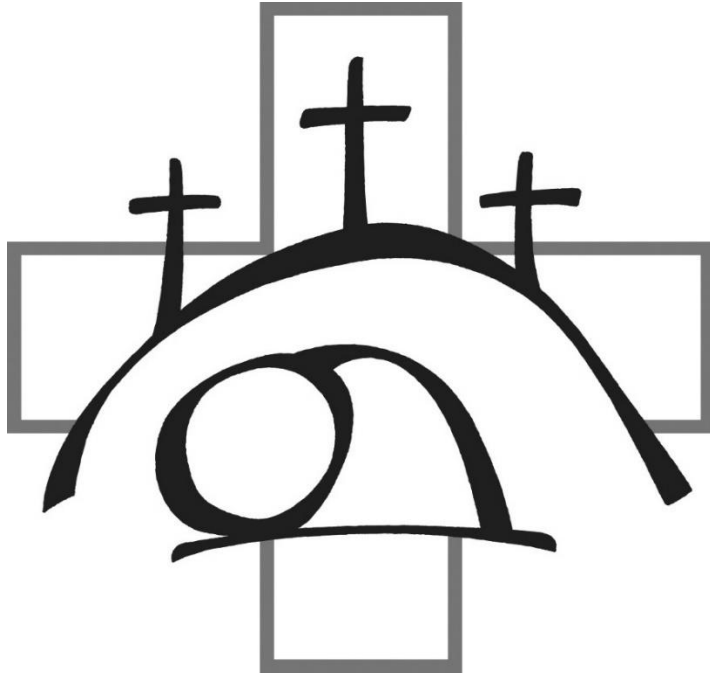


CELEBRATING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

Worship Bulletin for March 3, 2024



**GLORIFY HIM ...
GROW IN HIM ...
GO WITH HIS GOSPEL**

We are St. Mark's Church & School

A WELS†NorCal Ministry ... Other Locations

Foundation – Folsom, Hope – Penryn, Christ – Lodi, St. John – Vacaville

WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) is a National Church Body with locations throughout the United States and with partnerships in over 40 Countries

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024

A place to call home: St. Mark's Lutheran Church & School

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, welcome home. We especially welcome to our house of worship our guests who have joined us today. We pray you will be strengthened by the good news about God's grace, love, and forgiveness to us through Jesus.

We say with the Psalmist, whether here on campus or viewing online, *"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD'"* (Psalm 122:1).

May the Lord continue to help us grow in His grace and knowledge as we hear, speak, and sing His holy Word.

Some items to keep in mind as we gather for worship in this place:

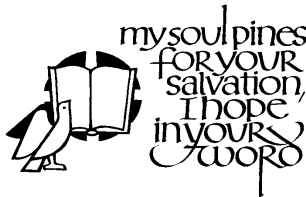
Members & our Guests ... Please pick up and fill out a **Connection Card** which can be found in the Entryway; before you leave place it in the box on the wall or in the basket labeled "Filled out Connection Cards." Thank you!

We do have **LARGE PRINT** copies of the Service; they can be found at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

*Hymns from 'Christian Worship' Red (1993) / 'Christian Worship' Blue (2021) /
'Christian Worship Supplement' (soft blue cover)*

Personal **hearing assistance** devices are available on the entryway wall near the west entrance. The Sanctuary is also 'looped' for those who have hearing aids that can pick up the signal.

Holy Communion is offered on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays. Since Holy Communion is a confession of faith, we ask that at this time only members partake of the Sacrament. If you are not a member and would like to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please reach out to our Pastor.



Explore our website. You will find information on Worship, Bible Study, Devotions, Children's Sunday School, and More.

Follow us to stay connected: Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/stmarksch; Follow us on Instagram: Instagram.com/stmarkslutheran; Subscribe to our videos on Vimeo: vimeo.com/channels/stmarksch.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Worship Focus: If the world is right in saying there is no god and everyone can live however they want (except when it goes against ‘them’), why are we seeing an increase in hate and violence and lack of tolerance of people who are not ‘like’ us? Could God have been right all along on what this world needs? Thankfully it is not too late to do a U-turn, to be His witnesses by living ourselves and encouraging others to live His expectations. We worship Him with this goal in mind and heart.

PRELUDE

In Thee is Gladness

Arr. By David Cherwien

Greeting & Invocation

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

M: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;

(Ps 95)

C: let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

M: Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

C: For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

M: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;

C: for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

M: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;

C: let us worship Him.

HYMN

Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing

Musical Introduction ... Song continues on page 4

Christian Worship Red # 121

**Jesus, grant that balm and healing In your holy wounds I find,
Ev’ry hour that I am feeling Pains of body and of mind.
Should some evil thought within Tempt my treach’rous heart to sin,
Show the peril, and from sinning Keep me from its first beginning.**

**Should some lust or sharp temptation Fascinate my sinful mind,
Let me think about your passion, And new courage I shall find.
Or should Satan press me hard, Let me then be on my guard,
Saying, “Christ for me was wounded,” That the tempter flee confounded.**

**If the world my heart entices With the broad and easy road,
With seductive, sinful vices, Let me think about the load
You were willing to endure; Then I’ll flee all thoughts impure,
Mastering each wild temptation, Calm in prayer and meditation.**

**Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me By your wounds, Lord, is made whole;
When I'm weak, your cross revives me, Granting new life to my soul.
Yes, your comfort renders sweet Ev'ry bitter cup I meet;
For your all-atoning passion Has procured my soul's salvation.**

**O my God, my Rock and Tower, Grant that in your death I trust,
Knowing death has lost his power Since you crushed him in the dust.
Savior, let your agony Ever help and comfort me;
When I die be my protection, Light and life and resurrection.**

M: This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. (1 John 4)

C: This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

(from CWS # 738)

*(musical intro, all) In hopelessness and near despair, I cry to you, my Savior!
My guilt is more than I can bear. I have not earned your favor.
You know me as I really am: How much is truth, how much is sham;
Why should you heed my pleading?*

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

*(no intro, men) I see my heart's condition now, My heart's diverse affections.
Why do I love the things you loathe; I'm torn in two directions:
Now prodigal, now Pharisee. O God, be merciful to me;
Who else but you can help me?*

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

All: 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.

*(no intro, women) I tremble as I feel your hand, Expecting retribution,
Yet hear no curse or reprimand, But grace and absolution:
With you there is forgiveness, Lord, You speak the sweet, consoling Word,
And I am sure you love me!*

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the

atonement sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, hear the word of Christ through his called servant:
All your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

*(no intro, all) Forgiven, free of guilt and shame, Grant me some time to render
A gift to glorify your name, Love to reflect your splendor:*

*This world must know what I have learned, That you bestow what none has earned:
The joy of full forgiveness!*

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C: Amen.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD *(no musical introduction) ... Song continues on page 6*



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in



all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,



you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;



you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and

ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,

but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,

how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,

you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;

you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the

King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,

how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:1-17

These 'Expectations' for living are still valid, and needed.

And God spoke all these words: ²“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ³“You shall have no other gods before me. ⁴“You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a

jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷“You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. ⁸“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. ¹²“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³“You shall not murder. ¹⁴“You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵“You shall not steal. ¹⁶“You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. ¹⁷“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HYMN

Musical Introduction

Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways

Christian Worship Red # 462

**Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do his will!**

**Order my footsteps by your Word, And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear.**

**Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep;
And should I e'er forget your way, Restore your wand'ring sheep.**

**Make me to walk in your commands—'Tis a delightful road—
Nor let my head or heart or hands Offend against my God.**

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

God's 'foolishness' prevails.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.” ²⁰Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²²Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks,

Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN

Musical Introduction

God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

Christian Worship Red # 293

**God's Word is our great heritage And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way; In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure, We keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations.**

Our Worship centers on the Gospel Reading for the day.

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

John 2:13-22

Jesus clears the Temple of mockery while also giving a sign regarding His identity.

When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. ¹⁵ So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶ To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!" ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸ The Jews then responded to him, "What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?" ¹⁹ Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." ²⁰ They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" ²¹ But the temple he had spoken of was his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to You, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Musical Introduction ... Song continues on page 9

The Law Commands and Makes Us Know

Christian Worship Red # 286

**The law commands and makes us know What duties to our God we owe,
But 'tis the gospel must reveal Where lies our strength to do his will.
The law uncovers guilt and sin And shows how vile our hearts have been;
The gospel only can express Forgiving love and cleansing grace.
What curses does the law pronounce Against the one who fails but once!
But in the gospel Christ appears, Pard'ning the guilt of num'rous years.**

**My soul, no more attempt to draw Your life and comfort from the law.
Flee to the hope the gospel gives; The one who trusts the promise lives.**

FOCUS ON THE SCRIPTURES

Based on Exodus 20:1-17

“Love God And Your Neighbor”

HYMN

Musical Introduction

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Christian Worship Red # 272

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.**

OUR THANK OFFERING

Thank you for continuing to support our ministry. Your thank offering can be received in the following ways: placed in the box on the wall as you enter the Sanctuary, mail your thank offering to the church, give online through our website under the “Resources” tab, or give by texting 916.915.9552. The QR Code to the web giving link is at the end of the bulletin.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Almighty God, we praise and honor your holy name for your numerous acts of love and mercy on behalf of your people.

C: **We especially thank you for the gift of your one and only Son, who has ascended into heaven and sits at your right hand.**

M: We rejoice in the knowledge that he is our advocate before your throne and that he intercedes for us in all our needs.

C: **Send your Holy Spirit to enlighten our minds with understanding and knowledge of your heavenly truths.**

M: Give to all who serve your holy Church a full measure of your grace that Christ may be confessed, his cross uplifted, and his gospel declared as the only way to eternal life. Bless all parents that they may be wholesome examples to their children.

C: **May they teach their children to love you, to practice virtue, to desire to pursue instruction in your Word, and to serve your Church and all people.**

M: Hear the prayers of all who are afflicted. In the quiet hour of the night, when they are weighed down with pain, loneliness, and anxiety, bring them strength and hope by assuring them that your love endures, your power overcomes, and your presence remains constant.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: As we leave this hour of worship, we give all glory to Jesus.

C: To him be praise and honor and glory and power now and forever. Amen.

And we also pray ...

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, 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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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.

Musical Introduction



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



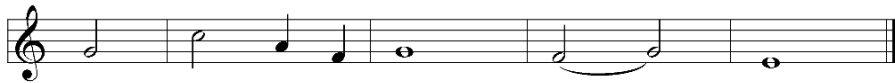
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - - men.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

The Ushers will direct Communicants by way of the center aisle, returning by way of the outer aisle. Either pick up a Wafer from the table by the Baptism Font or receive a Wafer in your hand from the Communion Assistant. Note: Tinted cups in the center of the Trays are filled with Grape Juice. Your empty Cup can be placed on the backside of the Rail. If seated on the east side, approach the Rail from left to right; if on the west side, right to left. When at the Rail, you may kneel or stand. If you need Communion in the Pew, please let an Usher or the Pastor know of this.

As a reminder: Since Holy Communion is a confession of faith, we ask that at this time only members and those who spoke with the Pastor ahead of time partake of the Sacrament. In the future, if you would like to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please reach out to our Pastor following the Service / during the week.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Musical Introduction ... Song continues on page 12

The Ten Commandments Are the Law

Christian Worship Red # 285

**The Ten Commandments are the law Which Israel heard in holy awe.
In smoke and fire from Sinai The voice of God shook the sky. Have mercy, Lord!**

**“I am your Lord and God alone! No other god but me enthroned!
Put your whole confidence in me; Give me your heart totally.” Have mercy, Lord!**

**“In what you speak bring me no shame; Do not misuse my holy name,
But call on me in troubled days; Give me your thanks, prayers, and praise.” Have mercy, Lord!**

**“Respect the Sabbath of the Lord! Do not despise my holy Word,
But hold it sacred, precious, true, And hear that truth preached to you.” Have mercy, Lord!**

**“Give to your parents honor due, Be dutiful and loving, too,
And help them when their pow’rs are few; So shall it go well with you.” Have mercy, Lord!**

**“You shall not murder, hurt, nor hate; Your anger dare not dominate.
Be kind and patient; help, defend, And treat your foe as your friend.” Have mercy, Lord!**

**“Be faithful to your marriage vow; No lust or impure thoughts allow,
But keep your body free from sin With self-control, discipline.” Have mercy, Lord!**

**“You shall not steal or take away What others worked for night and day,
But open wide a gen’rous hand And help the poor in the land.” Have mercy, Lord!**

**“Bear no false witness nor defame Your neighbor and destroy his name,
But view him in the kindest way; Speak truth in all that you say.” Have mercy, Lord!**

**“You shall not crave your neighbor’s house Nor covet money, goods, or spouse.
Pray God he would your neighbor bless As you yourself wish success.” Have mercy, Lord!**

**God gave these laws to show therein, O child of man, your life of sin,
And help you rightly to perceive How unto God you should live. Have mercy, Lord!**

**Our works cannot salvation gain; They merit only endless pain.
Forgive us, Lord! To Christ we fly, Our mediator on high. Have mercy, Lord!**

AFTER DISTRIBUTION ... we sing (Musical Introduction)



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. 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.

HYMN

Musical Introduction ... Song continues on page 13

Christ, the Word of God Incarnate

Christian Worship Red # 484

**By his mercy, by his bounty, By the gift of Christ, his Son,
What great goodness he has shown us, What high marvels he has done!
Let us to him promptly, freely, Yield our bodies and our souls,
Thankful that his love protects us, That his wisdom all controls.**

**Gracious Lord, accept our service For the sake of Christ, your Son;
Lo, our hope abides now only In the righteousness he won.
Bless and save us; help and guide us; Watch to comfort and restore
Till in heav'n we rest rejoicing, Praising you forevermore.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

All Depends on Our Possessing

Arr. By Kevin Hildebrand

TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Jonathan Kolander

Musical Accompanist: Lisa Thiesfeldt

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Scripture Quotations: From the *Holy Bible, New International Version* (NIV 2011), copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.

For Reflection based on Today's Scripture Readings ...

1st: Which is your favorite Commandment, and why that one? What was the point of giving these Commandments (see vs 20 for a hint)? What stands in your way from keeping these Commandments, and what can be done about that? Read Galatians 5:1-6:10.

2nd: If the 'world' has it right (as 'they' think they do) what would be the proof? Instead, what is taking place in our world? This world needs more of ... (finish the thought). Read 1 John 2:15-17.

3rd: What was the issue with Jesus? How could the Jews then miss the point of Jesus' words? How can people today miss His point? What are some ways 'God's house' of today has been turned into a marketplace? Read Psalm 100

To connect to our website and the auto giving option:



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today	8:00 & 10:45 9:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	LWMS Mission Box Offering Worship Service with Holy Communion Bible Study Jesus Cares Worship
Monday	5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Men's Bible Study No Monday Night Worship GriefShare – Luther Room
Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Board of Child Discipleship Meeting
Wednesday	8:20 a.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	School Chapel Service Lenten Supper Midweek Lenten Worship Service Adult Choir
Thursday	9:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	JOL Women's Bible Study Board of Stewardship Meeting Digging Deeper Class – Luther Room
Friday	6:00 p.m.	Ladies Book Club
Sunday	8:00 & 10:45 9:30 a.m.	****Daylight Savings – Spring Forward**** Worship Service Bible Study

<i>Birthdays</i>		<i>Anniversaries</i>
Aaron Loughlean	<i>Mar 3</i>	
Kelly Rausch		
Kelly Tipton	<i>Mar 5</i>	
Tatum Wallace	<i>Mar 6</i>	Jeff & Sheilah Jones
Lilleah Castagnola	<i>Mar 7</i>	
Tyler Wahl		
	<i>Mar 8</i>	Shawn & Kim Butler
AJ Lemay	<i>Mar 9</i>	



Founded on the Word. Focused on the Cross.

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Pastor: Jonathan Kolander

Principal: Darren Vogt