

Welcome to
WEST CLERMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH
Member of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
March 16, 2025



Worship 9:30am
Pastor Micheal Erickson

West Clermont Lutheran Church

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Facebook Live @ West Clermont

<https://www.facebook.com/100011482533370>

2nd Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

GATHERING

PRELUDE: "Here's My Heart Lord" by I Am They

CCLI#6517898 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8_FbJ6yeEUo

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WCLC MISSION STATEMENT: *As children of God, called to love God and one another, we proclaim the Word of God through study, prayer, worship, and discipleship. We serve those in need within our congregation, our community, and our world as an expression of God's love for us. LOVE, PROCLAIM, SERVE!*

GATHERING MUSIC: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

ELW 597

CCLI #7210175 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KaphtdcEcPE>

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

C: Amen.

KYRIE (Spoken)

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen, amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with

your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

NOISY CAN OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC: *‘Stories on Stories’* by Christine D’ Clario
CCLI #7196398 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aibG8QqW9fo>

WORD

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ² But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵ He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ Then he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” ⁸ But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹ He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On

that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm: 27 (Responsively)

- ¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- ² **When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**
- ³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart ^lwill not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.
- ⁴ **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**
- ⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.
- ⁶ **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**
- ⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.
- ⁸ **My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**
- ⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.
- ¹⁰ **Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.**
- ¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

12 Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.

13 This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

**14 Wait for the LORD and be strong.
Take heart and wait for the LORD!**

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17—4:1

17 Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. **18** For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. **19** Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. **20** But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. **21** He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. **4:1** Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” **32** He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. **33** Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ **34** Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her

brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

P: *The gospel of the Lord.*

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

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Pastor Mike Erickson

****Sunday school youth and teachers are dismissed to class.****

SERMON

Pastor Mike Erickson

HYMN OF THE DAY: *“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”*

ELW 608

CCLI #28380 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5OLMQ7WdD8>

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

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

He will come again 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.

INTERCESSIONS

P: God, in your mercy,

C: **Receive our prayer.**

WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. Deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING MUSIC: “*God of Grace and God of Glory*”
ELW 705 (NO LYRICS)
CCLI #7052911 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0v11OrORSRY>

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Love! Proclaim! Serve!
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Prayer List

Requested: Karen Kohls, Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Don Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Ardell Fortune, Julie Albertson, Larry Kohls, Sarah Updegraff-Murray, Eric Clubb, Bill and Cindy Thias, JoAnn Bishop, Ben Phillips, Meca Loftsgard.

Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins: Betty Erickson, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett, Judy Nelson, Madonna Stumme, Doris Guyer, Evelyn Tague.

In the Military: Jeff Kleppe, Nathan Guyer, Kennedy White.



Mon. 3/17	6pm	Community Club Meeting
Tues. 3/18	9am	Quilting
Wed. 3/19	9am	Sarah Circle
	2:30pm	Confirmation
	2pm	Ruth Circle
	5:30pm	<i>Lenten Meal @ Elgin Lutheran</i>
	7pm	<i>Lenten Service @ Elgin Lutheran</i>
Sun. 3/23	9:30am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion
		<i>Ealey Baptism</i>
		<i>Sunday School</i>
	10:30am	Fellowship

Sunday, March 9, 2025

Loose: \$71.00

Regular: \$1,155.00

Total General Fund: \$1,391.72


Roof: \$90.00


Memorial: \$120.00 IMO Lois Miller

Attendance: 31

Noisy Can: \$165.72



 **Noisy Can Offering** for 1st Quarter will go to JoAnn Bishop to help with expenses incurred during this time of illness.

 **Direct Deposit Offering** is available for your weekly/monthly offering. Simply contact the office for account and routing information. It's fast and easy!



2025 Summer Camp Program Guides are now available in the entryway downstairs. Early bird registration deadline is February 28th. ***West Clermont Camperships are available.*** Please contact the church office for the form.



Church Pictorial Directories are here!! If you had your picture taken or submitted a picture, then there is a directory with your name on it. There are extras, so if you were unable to participate, you can still have one. Extras are on a first come, first serve basis.



2025 Spring Festival @ St. Paul Lutheran in Postville is Sun., March 23rd from 10:30am-until sold out. Serving: roast beef, mashed potatoes W/gravy, Mac-n-Cheese (for the kids), freezer corn, bread & butter, assorted salads & desserts. \$15 per meal (4 & younger are free). Raffle to be held @ 1pm. Raffle tickets are 6-\$5.



Clermont EMT Pancake Breakfast is **TODAY** from 8-Noon @ the Clermont Fire Station. Free will offering. Serving: pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, applesauce, and beverage.



Youth Clothing Drive Luther League/Confirmation students will volunteer at Shepherd of the Hills the night of March 19 and deliver the items collected from the drive. Thank you to everyone who donated items!

2025 Lenten Schedule

Date	Meal/Service Times	Church
March 19	5:30pm/7pm	Elgin Lutheran Church
March 26	No Meal/7pm-dessert following service	St. Paul's United Methodist Church
April 2	No Meal/7pm-dessert following service	Illyria Community Church
April 9	5:30pm/7pm	East Clermont Lutheran Church
April 17 (Maundy Thursday)	No Meal/7pm	West Clermont Lutheran Church
April 18 (Good Friday)	No Meal/7pm	St. Paul's United Methodist Church
April 20 (Easter Sunrise Service)	7am: Breakfast to follow	First Baptist Location TBD

Maundy Thursday Seder Meal @ Elgin Lutheran Church Thursday, April 17th, 2025, @ 6pm. *For those who do not have their own service this day, all are welcome to attend our Seder Meal. We would like to encourage you to let us know if you may have people interested, so we can plan accordingly. Note: this is not a full meal (so eat a light meal beforehand). Think of it more as a service and less as a full meal where families gather to retell the story of the Exodus from Egypt through symbolic foods, prayers, songs, and discussions. The last night Jesus spent with his disciples was during the Passover and is connected to what is happening during Holy Week.*



Elgin Lutheran WELCA Casserole Fundraiser is underway. Order forms are on the desk in the church office. Casseroles: Chicken Dressing Casserole, Cheesy Chicken Casserole, and Lasagna. 9x7 is \$15 per pan and 9x13 is \$25 per pan (checks payable to *Elgin WELCA*). Please include payment with order form. Orders are due by **Friday, March 21st**. Additional information is included on the order form.



Montauk is hiring for a Museum Guide. Hiring is open until April 18th. This position is seasonal. Shifts are typically 11:45-4:30 and must be able to work a weekend day. \$14.00 hr. For additional information and directions on how to apply, please see the bulletin in the downstairs entry. Further questions can be directed to Hannah @ 563-423-7173.



SHIIP Iowa's Medicare Resource (*Senior Health Insurance Information Program*) Open House is Tuesday, March 25th from 10-11am @ West Union Hospital in the Boeke Freed Room. Coffee & refreshments.