

THE RISEN CHRIST IN POWER AND MAJESTY

The Third Sunday of Easter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH | Kearney, Nebraska

Sunday, April 10, 2016

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD!

We are so happy you could join us today! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

For your convenience, **Listening Devices** are available for those who need assistance in hearing the service and a **Large-Print** version of the service is available for those who need assistance in seeing the service. Please speak with an usher if you need either one. A **Nursery** is also available and is equipped with a speaker so that a minimal amount of the service is missed. The nursery is located in the hallway just off the entryway (first door on left).

SERVICE NOTES FOR THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Another miraculous catch of fish brings the disciples scrambling to worship at the feet of their Savior. He appeared in power, to assure them of his presence and providence for what lay ahead. The risen Lord still comes with power through Word and sacrament, assuring us of his forgiveness, promising his Spirit for lives of faithful service, and guaranteeing our resurrection to eternal life.

HOLY COMMUNION IS OFFERED TODAY

As Christians who believe that the Bible is inspired by God and that every word written in it is God's holy word, we believe that we receive the body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. While this is something that goes beyond our human understanding, our faith allows us to accept this as true. God warns us in the

Bible that anyone who doesn't understand this teaching or who denies this real presence of Christ's body and blood will do damage to his or her soul if not properly taught first (1 Corinthians 11:27-29).

As a congregation we care about people and about the spiritual well-being of individuals, especially those attending the Lord's Table today. If you are a guest and desire to commune, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are not under church discipline in another congregation, and are members

of our congregation, one of our sister congregations in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS], or a member of our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS].

THE PASCHAL CANDLE



The Paschal Candle is a special candle used at every service during the Easter season and at baptisms and funerals year-round. The Paschal Candle—rededicated this morning in our Easter Vigil service—symbolizes the resurrection victory over the darkness of sin and death. It emphasizes the presence of the resurrected Christ and the link between baptism and the resurrection (Romans 6).

The name *Paschal* comes from the Greek, *pascha*. Before the time of Christ, this word was used for Passover; after Christ, Christians took to using the word when referring to the Festival of the Resurrection (The term *Easter* came into use in later centuries).

Throughout the fifty days of Easter, the Paschal Candle traditionally stands near or in front of the altar as a symbol of resurrection. It is lighted for each service and is traditionally extinguished after the reading of the Gospel on Ascension. The Paschal Candle is of substantial size so its important symbolism speaks clearly. Even the stand in which it sits is of great size.

Even as the Advent candles bring wonderful meaning to the celebration of Advent, so the Paschal Candle is intended to add meaningful symbolism to our celebration of Easter, Baptisms, and Christian funerals.

SERVING IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

Preacher & Celebrant	Pr. Nathanael P. Seelow
Keyboardist	Michelle Reinsch
Ushers	
Greeter	C C
Sound Technician	Logan Hansen

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THE DIVINE SERVICE

Divine Service I — Christian Worship: Supplement, pg. 15



OPENING HYMN

Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs | CW 227

Please stand.



The sign of the cross may be made throughout the service by worshippers in remembrance of their baptism.

"In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross and say, 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.'"

Small Catechism, Daily Prayers

INVOCATION

- M In the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

M Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Silence for meditation on God's Word and for self-examination as you consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments:

Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy?

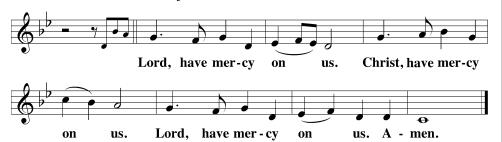
Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome?

Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds?

Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY — Kyrie



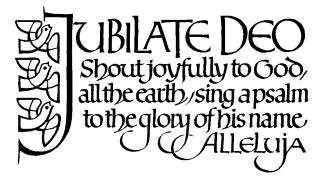
ABSOLUTION

- M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ♣ and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

called servant of Christ uses the keys in accordance with Christ's command by forgiving those who repent of their sin and are willing to ament, and by excluding from the congregation those who are plainly impenitent that they may repent. I believe that when this is done, it is as valid and certain in heaven also, as if Christ, our dear Lord, dealt with us himself. - Martin Luther

A Christian congregation with its

— Martin Luther Small Catechism Keys, Pt. II



"Jubilate Deo," is Latin for "Shout to the Lord."



The Dignus est Agnus, Latin for "Worthy is the Lamb," is an exclusively Lutheran canticle of the liturgy. It is sung in place of the Gloria in Excelsis during the season of Easter and on the last Sunday of the Church year—Christ the King. It is most certainly an appropriate song to sing as the Church has always had at the center of its theology the Lamb of God who shed his blood upon the Cross to save a fallen race.

We confidently close the prayer with a resounding, "Amen." "Yes, it shall be so."

THIS IS THE FEAST OF VICTORY — Dignus est Agnus

CW 265



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ia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

gun

M The Lord be with you.

his

reign.

- C And also with you.
- M Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Service of the Word



FIRST LESSON Acts 9:1-19a

¹ Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

⁵ "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. ⁶ "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

⁷ The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

 $^{\rm 10}$ In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord," he answered.

¹¹ The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

¹³ "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

The risen Lord appears in power to Saul on the road to Damascus. The Light of the World shines and the blind receive sight. In the same way his light has shined in the darkness of our sin-filled hearts. In Word and Sacrament the risen Lord has appeared in power to create and strengthen, to fill and overflow.

Following each lesson, the Pastor announces, "The Word of the Lord." We know from Scripture that God comes to us through the Means of Grace, that is the Gospel that is found in the Word and the Sacrament. So, within the service God has come to us convicting us in our sin through the Law, and pronouncing forgiveness through the life-giving Gospel. The congregation—in response to such love —praises the Lord in reply: "Thanks be to God!"

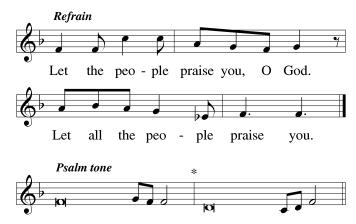
¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

¹⁷ Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

- M The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 67 | **CW p. 91**



Refrain

May God be gracious to us and | bless us* and make his face shine up- | on us;

may your ways be | known on earth,* your salvation among all | nations.



May the nations be glad and | sing for joy,* for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations | of the earth.

Refrain

Then the land will yield its | harvest,* and God, our God, will | bless us.

God will | bless us,*
and all the ends of the earth will | fear him.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit, as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 5:11-14

¹¹ Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. ¹² In a loud voice they were saying:

"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"

¹⁴ The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped.

The power and majesty of the hosts of heaven joined in songs of praise is surpassed by the power and majesty of him who sits on the throne. Worthy is the Lamb to receive such praise. Our resurrected Lord guarantees that we will one day join their "Amen" for eternity.

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

VERSE OF THE DAY

Luke 24:32

- M Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Our hearts were burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us.
- C Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Iohn 21:1-14

Please stand.

M The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter twenty-one.



- ¹ Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: ² Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³ "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.
- ⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.
- ⁵ He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?"
- "No," they answered.
- ⁶ He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.
- ⁷ Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped

Another miraculous catch of fish brings the disciples scrambling to worship at the feet of their Savior. He appeared in power, to assure them of his presence and providence for what lay ahead. The risen Lord still comes with power through Word and sacrament, assuring us of his forgiveness, promising his Spirit for lives of faithful service, and guaranteeing our resurrection to eternal life.

his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. ⁸ The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. ⁹ When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught."
¹¹ So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast."
None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.



NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,

of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the 4th century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

The Apostle Paul's great "Resurrection Chapter" (1 Corinthians 15) makes clear arguments concerning the Resurrection of the Dead. "For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either." If our resurrection is impossible, so also is Christ's: "And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins...If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied." (15:16,17,19). "This Joyful Eastertide," like so many other hymns

captures the joy and

Resurrection and ours

comfort of Christ's

as well. The author, George Woodward

gives us a refrain we

burst His three-day prison, our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ arisen!" Alleluia!

may sing all our days:
"Had Christ, who
once was slain. not

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We believe in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

This Joyful Eastertide | CW 160

SERMON John 21:10-14

¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.
¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

See who Jesus is!

CREATE IN ME Please stand. Cre - ate in me a pure heart, O and re - new spir - it God, with a right in Do not me a-way from your me. cast Spir - it take Ho from pres-ence or your ly the joy of your sal-va-tion, and up-Re - store to me. me up - hold me with your Spir it. hold, free

OFFERING

Be seated.

Moved by God's love in Christ, by our Offering we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.

If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Please stand.

"I certainly love it with all my heart, the precious, blessed Supper of my Lord Jesus Christ, in which He gives me His body and blood to eat and to drink orally, with the mouth of my body, accompanied by the

exceedingly sweet and gracious words:

Given for you, shed

for you."

-Martin Luther



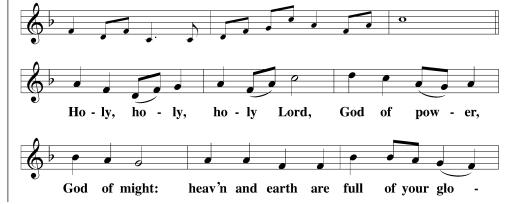
Sanctus means "holy." Used possibly as early as the 2nd century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the 14th century.

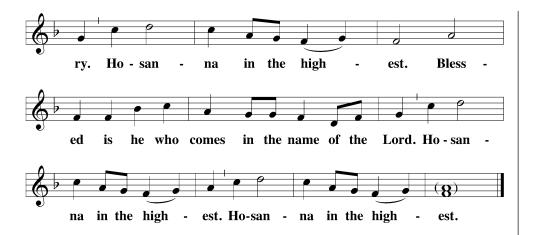
The Service of the Sacrament



- M The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- M Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them up to the Lord.
- M Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is good and right so to do.
- It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY — Sanctus





PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M Blessed are you, O God Almighty, who through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, created all things and made mankind in your own image. You sent your only begotten Son to take on human flesh through the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary. As our substitute, he fulfilled all of your laws in our place and died the death we deserve because of our sin.

You have gathered us here to remember Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf. In this meal you give us his true body and blood, which paid our debt to you and assures us of your forgiveness. For all of your undeserved love toward us, we give thanks and praise to your living and life-giving name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,

Medieval monks are credited with the custom of ringing a bell three times during the Lord's **Prayer**. The idea was to alert people in the area surrounding the monastery or church that the Lord's Prayer was being spoken in those buildings and they could join in from a distance. The bell peal at the beginning, middle and end of the Lord's Prayer helped those distant prayers keep pace with those who were praying the prayer inside the buildings.

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

LAMB OF GOD — Agnus Dei

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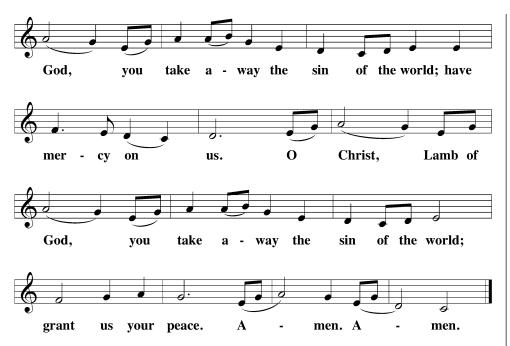
Christ,

Lamb of

The **Agnus Dei**, which means "Lamb of God," is a song included in the Ordinary of the Divine Service. That means it is included in every Service of the Sacrament.

Even in the Easter season, through this canticle we are reminded of Good Friday: that Jesus is God's Lamb, who was offered as a sacrifice for sin, once for all.

us.



Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

In dismissing the communicants, the minister says:

M Now, may this true body and blood strengthen and keep you in the true faith to life everlasting. Your sins ♣ are forgiven. Go in peace. Amen.



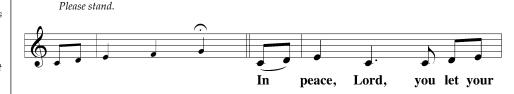
Good Shepherd confesses and practices the Biblical teaching of a Closed Communion. We ask that only members of the Wisconsin Synod [WELS] or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS] join us at the Lord's Table. If you have questions concerning our communion practice, or would like to inquire about how you, too, can commune with us, please speak with the Pastor following the service.

The Nunc Dimittis,

which is Latin for, "Now you dismiss," is a Canticle that uses the words of the priest, Simeon, found in Luke 2. The Lord promised Simeon that he would see the Savior with his own eyes before his death. When Mary and Joseph brought the baby Jesus to the temple, Simeon held the Son of God in his hands. Out of thanks for the fulfillment of his promise, Simeon praised God with these words.

These words are appropriately sung after receiving the Lord's Supper because we held in our hands the body and blood of Christ, the Son of God. Like Simeon, we now depart this place in peace because we have (tasted and) seen the salvation of all people.

SONG OF SIMEON — Nunc Dimittis







eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre-pared for





- M O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
- C And his mercy endures forever.
- Me give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

BLESSING

M The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look on you with favor and ♣ give you peace.

C Amen.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name | CW 370



The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them." (cf. Numbers 6:27)



www.goodshepherdkearney.org

BIBLE CLASS OR SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY! Following the service today, Sunday School and Bible Class will meet. Sunday School will begin at 10:45 at the front of the church. Bible Class will begin at 10:55 in the Multipurpose Room. We will be continuing our look at Paul's letter to the Romans, chapters 1-8.

ASCENSION SERVICE On May 4 Good Shepherd will celebrate the Festival of the Ascension of Our Lord with a Divine Service at 7p. The Lord's Supper will be offered in that service. Please make plans to attend and worship and praise our risen and soon-to-be-ascended Lord!

ASCENSION ICE CREAM SOCIAL Following the Ascension service on May 4, an Ice Cream Social will be held in the Ed. Building. All are invited to the service and to the social afterward!

CHURCH SIGN UPDATE Many of you may have noticed the damaged church sign along Ave. N. The sign was hit by a drunk driver on Easter Sunday afternoon. The Council has been in touch with our insurance company and plans are underway to begin to replace the sign. Be on the lookout for a special congregational voters' meeting to decide with what we will be replacing the damaged sign. Thanks the Lord in your prayers that no one was seriously injured in this accident!

CHURCH LAWN MOWING OPPORTUNITIES The season of green grass is upon us, and that means that the church lawn will need to be mowed on a weekly basis. If you are willing to help out in this capacity, speak with Tony Wenz. A list will be compiled in the coming weeks to begin a rotation of mowing the church property.

CONGREGATION AT PRAYER A copy of the newest "A Congregation at Prayer" is available on the table in the entryway. This packet is not only a good outline for personal and family devotions, but it also includes an up-to-date prayer list for those in (and outside) our congregation.

LWMS SPRING RALLY The LWMS Nebraska Central Plains Spring Rally will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Cortland, NE on April 16. The theme is, "My Cup Overflows" and will have Pr. Daniel Johnston, who serves a new mission start in Blair, NE, as a guest speaker. Registration for the rally is from 9-10a.

This Week's Calendar

Monday, April 11	9a — Platte Circuit Pastors' Meeting
Tuesday, April 12	7p — Ladies' Guild
Wednesday, April 13	4p — Confirmation 7p — Bible Class: Connecting Sinai to Calvary
Sunday, April 17	9:30a — Divine Service with Lord's Supper 10:45 — Sunday School 10:55 — <i>Romans 1-8</i> Bible Class
	Ushers: Rick Reinsch & George Scott Greeter: Scott Family
	<i>Church</i> —Reinsch; <i>Fellowship</i> —Riggins; <i>Ed. Bldg.</i> —Scott

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Tuesday, April 127p — Ladies' Guild
Wednesday, April 13 4p — Confirmation $7p — Bible Class: Connecting Sinai to Calvary$
Sunday, April 179:30a — Divine Service with Lord's Supper 10:45 — Sunday School 10:55 — <i>Romans 1-8</i> Bible Class
Ushers: Rick Reinsch & George Scott Greeter: Scott Family
Cleaning (4/10-4/16)