



Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

2001 2nd Street NW - Watertown, South Dakota

Email: office@lcoorwatertown.org Website: <https://lcoorwatertown.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/lcoor/> YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@LutheranChurchofOurRedeemer>

4th Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 10, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

We Approach God

Welcome and Call to Worship – We are glad you are here!!

Tonight we remember our mission. —————→ **We are making God known through word & deed.**

Come to this space and time of repentance. —→ **We gather as a people of God.**

Come to this time and space of renewal. —→ **We gather as a people of Christ.**

Come to this space and time of grace. —→ **We gather as a people of Spirit. We live as a people of hope.**

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Invocation

Walk with us on this journey, O God. Be present today on our paths to the cross even as you were with Jesus. May this journey have meaning for our worship together and for the lives we live daily. **Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

Amen.

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection) Holy God,

we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ☩ Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Opening Song

“Forever”

Give thanks to the Lord Our God and King His love endures forever

For He is good He is above all things His love endures forever Sing praise sing praise

With a mighty hand And an outstretched arm His love endures forever

For the life that's been reborn His love endures forever Sing praise sing praise Sing praise sing praise

(Chorus) Forever God is faithful Forever God is strong Forever God is with us Forever forever
From the rising to the setting sun His love endures forever And by the grace of God
We will carry on His love endures forever Sing praise sing praise Sing praise sing praise (Chorus x2)

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Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. **O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Special Music

“Children of the Heavenly Father” Arr. Anna Laura Page

Handbell Choir; Directed by: Bev Splinter

We Proclaim the Story

First Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God’s mercy endures forever. ²Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe, ³gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. ¹⁷Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted. ¹⁸They loathed all manner of food and drew

near to death's door. ¹⁹Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress. ²⁰You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave. ²¹Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people. ²²Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

“Jesus We Love You”

Old things have passed away Your love has stayed the same
Your constant grace remains the cornerstone Things that we thought were dead
Are breathing in life again You cause your Son to shine on darkest nights
For all that You've done we will pour out our love This will be our anthem song
(Chorus) (Jesus) we love You Oh how we love You You are the one our hearts adore
The hopeless have found their hope The orphans now have a home
All that was lost has found its place in You You lift our weary head
You make us strong instead You took these rags and made us beautiful
For all that You've done we will pour out our love This will be our anthem song (Chorus x2)

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The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 9th Chapter.

Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

¹As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰But they kept

asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." ¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." ²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, "We see,' your sin remains.

Message

"Jesus Heals the Man Born Blind"

Pastor Paul Oman

Hymn of the Day

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

#324

We Confess & Pray for Others

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the

virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer Song

“Agnus Dei”

Alleluia alleluia For the Lord God Almighty reigns

Alleluia alleluia For the Lord God Almighty reigns Alleluia

Holy holy Are You Lord God Almighty Worthy is the Lamb Worthy is the Lamb

You are holy holy Are You Lord God Almighty Worthy is the Lamb Worthy is the Lamb Amen

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Prayers of the Church

Hospitalized/ill: *Tori Simon, Mark Mandery, Nicole Rislov, Randy Johnson, Tammy Rohde, Teagan Benda, Gretchen Morrow Bray- Daughter of Darline Morrow & Sister of Ann (Greg) DeSpiegler, Matt Schlaht-Friend of Rachel & Jesse Hauck, Carol Lien- Mother of Lori Enstad & Wendy Lien; Patti Michaelson- Sister-in-law of Rod & Nancy Iverson; Cathy Stavig;*

Prayer Song

“Agnus Dei”

Holy holy Are You Lord God Almighty Worthy is the Lamb Worthy is the Lamb

You are holy holy Are You Lord God Almighty Worthy is the Lamb Worthy is the Lamb Amen

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We Offer Ourselves

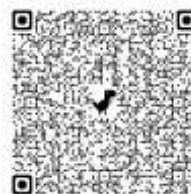
Offering

Text to Give: 605-250-6765 or Scan the QR code located in the pew

Noisy Can Offering (for all ages) Mission of the Month:

ELCA World Hunger

Lenten Offering: LCOOR Preschool



Offertory Response

“Create In Me a Clean Heart”

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me (repeat)

Cast me not away from thy presence, O Lord and take not thy Holy Spirit from me

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and renew a right spirit within me

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. (repeat)

Offering Prayer

How much do you love your world, O God? ———> “**For God so loved the world that he gave...**”

How much did you give, O God? ———> “**...that he gave his only Son.**”

May our giving ———> **Be a reflection of your own.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. ———> **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Announcements

We Go Out with Gratitude

Blessing

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Song

“Your Grace is Enough”

Great is Your faithfulness O God You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy And nothing can keep us apart

(Chorus) So remember Your people Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation And all Your people sing along (Chorus x2)

Yeah Your grace is enough Heaven reaches out to us Your grace is enough for me
God I sing Your grace is enough I'm covered in Your love Your grace is enough for me for me

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Call to Service

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please share the peace, as well as your name when you leave today.

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Serving

Message: Pastor Paul Oman; **Presiding:** Pastor Dan & Pastor Laura Overbo; **Sound & Projection:** Zach Stanton; **Worship Team;** **Lector:** Colter Schmig; **Ushers:** Kevin Luoma, Denise Schmahl, Mark & Alissa Iverson & Family; **Coffee Servers:** Kevin & Bernie Luoma;

MARCH 10, 2024

HYMN OF THE WEEK

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When is a time you needed to ask for help with something because you could not do it alone?
- A relationship with God is a gift that only God can give us. How is this a challenge to our desire to control our own destiny?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Ephesians 2:1-10.

These verses are packed with powerful themes, some of which pose a challenge to make-it-on-your-own individualism and flawed self-confidence. Ephesians points out that 1) we were spiritually dead because of our brokenness, 2) our misguided passions for pleasure lead us away from God, 3) only God's mercy, grace, and love can intervene to renew our lives in Christ, and 4) God's intervention gives us a new and God-focused passion to do good works, not to earn anything but to simply live as we were created to be. Once we get beyond a sense of making it on our own in life—including making it spiritually with God—we are set free to experience lives that "God prepared beforehand to be our way of life" (v. 10). God's nature is love and mercy. In the language of Psalm 107:1, God is good and God's "steadfast love endures forever." Similarly, Ephesians 2:8 summarizes much of our biblical faith: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God." *Discuss:* How does God's mercy and grace make a difference in your daily life?

Pray: **Almighty and merciful God, we thank you for your love that never ceases to reach out to us with your saving grace through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you show love and mercy to someone who is hurting?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The cross is an ancient symbol of the Christian faith. It reminds us Jesus died that we may live with God forever and is a reminder of a way of life for Jesus' followers. Light four candles of the seven votive candles shaped like a cross being used for Lent. Sit in silence for a moment while looking at the cross.

Then pray: **Merciful God, we thank you for your love for us that calls us out of darkness and into the light of Christ so that we may not perish but have eternal life. Amen.** (John 3:16)

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org



THE WEEKLY WORD - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You
TO THE
SD SYNOD
LCOOR received
\$1,500 from the STAR
grant, for technology.

SPRING PLANTS FOR EASTER
Order Deadline: March 24
Help beautify our sanctuary by purchasing an Easter plant in memory or honor of a loved one or to the Glory of God. **Cost of each plant is \$20.** Complete an Easter Plant order form (found at the Welcome Center or Church Office). Please contact the church office if you have questions.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER
SPRING CRAFT NIGHT
MARCH 19 TUESDAY 6:30 PM
SIGN UP AT WELCOME CENTER \$15 SIGN UP DEADLINE FRIDAY, MARCH 15

Route 56 Youth Group
5th-6th Graders
This month we will meet on **Monday, March 18 from 6-7:30 p.m.** for fellowship, snacks, crafts & more!
MEETS MONTHLY ON A MONDAY

We need Communion Bread!
Sign up at the Welcome Center. Recipe & instructions are provided.

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION
New Member orientation is **Wednesday, March 20 at 5:15 p.m.**
If you are interested in attending please contact Twila in the church office at (605) 886-2696. *New Members will be recognized during worship services on March 20, 23 & 24.*

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE
March 24-31
Palm Sunday (March 24): Kids Sing for Worship with Procession of Palms at 9:30 a.m.
Maundy Thursday (March 28): Worship with Holy Communion at 6:30 p.m.
Good Friday (March 29): Tenebrae Worship at 6:30 p.m.
Easter Sunday (March 31): with Holy Communion at all services: 7:00 a.m. Worship with Handbells 8:30 a.m. Worship with Choir 10:00 a.m. Worship with Choir

COOKIES NEEDED
Sandwich Ministry is in need of cookies. We have cookie kits available for pick up at the Welcome Center or church office. You can also bake your own & drop them off at the church. Thank you!

WATERTOWN COMMUNITY ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERVICES
2024 Host Church: First United Methodist Church
All services begin at 12:05 p.m. and will be followed by a light lunch.
February 21 March 13
February 28 March 20
March 6 (LCOOR serving)

Global Health Ministries
We are collecting hospice kits in March.
Instructions can be found at the Welcome Center or in the church office.

March 10-17

Print too small? Large print bulletins are available at all worship services.

Sunday March 10

8:30 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
8:30 a.m. Church School
9:30 a.m. Blended Worship
6:00 p.m. Luther League 2.0 (7-12 Grade)

Monday March 11

8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
2:00 p.m. Martha Circle
6:45 p.m. Al-Anon

Tuesday March 12

11:00 a.m. Text Study
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday March 13

No Youth Programs- Spring Break
8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
9:30 a.m. Priscilla Circle
12:05 p.m. Community Lenten Service
6:30 p.m. Worship
7:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
7:30 p.m. Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal

Thursday March 14

1:15 p.m. Chair Yoga
5:15 p.m. Al-Anon

Friday March 15

Church Office Closes at Noon
8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
9:00 a.m. Quilting

Saturday March 16

5:30 p.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday March 17

No Church School- Spring Break
8:30 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
9:30 a.m. Blended Worship



Attendance & Offering

February 25 Live Stream- 128
Saturday, March 2 - 68
Sunday, March 3 - 240
Wednesday, March 6 - 208

Offering (3/3):

General Fund: \$10,586;
Debt Reduction: \$45;
Mission of the Month: \$59;
Lent: \$230; Church School: \$23.50;
Simply Giving Offering (2/26-3/1):
General Fund: \$10,273.65;
Debt Reduction: \$118; Other: \$352;
Mission of the Month: \$90;

Staff

Senior Pastor
Dan Overbo
Associate Pastor
Laura Overbo
Welcoming & Caring Ministries
Twila Schmitt
Director of Faith Formation
Philip Lickel
Business Manager
Jodi Spilde
Business Administrative Assistant
Megan Thyen
Preschool
Nikki Landmark, Director/Teacher
Wendy Kruger, Paraprofessional
Sound & Technology
Zach Stanton
Custodian
Roman Gainor

MARCH 10, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

God is rich in mercy.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 3:14-21	God so loved the world
Monday	Numbers 21:4-9	The serpent of bronze
Tuesday	Ephesians 2:1-10	Faith is a gift from God
Wednesday	Romans 9:6-18	God's choice of Israel
Thursday	Isaiah 30:18-22	God's promise to Zion
Friday	Titus 3:1-8	Maintain good deeds
Saturday	Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22	Thanksgiving for deliverance
Sunday	John 12:20-33	The hour has come

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:4-5 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of mercy, your love for us is more than we deserve but all that we need and want through Jesus Christ, your Son who came to give us eternal life. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, your kindness to us is everlasting; we thank you for your daily love for us that includes this gift of food. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the mercy of God be your everlasting joy.



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