matthew 13:3-23 Even where heaven's King rules, the harvest is not always the same. The seed and Sower are the same, but still have opposition in many different forms, pictured by weeds, rocks, birds, etc.

Tuesday – Matthew 13:24-30 Why does not heaven's King simply wipe out the weeds sown by His enemy? Because He cares so much for the wheat which He has planted. But the day of harvest is coming.

Wednesday – Colossians 3:12-17 May all the love of our glorious Savior be reflected in our compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, and love toward one another, whether in word or deed.

Thursday – Jeremiah 17:5-10 Evil proceeds from misplaced trust, such as trusting in human strength. Following such a heart leads to disaster, but blessed is anyone who trusts in the LORD.

Friday – Psalm 86 “Blessed are the poor in spirit” (Matthew 5:3). In this Psalm we have the chance to pray with David, who was poor and needy. With him we look to the LORD who is good and forgiving, full of mercy.

Saturday – Psalm 20 As we worshiped the LORD in the day of peace and plenty, may we also look to Him in the day of distress. Some rely on earthly strength, but we will rely on the name of the LORD, our God (v7).



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.