



Central Lutheran Church

Third Sunday in Lent
March 3, 2024

The Rev. Veronika Czutor, Pastor
Harold Knight, PhD, Music Director
Rachel Brown, Administrative Assistant

Central Lutheran Church, ELCA

1000 Easton Rd., Dallas, Texas

God calls us to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate Christ's love for all.

Please turn off your cell phone.

This service is being livestreamed to our neighbors near and far on Facebook.

Most of the sanctuary- including all leaders and worshippers- is on camera.

BELL PEAL (10:30 am)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSICAL MEDITATION

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Lord our God, we give thanks for the witness of bold women. In early times, today and into the future, bold women show us how to live as God's beloved children in God's beloved creation. We live into our baptismal call to work for justice and peace for all God's creatures. Together, we say:

C Thank you, God!

The litany continues with these petitions centered on the witness of women from the Reformation.

P For Katharine von Bora Luther, who ran to embrace change in her world, we say:

C Thank you, God!

P For Katharina Schutz Zell, a publishing 'Church Mother' who married to bring voice to God's truth in her time, we say:

C Thank you, God!

P For Argula von Grumbach, who wrote letters and poems defending the Reformers as bearers of the true faith, we say:

C Thank you, God!

P For Olimpia Fulvia Morata, blessed by God as a child to study and boldly proclaim the Gospel, we say:

C Thank you, God!

P Thank you, God, for the witness of all bold women yesterday, today, and tomorrow. We praise you for their witness to your love and mercy. Strengthen us to live out our baptismal call to serve you and our neighbor with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our strength.

C Thank you, God! Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 604

O Christ, Our Hope



1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's
2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den
3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som
4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us
5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry



might-y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by
of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to
has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in
of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by
ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through



ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:
make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.
robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.
mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.
all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God sent from heaven above, be with you all.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. God of tender care, like a mother, you never forget your children, and you know already what we need. In all our anxiety give us trusting and faithful hearts, that in confidence and boldness we may embody the peace and justice of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Exodus 20:1-17

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

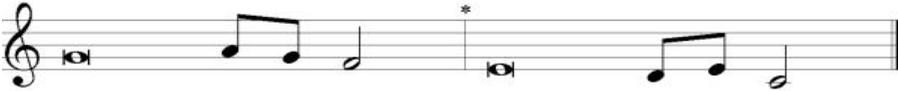
¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

L Word of God, Word of Life

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 19

Sung responsively.



- ¹The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,
and the sky proclaims its | maker's handiwork.
- ²**One day tells its tale | to another,
and one night imparts knowledge | to another.**
- ³Although they have no | words or language,
and their voices | are not heard,
- ⁴**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the
world,
where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.**
- ⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out | of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.
- ⁶**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the
end of | it again;
nothing is hidden from its | burning heat.**
- ⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to | the simple.
- ⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | joice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light | to the eyes.**
- ⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous | altogether.
- ¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.**
- ¹¹By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is | great reward.
- ¹²**Who can detect one's | own offenses?
Cleanse me from my | secret faults.**
- ¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get
dominion | over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.
- ¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in
your sight,
O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer.**

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸The message about 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, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

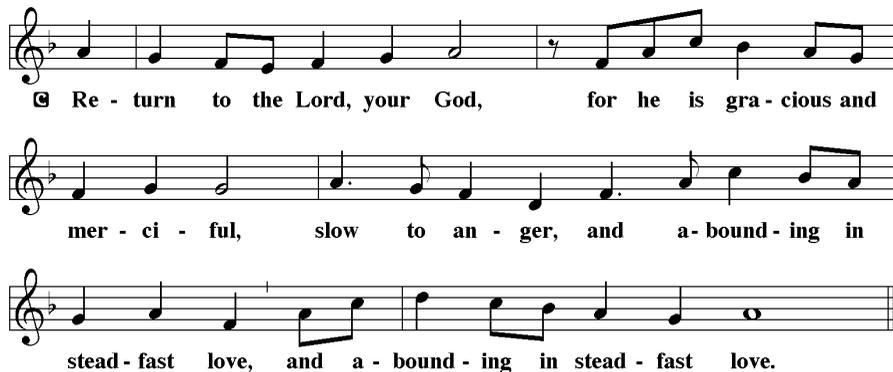
L Word of God, Word of Life

C Thanks be to God

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Pastor Veronika

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



☩ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the second chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord

READING OF THE GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their

tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” ¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” ²⁰The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Veronika

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 605

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,” you taught us, Lord, to pray;
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew;
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 how tri - fling oth - ers’ debts to us; how great our debt to you!
 then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

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.

THE PRAYERS

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Please sit or kneel for prayer.

The response to each spoken petition is:

P Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

People with prayer needs: **Lydia** Landfair, **Selena** Dybdahl, **Paul** Chambers, **Linda** Gourley, **Karen** Sabattis, and **Ylva** Wolfgang.

The prayers conclude:

P ...through your son Jesus Christ, our Lord

C Amen.

RECOGNITION OF BOLD WOMEN OF THE CONGREGATION

At this time, we recognize bold women in the congregation by calling them forward.

P Sisters, both your work and your rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and at play, all the days of your life?

Response: *I will, and I ask God to help me.*

P Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit... (*prayer continues*) ... renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

THE PEACE

The peace we share is a sign of God's mission of reconciliation among us and the reconciliation we have with one another in Christ Jesus. Please offer a symbol of reconciliation to one another.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

THE OFFERING

*We give thanks for what God has first given us. Our ministry to the people of East Dallas is supported by your offering. An offering plate is available in the narthex after worship. You may also use our online giving through **Vanco, PayPal, or Givelify** (available in the App Store) or continue to mail your offerings to our office.*

MUSICAL OFFERING: Lord, for They Tender Mercy's Sake

Sung by the choir

*Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake
lay not our sins to our charge,
but forgive that is past,
and give us grace to amend our sinful lives:
to decline from sin and incline to virtue,
that we may walk in a perfect heart,
before thee now and evermore.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

C Amen.

THE 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.**

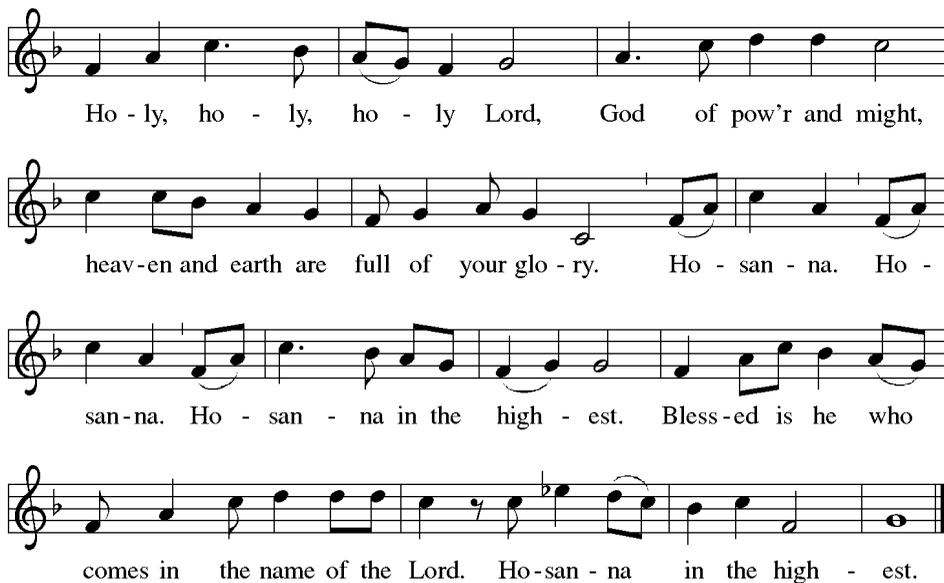
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed our duty and our joy . . . (*prayer concludes*) we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.... (*prayer continues*)

...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

Communion will be served at the altar rail, and you have the option to kneel or stand. The consecrated host will be immersed in the chalice and then placed in your hand. If your preference is to receive only the host, please communicate that to the ministers. We have gluten-free options available. Alternatively, if you'd prefer a blessing, simply fold your arms in front of your chest. Currently, there is no consecrated grape juice available.

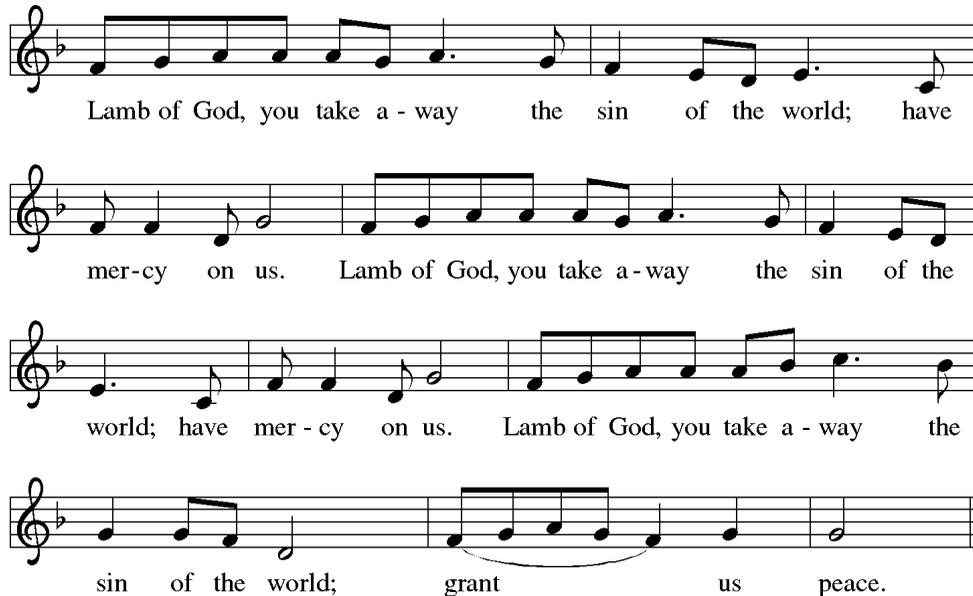
The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Follow the guidance of the ushers if you decide to walk up to the Altar to receive the Sacraments.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Meditative organ music is played as the congregation receives the Holy Communion.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P 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.

C Amen.

O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate



- 1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
 2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
 3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
 4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
 so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
 that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
 whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
 Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
 We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
 come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
 and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
 that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
 whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share your bread.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgments:

Liturgy from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Gathering Hymn: *O Christ, Our Hope*

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806-1876, adapt.

Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480-1564

Hymn of the Day: *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

Text: Rosamund E. Herklots, 1905-1987, alt.

Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

Musical Offering: *Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake*

Text: Richard Farrant

Sending Hymn: *O Christ, Your Heart Compassionate*

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; X. L. Hartig,

Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche, 1833

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 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	
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Administrative Assistant: Rachel Brown 214-327-2222 central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com	www.facebook.com/CentralLutheranDallas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors, we are glad to have you with us and invite you to come again!

Pastor Veronika's Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10 am - 2 pm; other days/times by appointment

Serving in Worship today: Usher: Anne Monson & David Hopson, and Lector: Carmina Castro

Lunch, Learn, & Grow: We have once-a-month "Sunday School" for all ages on the first Sunday of the month. Join us for a lunch and discussion of the Bible and our Lutheran heritage. Our next meeting is **today, after the worship service**. For lunch, we will have sandwiches. **We are looking for volunteers to bring food**. See the Count-me-in sheet in the narthex to sign up to bring something. Come join the fellowship and ministry together! All are welcome!

Midweek Lenten Worship & Supper: We will joyfully join together with our siblings at Emmanuel Lutheran for our midweek Lenten worship at Central. **We will meet at 6:00pm for a supper of soup and sandwiches. Then at 7:00pm Pastor Rachel Ringlaben will lead us in worship using *Holden Evening Prayer*.** Pastor Veronika will turn our focus to the Psalms- a source of depth and wonder used in worship for over 3,000 years. **We will meet every Wednesday through March 20.** All are welcome!

Lenten Collections: We will have two collections during this Lenten season. If you can help with either of these collections, please bring your donations to the worship services (on Sunday or Wednesday). Thank you for your generosity!

1. During our mid-week worship services on Wednesdays, we will collect monetary donations for the North Texas-North Louisiana Synod Fund for Leaders. This fund benefits seminarians from our synod who are studying for vocations in ministry. To learn more about the fund go to the NT-NL's website (*ntnl.org*).
2. Throughout Lent will also collect food for our local food pantry at White Rock Center of Hope. We will deliver the food items on March 26. We are aiming to collect 20 of each of the following:
 - canned soup
 - cereal
 - boxed meals
 - bisquick mix
 - instant mashed potatoes
 - granola bars
 - bags of flour
 - cooking oil

Volunteers Needed to help with New Horizons After School Reading and Tutoring program at Central. Duties will include helping with homework and reading stories to children ages 5 to 11. You will be security screened prior to beginning. The schedule is 3-6 pm Monday through Thursday. You can do one day a week or one day a month. The kids are adorable. The staff is great. You will receive far more than you give! If you are interested, contact Anne Monson at 214-264-8078 or annemonson@sbcglobal.net.

Celebrate the bold women in your life: Bold Women's Day—observed the first Sunday of March—celebrates all Lutheran women who have acted or are acting boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Some women are bold in their unceasing prayers. Other women are bold in their service to those in need. Still other women are bold in their advocacy or through their hospitality. Whether we live out our bold story of faith in the workplace, family home or community, our faith compels us to make a difference in the lives of others. It's all about living out our baptismal call, about being a disciple of Christ. Are you bold?

Sanctuary Cleaning Day: We are returning to worship in our sanctuary on Palm Sunday. The week before- **March 17-** we will gather after the worship service to spruce up the sanctuary in preparation for our return. We will need help washing windows, vacuuming, hanging banners, etc. To keep our volunteers motivated, **pizza will be provided.** Thanks!

Candy Collection: During our Spring Festival, on March 23, we will have multiple egg hunts for different age groups. We have as many eggs as we need, but we are asking for donations of candy to fill the eggs. **Our last day for collection is Sunday, March 17.**

T-Shirt Orders: It is time for us to get some t-shirts that we can wear when we are doing volunteer and service events in or for our community! We want to get shirts so we present a unified front, and so we advertise the ELCA and Central Lutheran. The shirts will be \$10 each (they actually cost just a little more than that but some generous church members have offered to help pay the difference!) Financial assistance to cover the full cost is also available if needed. We want everyone who wants one to get one! To order a shirt, talk to Alesia Pearson or email the church office (Central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com) with your name and shirt size.



Scan this QR code (or go to linktr.ee/centrallutheranchurch) to connect with us, join our mailing list, or donate online.

Our Prayer List: Please submit your prayer requests to the church office via email (central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com) or via phone (214-327-2222).

PRAYERS FOR HEALING & COMFORT

For healing

Irisz Gonda
Frank Seuberling
Linda Gourley
Sara Navarro Ruiz
Erik Rojas Cobo
Karen Sabattis
Jerry Quarles
Steve
Selena Dybdahl

Relationship

Friend of Pastor Veronika
Friend of Harold Knight
Sister of Julie Atkins
Friend of Victor Chacon
Friend of Victor Chacon
Sister of Janet Rashbaum
Cousin of Lisa Barse
Friend of Rachel Brown
Sister of Mary Glenn

Church Members

Lydia Landfair
Don Smith
Mario Montejo
Ylva Wolfgang

Kris McDowell
Yuvonne Muirhead
Paul Chambers