

Ascension Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod

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March 21, 2021

Pastor: Rev. Adam Thompson
pastor@ascensionpgh.com

Secretary: Barbara Marcellus
secretary@ascensionpgh.com

Music Director: Vanessa Candreva
music@ascensionpgh.com

Welcome To Our Guest

It is a great joy to have you here today. We pray that your time with us has helped to deepen your faith in our Lord, Jesus Christ. If we can be of service to you or your family, we invite you to talk to us at your convenience. You will always be welcome here. Please do us the honor of signing the guest sheet at the podium at the front of the church or at the entrance from the Education Wing.
Thank you for coming!

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 21, 2021

Worship Service - 9:30 AM

WELCOME

PRELUDE

AS WE GATHER

The Israelites repeatedly had broken the covenants God made with them, and yet in today's Old Testament Reading He promises a new covenant. This one, however, will not be based on the external Law of God; by pure grace, it will be written on the hearts of God's people. To do that, God sent His Son, who paid for all sin by offering Himself as both priest and sacrifice. Although we are all imperfect, knowing that we have been forgiven only by the grace of God, we have the desire to love one another. As we recall our Lord's Passion in the coming weeks, we will recognize that love means forgiving, giving oneself for others. Jesus puts it bluntly in the Gospel: The greatest in the kingdom of God is the one who serves all the others. And, of course, the greatest is our Lord Jesus, who loves us to death.

(stand)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING HYMN:

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

LW 101

**In the cross of Christ I glory,
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.**

**When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.**

**When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day.**

**Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.**

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Jeremiah 31:34; Hebrews 5:9*

Pastor: Bearing our sins and in need of a Savior, let us go to our heavenly Father, asking for forgiveness.

Time for reflection on the word of God and for personal examination.

Pastor: Most merciful, heavenly Father, You promised a covenant written on Your people's hearts.

People: But we do not always rely on Your promises and great love. We are sorry.

Pastor: Gracious Holy Spirit, through Your use of Word and Sacrament, many people know the Lord.

People: But we have not taken advantage of every opportunity to share Your Word with others. We are sorry.

Pastor: Jesus taught that the greatest in the Kingdom is the servant of all.

People: But our hearts have not always been humble and eager for service. We are sorry.

Our thoughts, words, and deeds fall short. As fallen sinners, we are helpless to change. For Jesus' sake, forgive us, and give us new and clean hearts to love You and serve our neighbors.

Pastor: God promised in the new covenant, "I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." In the sacrifice of Himself, Jesus, being perfect, "became the source of eternal salvation." As a called and ordained 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.

People: Amen.

(sit)

OLD TESTAMENT: *Jeremiah 31:31–34 (A new covenant is coming, written on people's hearts.)*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: Hebrews 5:1–10 (*Jesus was both one-time priest and sacrifice, dying for all.*)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(stand)

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 10:32–45 (*Jesus teaches about true greatness.*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Congregation reads together:

³² And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, He began to tell them what was to happen to Him, ³³ saying, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him over to the Gentiles. ³⁴ And they will mock Him and spit on Him, and flog Him and kill Him. And after three days He will rise.”

³⁵ And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to Him and said to Him, “Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask of You.” ³⁶ And He said to them, “What do you want Me to do for you?” ³⁷ And they said to Him, “Grant us to sit, one at Your right hand and one at Your left, in Your glory.” ³⁸ Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?” ³⁹ And they said to Him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, ⁴⁰ but to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” ⁴¹ And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. ⁴² And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³ But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY: “O Christ, You Walked the Road” LSB 424, vs. 1, 2, 4, & 5

**O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand’ring feet must go.
You faced with us temptation’s pow’r
And fought our ancient foe.**

**No bread of earth alone
Can fill our hung’ring hearts.
Lord, help us seek Your living Word,
The food Your grace imparts.**

**When lures of easy gain
With promise brightly shine,
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first;
Our wills with Yours align.**

**O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand’ring feet must go.
Stay with us through temptation’s hour
To fight our ancient foe.**

(sit)

THE APPLICATION OF GOD’S WORD FOR TODAY

Pastor Adam Thompson

(stand)

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.

(sit)

OFFERTORY MEDITATION SONG: "I'll A Servant Be"

(stand)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, in these Lenten days we ask You to pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us to write Your Word on our hearts, that we might know You as the God who forgives our iniquities and remembers our sins no more. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, bless and sustain Matthew, our Synod president; Chris, our district president; Sean, our circuit visitor; and our pastors, who like us are beset with weakness. Grant that they may deal gently with us, and keep them faithful in proclaiming Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, Your Son came not to be served but to serve. Help us not lord our authority over one another, but humbly serve one another in our homes, communities and congregation as Christ has so humbly served us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, look in mercy on all those to whom You have given earthly authority. Guard them from the temptation to lord it over us improperly, that they might faithfully serve according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You watch over, protect and defend us through the service of others. Bless, we pray, the men and women who serve in our military, police forces and all emergency services who, like Your Son, are often called on to lay down their lives for us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, as Your only begotten Son learned obedience through what He suffered, we pray that You would bless, sustain and relieve all who suffer in our midst, [*especially . . . individual prayer requests may be spoken at this time followed by the petitioner saying "Lord, in Your mercy" after each request*], that walking the way of the cross with Your Son, they may know the fullness of His eternal salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, through the life, death and resurrection of Your Son, You have delivered our souls from death, our eyes from tears and our feet from stumbling. Comfort all who mourn with this truth, that they may not grieve as others do who have no such hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You have baptized us with Christ's Baptism to be our God, that we might be Your people. Grant us faithfully to drink from His cup in the blessed Sacrament, that He might sustain our life in Him with His flesh and blood. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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 is My + blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

Congregants are welcome to take a Communion kit from the Narthex near the front door, and will be invited to take Communion in the pews at this time.

HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Pastor: Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the true faith to life everlasting. Go in peace.

People: Amen.

(sit)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

THE BLESSING

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make His face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace.

CLOSING SONG: "To God Alone"

Pastor: Go in peace and

People: serve the Lord.

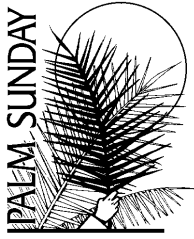
LOOKING AHEAD: The assigned readings of the Church Calendar for next week are Zechariah 9:9-12, Philippians 2:5-11; and Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-47, or John 12:20-43.

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES:

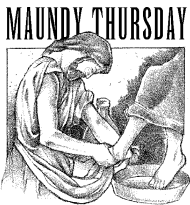


**THE FINAL MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE WILL BE HELD
ON WEDNESDAY (March 24) AT 7:00 PM.**

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:



PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021:
9:30 AM SERVICE
ADULT BIBLE CLASS FOLLOWING SERVICE



MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021:
7:00 PM SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION



GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021:
7:00 PM TENEBRAE SERVICE



EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021:
***9:30 AM SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION**
***11:30 AM SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION**
***If you will be attending either of the Easter services, please notify the church office by 3:00 PM on Wednesday, March 31, 2021, at secretary@ascensionpgh.com or 412-364-4463 to reserve a seat.**

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Hearing from God – “Speak, for your servant is listening.” 1 Samuel 3:10b

Sermon Notes:

Questions:

Isaiah 55:11

“... so is my **word** that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

MARCH 21, 2021

WORSHIP SERVICE IN-PERSON AND LIVE-STREAMED 9:30 AM
ADULT BIBLE STUDY IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM FOLLOWS WORSHIP
PRAYER AND PRAISE GROUP VIA ZOOM 10:00 AM
LENTEN SERVICE IN-PERSON AND LIVE-STREAMED 7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

ASCENSION NEWS

IMPORTANT – **EVERYONE please sign in** on one of the attendance sheets located at the Narthex or the Education Wing entrances.

FACE COVERINGS – Please wear face coverings indoors in all parts of the building (those who are over age two [2] and medically able to do so). If you forgot a face covering, there are some available in the Narthex and at the office entrance.

SOCIAL DISTANCING – Please practice social distancing in the Sanctuary (six [6] feet between households), and seating in every other pew. Please do not linger inside the building entrances/exits prior to and following worship services. Please enjoy the outside as you visit from six (6) feet apart!

HAND SANITIZER – Hand sanitizer is available in the Narthex, Fellowship Hall, and at the office entrance for your use.

BUILDING RESTRICTIONS – To limit the need for cleaning and disinfection, the classroom areas will be taped off. *If anyone needs to comfort a child, we will temporarily ask parents to use the Narthex.*

HOLY COMMUNION – To avoid excessive contact on Communion Sundays, there will be prepackaged Communion packets in the Narthex as you walk in. We ask you pick them up on your way to your seat. When Communion time happens, during the service, we will all partake as a community.

OFFERINGS – Since the offering plate will not be passed during the service, an offering plate will be available in the Narthex for you to present your gifts as you exit or arrive.

CHILDREN’S BAGS – Children’s bags will be stored in the closet to the right of the main entrance. Please feel free to take one (or more) from the closet on your first visit and keep it in your car for your kids’ use during services. Please do not put any bags back in the closet.

HELP NEEDED – We are looking for volunteers to wipe down the handrails after the services. Please see Pete Candrea if you can help.

BULLETINS and **CHILDREN’S BULLETINS** are available on our website: www.ascensionpgh.com.

ACOLYTE: Kayla Arnett
ALTAR GUILD / MARCH: Mary Ellen Lindsey
ELDER ON DUTY TODAY: David Dille
LAY READER: Bob Booth
USHERS: Lynn Gunther / Ron Curcio
ATTENDANCE 03/14/21: WORSHIP 45; **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** 30
ATTENDANCE LENTEN SERVICE 03/17/21: 18

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

March 22: Claire Fiffik, Mike Kaczmarek;
 March 23: Daisy Lucas; March 25: Chris Schroeder

EASTER SERVICES – RESERVATIONS REQUIRED – We will be having two Easter worship services—one at 9:30 AM and one at 11:30 AM. **If you will be attending, please notify the church office by 3:00 PM on Wednesday, March 31, 2021, at secretary@ascensionpgh.com or 412-364-4463 to reserve a seat.** Reservations will be limited to 60 people at each service with overflow seating available in the Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to attend, only the 9:30 AM service will be live-streamed at [Ascension Lutheran Church PGH Music - YouTube](#). Please note that the wearing of masks and social distancing will be observed.

THE LAST MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE will be held at 7:00 PM on **Wednesday** (March 24). This service will be livestreamed also.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES – **Wednesday, March 24:** Again and again, Jesus refers to “the kingdom of God,” perhaps better understood as “the reign and rule of God.” But what does that mean? Pontius Pilate reigns at his headquarters and is forced to wrestle with exactly that question. How do we navigate the waters of worldly authority and stay true to the eternal authority of God in heaven? This sermon takes on the question of what it means to say that Jesus is our King. Pilate asks, “What is truth?” (John 18:38), but the real question is “Who is truth?” The answer is simple: Jesus Christ. He is our King in a way that no earthly authority could ever comprehend. He is the King who loves and provides for His subjects. The King who places a premium not on lordship but on service. The King who leads by example rather than by force. The King who offers Himself to ensure the salvation of His people. He is the King who calls us to return to His rule and reign so that He can pour out blessings on us. © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. Scripture: ESV®.

PRAYER AND PRAISE GROUP is meeting via Zoom. Join us on **Wednesday** (March 24) from 10 AM to 11 AM and then every Wednesday thereafter until we are able to meet in person. If you have any questions or need prayer, please call me at 808-295-1835. In the Love of Jesus, Bob Booth

SPRING APPEAL – We’re getting closer!! As of March 17th, almost \$6,000 has been collected for the Spring Appeal towards our goal of \$11,000. Don’t forget, every little bit helps. There are three ways to give: in-person (by placing your donation in the Spring Appeal envelope that is on the poster in the Narthex and putting that in the collection plate), online, or by mail. If you have any questions on how to give, contact Bob Marcellus at finance@ascensionpgh.com. And thank you!

EASTER EGG HUNT – While Easter looks a little different this year, one tradition is making its way back: the annual **Easter Egg Hunt** for the families of Ascension! Join us after the **11:30AM Easter Sunday Service (around 1:00)** over at the side lawn to hunt for eggs as we celebrate and remember the new life that God gave us through the resurrection of His son Jesus. **Please wear a mask!** Email youth@ascensionpgh.com for more information.

ONLINE GIVING – Vanco has updated its online giving interface. Once I update Ascension’s page, the screen where you log in will look very different. There is nothing you need to do, however. If you use online giving, your recurring transactions will transfer over automatically. Your sign-in information will still be the same. It will just look different. More details to follow. Contact Bob Marcellus for more information or email him at finance@ascensionpgh.com.

ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS – Thrivent Choice® is Thrivent’s charitable grant program. As a Thrivent member you can designate your Choice Dollars to Ascension Lutheran Church. **Choice Dollars designated to eligible benefit members in 2020 must be directed before March 31, 2021.** To designate your Choice Dollars, or for more information, visit www.Thrivent.com/choicedollars or call 1-800-847-4836.

GIVING ENVELOPES – If you have not been attending in-person services and have not obtained your 2021 giving envelopes yet, they are probably still in your mailbox in the Narthex. You can coordinate with Barb, the church secretary, to pick them up during the week during normal office hours, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The office number is 412-364-4463. Contact Bob Marcellus for more information at finance@ascensionpgh.com.

PRIVATE COMMUNION SERVICES are available to members who should not attend or who are not yet ready to return to worship in person due to Covid-19. Appointments will be made every 20 minutes on Tuesdays between 7:00-9:00 AM and Fridays between 4:00-6:00 PM. Please email Pastor Thompson at pastor@ascensionpgh.com to make your appointment.

GET TO KNOW YOU VISITS – Have you scheduled your get to know you visit with Pastor Thompson yet? There are three options—Zoom (Tuesdays-Fridays from 2:00-7:00 PM meeting times, as available), in person, or if neither of those options work, a telephone call option. For scheduling, please email Pastor Thompson at pastor@ascensionpgh.com.

LIVE-STREAMING WORSHIP SERVICES – Our worship services are live-streamed on our YouTube Channel. Just click on this link https://www.youtube.com/channel/Ucu_ARgzTTcfZZXuZAeiyEVQ/videos or search in YouTube for Ascension Lutheran Church PGH Music. More detailed directions are available on our website (www.ascensionpgh.com). If you have any questions, feel free to contact Vanessa Candreva at music@ascensionpgh.com.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS FROM LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES – Following the narrative of Mark’s Gospel, *The Marks of Love* explores the life and ministry of Jesus. We meet a Savior who endured life’s hardships, suffered our pain, and bore the weight of our sins. Each left its mark on Him as He pressed on to the cross, giving His life for ours, appeasing God’s wrath against sin, and rising victorious over sin, death, and the devil. Available to [read online](#) or as a [podcast](#), *The Marks of Love* can also be received as an [e-mail subscription](#). Visit www.lhm.org for more information. If you would like a printed copy, please call Barb at 412-364-4463 or email secretary@ascensionpgh.com.

LCMS STEWARDSHIP NOTE – **Mark 10:45:** “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Jesus gives everything He has: He gives Himself. That self-giving is the model for our giving in all aspects of our lives. In our family, in our church, and in the world at large, Jesus calls us to follow His example in self-giving. We can only do this if we are connected to His self-giving in faith.

EMAIL ACCOUNTS – Please use the email addresses below for contacting these individuals/groups:

Pastor Thompson	pastor@ascensionpgh.com
President (Russ Lucas)	president@ascensionpgh.com
Treasurer (Patti Lopresto)	treasurer@ascensionpgh.com
Financial Secretary (Bob Marcellus)	finance@ascensionpgh.com
Elders	elders@ascensionpgh.com
Board of Christian Education	education@ascensionpgh.com
Board of Trustees	trustees@ascensionpgh.com
SOAR Respite Nights	soar@ascensionpgh.com
Music Director (Vanessa Candreva)	music@ascensionpgh.com
Media (Cherie Shaginaw)	media@ascensionpgh.com
Vacation Bible School	vbs@ascensionpgh.com
Youth (Ronette Blake)	youth@ascensionpgh.com
Secretary (Barbara Marcellus)	secretary@ascensionpgh.com

ATTENTION YOUTH: SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY – The **Perry-Highland Women's Association** is accepting applications for a \$2,000 Scholarship. Applicants must live in the North Hills area and be enrolled in a college or technical school for either summer 2021 or fall 2021. To receive application materials, please email phwa.scholarship@gmail.com. The application deadline is **March 26**.

SOCIAL MEDIA – Ascension is on Facebook (www.facebook.com/AscensionPgh) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/AscensionPgh). You don't have to have accounts to view our pages online. Please do check us out (and “Like”/follow us).

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

“GOD WITH US” ON THE RADIO – If you are not attending in-person worship services and do not have access to a computer for online services, the Lutheran broadcast “God With Us” is **available on WORD-FM 101.5 on Sundays at 10:30 AM**. “God with Us” features Rev. Dr. Daniel A. Hahn Jr., Pastor of Tri-Parish (St. John’s, Bethel and Zion, Lawrenceville).

THE LUTHERAN HOUR is on WWNL/1080 AM on Saturdays at 3:30 PM and on Tuesdays at 12:30 PM. Read or listen to the sermon at www.lutheranhour.org. **March 28, 2021: “Got You Covered”** When you're in a pinch and out of options and someone says they've got you covered, it's good news. (Mark 15) Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

CONCORDIA OPEN HOUSE EVENTS will be held at the following times and locations: **Concordia Haven Apartments, 112 Marwood Road, Cabot, PA: TODAY, March 21 & Monday, March 22 – 2 or 3 p.m.** and **Concordia of the South Hills, 1300 Bower Hill Road, Mt. Lebanon, PA: TODAY, March 21 & Monday, March 22 – 1 or 2 p.m., Friday, March 26 & Saturday, March 27 – 11 a.m. or 12 p.m.** **Take advantage now as deep discounts are available.**

KFUO RADIO, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at kfu.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @**KFUOradio** on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). **This week on KFUO.org**, study Mark 14 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), dig into Colossians 1-3 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and worship in Midweek Lenten Service and organ recital on 3/24 at 11:00 a.m. CT.

CHRISTIAN COUNSELING ASSOCIATES is a full-service counseling center committed to using the resources of the Christian faith in helping individuals and families achieve emotional, spiritual, and physical well-being. Licensed and certified professional counselors provide all services. Available services include help for those seeking professional help for emotional and life challenges such as depression, anxiety, marital problems, addictions, grief, trauma, or any mental health concern. CCA offers services to adults, children, adolescents, and families. Christian counseling engages a faith-based process of change that can equip individuals to overcome the challenges they face. CCA accepts many different health insurances for payment and offers a sliding fee scale if there is no insurance. Ascension provides office space for CCA. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 724-396-1510.

LIFE QUOTE: “We affirm again and again that God handmade all people and Jesus died for all people. And that means ALL lives are valuable and equally loved.” *Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life for Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

PRAYER REQUESTS – March 21, 2021*

“And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.” (James 5:15-16)

FOR HEALTH & HEALING

Kelly Vogel (recovery from surgery); Natalie Gaertner (health issues); Sandy Malarkey (health concerns); Roy Wiegand (pneumonia and other health issues); Amanda (Gene Williams’ great-niece); Susan Stewart and Barbara Howe (cancer – sisters of Carolyn Walker); Ruth Miller; Elva Fields; for all those ill with coronavirus; Joe (mass on heart – Cheryl Sedar’s son); Gene Williams (mesothelioma); Helen Goettmann; Clay McClellan; Nadine Weber

FOR STRENGTH & COMFORT

For all those who lost loved ones, especially Deb (friend of Cristen Fiffik) and family on the death of a daughter; for the citizens, survivors, relief workers, missionaries, and families affected by hurricanes, earthquakes, terrorist attacks and disasters worldwide

FOR THANKSGIVING

For the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; all our guests; the gifts of love and God's Word; family and friends; our country

FOR SAFETY/PROTECTION

For all affected by the coronavirus pandemic; healthcare workers; college students; school students, teachers, staff and bus drivers; missionaries; our armed forces; unborn children

FOR DIRECTION AND FAITH

For those who are experiencing a crisis of faith; women with unplanned pregnancies

GENERAL PRAYER, GUIDANCE, AND PROVISION

For Kurt and Jackie Dolph; Pastor Thompson’s transition; our country and leaders; Pastor Lee and his family; the Gaertner family; SOAR Respite Nights families; Megan and Gene Williams, Jr. and DiscipleMakers; Pastor Eric Andræ and Campus Ministry in Oakland; seminary students; the residents and staff of Concordia Lutheran Ministries; Shepherd’s Heart Fellowship; Food For The Poor; Christian Counseling Associates counselors and their clients; those with special needs (physical, mental, or emotional)

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” (Colossians 4:2)

***Please note that prayer requests will remain on the prayer list for 60 days and then be removed unless an extension is requested by notifying the church secretary.**