

Welcome to
WEST CLERMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH
Member of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
March 23, 2025



Worship 9:30am
Pastor Micheal Erickson

West Clermont Lutheran Church
Address: PO Box 327
Phone: 563-423-7170

Email: wclc@acegroup.cc

Website: westclermontlutheranchurch.com

Facebook Live @ West Clermont
<https://www.facebook.com/100011482533370>

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

INTRODUCTION

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

GATHERING

PRELUDE

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: "Jesus Still Lead On" ELW 624

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

ELW pg. 120

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW pg. 122

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through 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: “You Make Everything Beautiful” Rebecca St. James with For King and Country **CCLI# 5993561**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vTSpGn9-N5Q>



BAPTISM OF RAYDEN THOMAS EALEY



God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the

one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors for the candidate present the candidate:

Sponsors: We present **Rayden Thomas Ealey** for baptism.

The presiding minister addresses parents:

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have **Rayden Thomas Ealey** baptized into Christ?

Parents: **I do.**

As you bring **Rayden** to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, & the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that **Rayden** may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help **Rayden** grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: **I do.**

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture **Rayden** in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: **I do.**

The presiding minister addresses all present:

People of God, do you promise to support **Rayden** and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

C: We do.

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God

C: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: 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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters

of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Baptism

Water is poured on the candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:

Rayden Thomas Ealey, I baptize you in the name of the Father,

Water is poured on the candidate's head a second time:
and of the Son,

Water is poured on the candidate's head a third time:
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

After the baptism, the assembly may respond with..

C: You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized.

Alleluia.

Clothed with Christ in baptism, the newly baptized receives a baptismal garment. The presiding minister continues:

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister prays:

Sustain **Rayden** with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Rayden Thomas Ealey, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C: Amen.

Welcome

A lighted candle is given to a sponsor of the young child as these words are spoken:

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Presiding minister then wraps baby in the quilt saying..

I now present **Rayden Thomas Ealey**.

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MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW pg. 130

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

¹ Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm: 63:1-8 (Responsively)

¹ O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

² **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.**

³ For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

⁴ **So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.**

⁵ My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

⁶ **when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.**

⁷ For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

⁸ **My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹ I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰ And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the

destroyer. ¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation: *“Let your steadfast love...”* ELW pg.125

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

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

¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.² [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?”³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.⁷ So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it.⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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: “O, Jesus, Joy Of Loving Hearts” ELW 658

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.

SENDING

BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

SENDING MUSIC: “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” ELW 618

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.



*May God's blessing be upon **Rayden Thomas Ealey**, son of Shea & Brittany Ealey who was baptized today. Sponsors for Rayden are Tess Becker and Frank Garritano.*



Tues. 3/25	9am	Quilting
Wed. 3/26	2:30pm	Confirmation
	7pm	<i>Lenten Service @ St. Paul's Methodist. Dessert to follow.</i>
Thurs. 3/27	6:30pm	Clermont Historical Society
Sat. 3/29	11am	<i>Helgerson Baptism</i>
Sun. 3/30	9:30am	Healing Service
		Sunday School
	10:30am	Fellowship

Lenten Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Loose: \$71.00

Total to Open Hands Food Pantry: \$111.00

Bldg. Fund: \$20.00

Attendance: 45

Lenten: \$40.00

Sunday, March 16, 2025

Loose: \$51.00


Regular: \$635.00


Total General Fund: \$818.28

Attendance: 44

Noisy Can: \$132.28



 **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 **TODAY** 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.



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.

2025 Lenten Schedule

Date	Meal/Service Times	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.*



28th Annual Friends of the Elgin Public Library Book Sale. Books, puzzles, DVDs, and more! DOOR PRIZES!
Dates: Thurs., April 10th: 1-5:30pm. Fri., April 11th: 10-5:30pm. Sat., April 12th: 9am-Noon. **ON-LINE AUCTION** on Facebook (*elginpubliclibraryfriend*) begins on Mon., March 24th and ends on Sat., April 12th @ 11am.



Beulahland Christian Camp 2025

Youth Summer Camp Dates:

- 3rd-5th Grade Camp: June 29-July 3
- 6th-8th Grade Camp: July 13-17
- 9th-12th Grade Camp: July 20-24
- 4th-7th Grade Camp: July 27-31

Registration for 2025 Summer Youth Camps is open now and closes on June 1, 2025. Secure your spot early to ensure your camper can join us at Beulahland! We look forward to welcoming you! For more information or to register for camp email: www.beulahlandbiblecamp.org.