

My Notes

Toward the end of February, we jumped into the very beginning of Lent; of course, starting with a party! We celebrated Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday experiencing friendly church fellowship at IHOP for the traditional pancakes of the season, knowing full-well Lent begins the very next day with Ash Wednesday, but I wrote all about that last month, so I'll quit rambling on.

The forty days of Lent in the ELCA Lutheran church is a period of penitence, preparation, and anticipation for the celebration of Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. I know, that's more than forty days, but we don't count Sundays. You see, Sundays are excluded from Lent because they are considered a day of celebration and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This tradition allows Christians to celebrate the resurrection on Sundays, which is a weekly reminder of the hope and joy that Christ's resurrection brings to all who believe. The exclusion of Sundays from the 40 days of fasting is rooted in the early Christian church's understanding of Sunday as a day to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. This practice emphasizes the balance between penance and joy, between mourning over sin and celebrating the new life that Christ offers. As a child, my Pastor simply told me, "every day is Easter!" The Lenten season is a time for repentance, reflection, and preparation for Christ's resurrection, emphasizing the victory over sin and death.

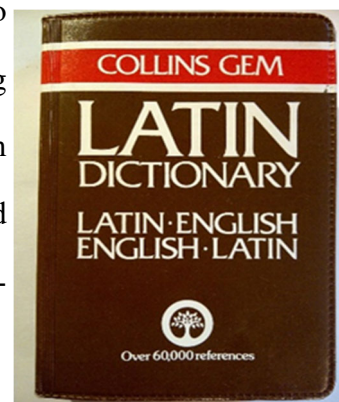


The color purple is traditionally used during Lent, symbolizing repentance, penance, and royalty, pointing to Jesus as the King who suffered and died for humanity's salvation. The practice of burying the alleluia is

Of course, Lent was observed by Christian churches for centuries before us Lutherans, and before the English language was invented. The word "Lent" comes from the Latin word (*don't try to pronounce this!!*) "Quadragesima/Quadragesimae" which means fortieth, actually "fortieth member of a series." Lent is associated with the 40

days Jesus spent in the desert. This number, in turn, echoes several Old Testament events:

- The 40 days and 40 nights of the great flood. (Genesis 7:4)
- Moses' 40 years as a shepherd in the desert before God called him to lead the Israelites out of slavery. (Acts 7:29-30)
- Moses' fast for 40 days and 40 nights on Mount Sinai before receiving the tables of commandments. (Ex 34:28)
- The 40 years the Israelites spent searching for the Promised Land. (Josh 5:6).
- The 40 days the prophet Elijah spent in the desert before meeting God on Mount Horeb. (1 Kgs 19:8)
- The 40 days that were given to the inhabitants of Nineveh before its announced destruction. (Jn. 3:4-5)



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OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday

9 am—3 pm

Closed on Friday

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We are glad that you have chosen to walk with us today. And we hope that God will move you to share your

Welcome, visitor!

Happiness is loving God.

Happiness is loving your neighbor as yourself!

Happiness is truly loving yourself!

COMMUNITY/SERVICE, GROWTH/OUTREACH MINISTRY

PENNIES FOR PRESCRIPTIONS.....RX Program, get rid of your pennies, put in jar for prescriptions: Interfaith Outreach Services are still implementing this program for the elderly and for persons who can not afford to buy their medications. We have a jug to put change in on the counter in Fellowship Hall.

USED EYE GLASSESYes! We still do collect eye glasses and cases. Sunglasses are also needed. So don't throw your old ones away, recycle them and bring them to the church and put in the box for eye glasses. They will be delivered to Hayley's Eye Clinic

FOOD BASKETS.....Food baskets go Wichita Falls Area Food Bank, Interfaith Outreach and Faith Mission, So lets fill the food baskets to the rim. Let's help stamp out hunger in our neighborhood.

The Risen Christ

The crucifix was laid to rest —
 His earthly labors o'er —
 In Joseph's own new sepulcher
 Where none had lain before.
 Among the people everywhere
 A startling rumor spread
 That on the *third day he would rise*
And live again, though dead!
 The High Priest gave authority
 To seal the entrance tight.
 And ordered Roman soldiers there
 To watch by day and night.
 The Sabbath of the Jews began,
 Then came the second day —
 While in the closely-guarded tomb
 His lifeless body lay.
 Throughout the watches of the night
 The hours dragged on apace —
The Day of Resurrection dawned —
 An earthquake shook the place!
 God's power loosed the bonds of death,
 And through the opened door
The Risen Christ came from the tomb
 To live forevermore!

—Author unknown

LECTONARY LESSONS

March 1, 2026: Second Sunday in Lent

Worship 10:15 a.m. Traditional Liturgy; Communion

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17 A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

March 8, 2026: Third Sunday in Lent

Worship 10:15 a.m. Traditional Liturgy; Communion

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42 Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads to many others to faith.

March 15, 2026: Fourth Sunday in Lent

Worship 10:15 a.m. Traditional Liturgy; Communion

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41 Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

March 22, 2026: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Worship 6:00 p.m. Traditional Liturgy; Communion

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45 Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him back to life.

March 29, 2026 Sunday of Passion; Palm Sunday

Worship 6:00 p.m. Traditional Liturgy; Communion





Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 26:14-27-27:11-54 In fulfillment of scripture and obedience to God's will, Jesus goes to the cross so that a new covenant in his blood may bring forgiveness of sins. Even the soldiers who crucify him recognize him to be the Son of God.

- ◆ One Sunday in a Midwest city a young child was “acting up” during morning worship. The parents did their best to maintain some sense of order but were losing the battle. Finally the father picked the little fellow up and walked sternly up the aisle on his way out. Just before reaching the safety of the foyer the little one called loudly to the congregation, “Pray for me! Pray for me!”

MARCH Volunteers	1	8	15	22	29
Tellers: Jim Lawrence David Deason					
	Cindy Pearce	Cindy Pearce	Cindy Pearce	Cindy Pearce	Cindy Pearce
					
	Susan Hrcirik	Carol Jones			
	Cindy Pearce	Gail Deason	David Deason	Jeff Hams	Chris Bybee

Trinity Members in Assisted Living: Hildegard Snyder, James Beegle, and Amber Ward. Cards sent to them would be appreciated. Share a bit of joy with them.

Have you chosen your date on the Flower Chart to furnish flowers for the Altar?

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

J.R. Krueger March 17

Tim Mussachio March 18

NO ANNIVERSARIES



Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 SS 9 am Worship 10:15 am	2	3	4 In Stitches 10 am	5 YL 6 pm	6	7
8 SS 9 am Worship 10:15 am	9 ASG 1 pm	10	11 In Stitches 10 am	12	13	14
15 SS 9 am Worship 10:15 am	16	17 St. Patty Day	18 In Stitches 10 am	19 YL 6 pm	20	21
22 SS 9 am Worship 10:15 am	23 ASG 1 pm	24	25 In Stitches 10 am	26	27	28
29 Palm Sunday 10:15 am	30	30				

Corny Humor!!!

- Why are people who live on a hill never trustworthy?
Because they're not on the level!
- Once I got mad at the chef at an Italian restaurant, so I gave him a pizza my mind.
- Everyone has a photographic memory.
Some just don't have film.

Name: _____

ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



- | | | |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| Ash | Holy Week | Palm Branch |
| Wednesday | Holy Thursday | Forty Days |
| Sacrifice | Good Friday | Jesus |
| Almsgiving | Holy Saturday | Passover |
| Prayer | Easter | Foot Washing |
| Fasting | Palm Sunday | Resurrection |
| Lent | Purple | Love |



