

# *The Eternal Light*



*Eternal Savior Lutheran Church*  
*2688 North Park Drive*  
*Lafayette, Colorado 80026*  
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## **MARCH 2021 PASTOR'S PAGE – ESLC**

**“For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that One has died for all, therefore all have died; and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised.” 2 Cor. 5:14,15**

Lent is a time for reflection, principally upon the condition of our own hearts, minds, and souls. What we see when we look honestly and with integrity is dismal – all the different ways in which our thinking and feeling is corrupted and distorted by sin. This helps us understand why our speaking and doing is also filled with sinfulness. This is not just seasonal, for as Luther observed: “Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ . . . willed that the whole life of believers should be repentance.” [Thesis One, 95 Theses] This may seem to us a rather depressing business, and not the way that we would like to live our lives, but the alternative – manufacturing and maintaining self-delusion – takes even more energy and ultimately is even more depressing.

Of course, repentance is not just commiserating about our sinful condition, but also grasping the gracious mercy and love of God in Christ Jesus, our Savior. Paul asserts the reality: “Christ has died for all.” He adds the correct reality, that “therefore all have died.” This is true in two senses, first that “all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God,” and this reminds us we also “were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience.” [Eph. 2:1,2] It is also true that in dying to take away the sin of the world, and suffering death for our sin, He died for all and all died in Him and along with Him. God’s gracious forgiveness, mercy, and salvation have been provided for all people.

So our reflection, when done with increasing honesty, helps us to see clearly the nature of what is wrong with us, and also what is wrong with every single human being. It enables us to identify with all people everywhere rather than diminishing us beneath the rest of humanity. And when we take into consideration what Christ has done for us we are relieved – God has not given up on us, He has redeemed us. God does not desire our condemnation but has already provided us with salvation. He does not judge us as being beyond hope but rather eagerly hopes that we receive His love, mercy, and forgiveness. He embraces us with His love; He died for us.

Such love, Paul writes, “controls us.” [The Greek word means, arrest, compel, constrain] God’s love points us in a different direction. It is true: “He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised.” We are not only forgiven, redeemed, and reclaimed – and then left in the darkness – but reclaimed, reoriented, and renewed in understanding and purpose. The life of repentance, which Luther wrote of, includes assurance of God’s forgiveness and the new life in Christ Jesus. Therefore, although it begins somewhat dimly but it ends in the joy of God’s salvation and the satisfaction of growing in a life of love. This joy is also a part of Lent.

Contrast intensifies our understanding and experience. The darkness of repentance and contrition intensifies our joy in Easter and our joy in God’s salvation. This is good and powerful in moving us to live for Christ. May God so bless each of us this Lenten season!

## OFFERING REPORT

Offerings for the months of January/February were:

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| January 31  | \$4,283 |
| February 7  | \$3,080 |
| February 14 | \$2,975 |
| February 21 | \$1,717 |

This weekly average (\$3,014) compares to our 2021 weekly budget needs of \$4,819.

## REMINDERS

**Please be responsible!!!** For everyone who has access to the church building, it is your responsibility when you leave to make sure that all lights are off, the heat/air-conditioning/fans are turned back or off and all of the **doors are locked and secure!!** Please do double checks before you leave.

Have you checked out the newly revised and **updated ESLC website**? It contains lots of important information including the Eternal Savior church calendar and who will be serving each week. You can also find Pastor Rhode's archived sermons. Please check it out at [www.eternalsavior-lutheran.org](http://www.eternalsavior-lutheran.org).

**Mid-week Bible Study** meets **online** on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 AM and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM. To join, email Pastor for the invitation link.

**Midweek Lenten Services** are Thursday nights at 7 pm. Please join us as we meditate upon the Blessings of Jesus.

**Children's bulletins are available.** Please ask an usher for a copy.

**Prayer request cards** are available on a table in the narthex. If you would like to include a prayer request in Sunday's prayers, please email Pastor [pastor@eternalsavior-lutheran.org](mailto:pastor@eternalsavior-lutheran.org) or secretary [secretary@eternalsavior-lutheran.org](mailto:secretary@eternalsavior-lutheran.org)

**Parking spaces** in front of the church should be reserved for those members and visitors that need to park close to the building due to health concerns or weather. Please be considerate and leave these spaces to those who need them most.

**Large print worship** service folders and assisted listening devices are available. Please ask an usher if needed.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Reredos Committee

What is a reredos? It's an ornamental wall or screen behind the altar. When we built this church (already 15 years ago!) we had planned that at some point we would do something more with the wall behind the altar - the reredos. We do have some funding available for this project in the form of memorial funds specifically designated for this purpose.

At present we have no definite plans for what we will do with the reredos. We need ideas, we need a plan. So we have a wonderful opportunity for those who might be interested to help determine just what we want to do here. **A few people have already expressed an interest in serving on this committee. We still need more on this committee.** If interested, please speak to Robin Warnken or Pastor Rhode.

**Thank you for donating "Clorox" wipes to our church.** We have enough for a while now. But we still need volunteers to help us wipe down surfaces at church after worship services!

## **WinGS – LWML NEWS**

Women In God's Service (WinGS) is a part of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML). If you are a member of an LCMS church, you are a member of LWML. All WinGS events are open to each and every woman of Eternal Savior Lutheran Church. Your individual participation, ideas, and interaction are a blessing to everyone in attendance.

### **LWML Mission Statement**

***As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ,  
support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.***

**Each and every woman member of ESLC is a Woman in God's Service**



**LWML Reaches 2019-2021 Mission Goal** - Sing the Doxology, "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!" The LWML, by God's grace, has reached the mission goal of \$2.1 million set for the 2019-2021 biennium. This means that all mission grants selected for the biennium can be funded! God has great plans for spreading His Gospel story through those ministries.

**Monthly Mite Collection** - Mites will be collected on March 14. One of the LWML Rocky Mountain District mission grants is for \$9,000 for interns at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Navajo, NM. Intern candidates are currently being interviewed. During Christmas, they were not allowed to have worship services due to the Covid restrictions. Pastor Norton went to the individual families of the congregation and acted out the Christmas story with them. Costumes were provided by other congregations.

### **WinGS Officers:**

- *Cindy Stahly, President*
- *Carol Purfurst, Secretary*
- *Vicki Warren, Treasurer*
- *Colleen Spahr, Mission Advocate.*

**Eternal Savior's 50th Anniversary:** 2021 marks the 50th anniversary of Eternal Savior. We are forming a committee to plan our celebrations and create a photo/video history. If you would be interested in helping with this effort, please contact Laura Raben at [lauraannraben@gmail.com](mailto:lauraannraben@gmail.com) or 720-984-8156.

**Gather Your Photos:** Do you have photos from past church events? We would love to include them in our 50th anniversary celebration. Please share them with Laura Raben. If you have prints, we can scan and return them.

**The Deacon's Fund** supports Emergency Family Assistance, ULC, and other charities as well. All of these funds will be used to alleviate the needs of people who are in very vulnerable circumstances. The agencies have expressed great gratitude. We are only able to do this because of the generous and faithful contributions of you, our dear members, to the Deacon's Fund! Please consider contributing via your offering envelopes or in the Deacons' Fund collector in the Narthex! Thanks!!!

**King Soopers has changed their system for charitable donations. We are now enrolled in the King Soopers Community Rewards program!** To register for the program go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com>. Click on the "create an account" button or the "sign in" on the right hand side of the page. If you are creating an account, you will fill in your information, including a valid email address and a King Soopers loyalty card. Once you have created an account click on the "save" link in the upper left, and then on King Soopers Community Rewards link. Then click on "enroll" and you will be able to search for groups. Use Eternal Savior Lutheran Church or SL909 to link your card to Eternal Savior. **Once enrolled, a percentage of all your purchases will go to our Youth Group every time you use in your loyalty card!** Thanks!!!!

## SERVANT SCHEDULE

*As things are still uncertain due to COVID-19, please be advised that ESLC Weekly Servant Schedule may not be up to date. Please check with Pastor if you have questions. We are not currently using the sound system. If you are unconfident serving in your role – please just let us know.*

### SERVING IN MARCH

#### **Thursday, March 4 – Midweek Lent 2**

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Organist     | Marge Paugh     |
| Usher(s)     | Roger Landowski |
| Elder(s)     | Keith Cowley    |
| Altar        | Mary Bunge      |
| Sound System | TBD             |

#### **Sunday, March 7**

|              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Organist     | Linda Thompson                |
| Usher(s)     | Walt Oehlkers                 |
| Counter(s)   | Mark Bunge                    |
| Elder(s)     | Wayne Thomas, Roger Landowski |
| Altar        | Mary Bunge                    |
| Sound System | TBD                           |
| Lawn/Snow    | OPEN                          |
| Flowers      | OPEN                          |

#### **Thursday, March 11 – Midweek Lent 3**

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Organist     | Marge Paugh     |
| Usher(s)     | Roger Landowski |
| Elder(s)     | Keith Cowley    |
| Altar        | Mary Bunge      |
| Sound System | TBD             |

#### **Sunday, March 14**

|              |                                   |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Organist     | Linda Thompson                    |
| Cantor       | Keith Cowley                      |
| Usher(s)     | John Reuer, Mark Bunge            |
| Counter(s)   | Mark Bunge                        |
| Elder(s)     | Ryan Lambrecht, Kirk Anderson (r) |
| Altar        | Mary Bunge                        |
| Sound System | TBD                               |
| Lawn/Snow    | OPEN                              |
| Flowers      | OPEN                              |

#### **Thursday, March 18 – Midweek Lent 4**

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Organist     | Marge Paugh     |
| Usher(s)     | Roger Landowski |
| Elder(s)     | Keith Cowley    |
| Altar        | Mary Bunge      |
| Sound System | TBD             |

#### **Sunday, March 21**

|              |                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Organist     | Linda Thompson              |
| Usher(s)     | Kirk Anderson, Mark Bunge   |
| Counter(s)   | Mark Bunge                  |
| Elder(s)     | Jeff Reuer, Roger Landowski |
| Altar        | Mary Bunge                  |
| Sound System | TBD                         |
| Lawn/Snow    | OPEN                        |
| Flowers      | Spahr                       |

#### **Thursday, March 25 – Midweek Lent 5**

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Organist     | Marge Paugh     |
| Usher(s)     | Roger Landowski |
| Elder(s)     | Keith Cowley    |
| Altar        | Mary Bunge      |
| Sound System | TBD             |

#### **Sunday, March 28 – Palm Sunday**

|              |                                |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Organist     | Linda Thompson                 |
| Cantor       | Cindy Griffin                  |
| Usher(s)     | Jeff Reuer, Rod Sinner         |
| Counter(s)   | Mark Bunge                     |
| Elders       | Wayne Thomas (r), Keith Cowley |
| Altar        | Mary Bunge                     |
| Sound System | TBD                            |
| Lawn/Snow    | OPEN                           |
| Flowers      | OPEN                           |

# March 2021

| Sunday   | Monday                     | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday                                 | Saturday  |
|--|----------------------------|---|--|--|--|-----------|
|  | <b>1</b><br>7:00 PM Elders | <b>2</b><br>9:00 AM Bulletin<br>Deadline<br>1:00 PM Winkel<br>4:00 PM Confirmation<br>6:30 PM Bells | <b>3</b><br>11:00 AM Bible Study<br>7:00 PM Bible Study  | <b>4</b><br>7:00 PM Midweek<br>Lent 2 Worship                      | <b>5</b>                               | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>7</b><br>9:00 AM Worship with Communion<br>10:30 AM Bible Class<br><b>11:40 AM Church Council</b><br>1:30-2:30 PM Communion by Appt | <b>8</b>                   | <b>9</b><br>9:00 AM Bulletin<br>Deadline<br>4:00 PM Confirmation<br>6:30 PM Bells                   | <b>10</b><br>11:00 AM Bible Study<br>7:00 PM Bible Study | <b>11</b><br>7:00 PM Midweek<br>Lent 3 Worship                     | <b>12</b>                              | <b>13</b> |
| <b>14</b><br>9:00 AM Worship with Communion<br>10:30 AM Bible Class<br><b>11:40 AM Deacons</b><br>1:30-2:30 PM Communion by Appt       | <b>15</b>                  | <b>16</b><br>9:00 AM Bulletin<br>/Newsletter Deadline<br>4:00 PM Confirmation<br>6:30 PM Bells      | <b>17</b><br>11:00 AM Bible Study<br>7:00 PM Bible Study | <b>18</b><br>6:00 PM Trustees<br>7:00 PM Midweek<br>Lent 4 Worship | <b>19</b><br>9:00 AM Church<br>Workday | <b>20</b> |
| <b>21</b><br>9:00 AM Worship with Communion<br>10:30 AM Bible Class<br>1:30-2:30 PM Communion by Appt                                  | <b>22</b>                  | <b>23</b><br>9:00 AM Bulletin<br>Deadline<br>4:00 PM Confirmation<br>6:30 PM Bells                  | <b>24</b><br>11:00 AM Bible Study<br>7:00 PM Bible Study | <b>25</b><br>7:00 PM Midweek<br>Lent 5 Worship                     | <b>26</b>                              | <b>27</b> |
| <b>28</b><br>9:00 AM Worship with Communion<br>10:30 AM Bible Class<br>1:30-2:30 PM Communion by Appt<br><br><b>Palm Sunday</b>        | <b>29</b>                  | <b>30</b><br>9:00 AM Bulletin<br>Deadline<br>4:00 PM Confirmation<br>6:30 PM Bells                  | <b>31</b><br>11:00 AM Bible Study<br>7:00 PM Bible Study |  |  |           |

For livestreaming video, please go to church's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/EternalSaviorLutheran](https://www.facebook.com/EternalSaviorLutheran) or ESLC website <https://eternalsavior-lutheran.org/>



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

# Pray For Us Calendar

## WORLDWIDE THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION — MARCH 1-31

The LCMS provides theological education throughout the world by means of seminaries and missionaries. Scholars and leaders from foreign church bodies also come to the LCMS seminaries for advanced degrees, learning sound doctrine from the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions.

*Remember the centrality of God's Word as you pray:*

**1.** for Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, that all there might grow in the Word and prepare for the proper proclamation of the Word and administration of the Sacraments.

**2.** for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind., that the faculty might teach the Word in its truth and purity; and the students learn God's Word in preparation for ministry.

**3.** for Christ's work throughout the world, that the Gospel might be proclaimed to all people and the forgiveness of sins delivered through the Means of Grace.

**4.** for Concordia Seminary, Hong Kong, that people and

pastors might be trained there to proclaim the Gospel.

**5.** for Martin Luther Seminary in Lae, Papua New Guinea, that God would strengthen and preserve the seminary to prepare the pastors of the Gutnius Lutheran Church to convict people with God's law and heal them with the word of Absolution.

**6.** for Japan Lutheran Seminary in Tokyo, Japan, that our Lord, Jesus Christ, would make the seminary a place where the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity.

**7.** for Concordia Theological Seminary in Nagercoil, India, that the Lord would preserve the seminary from all evil and lead it to become a bastion of the

Gospel against the attacks of the wicked foe.

**8.** for Timothy Lutheran Seminary in Birip, Papua New Guinea, that the Lord would use the instructors to shine His Word upon the path of students preparing to serve His Church.

**9.** for students and professors of Lutheran Theological Seminary in Baguio City, Philippines, that they might serve the Lutheran Church in the Philippines faithfully.

**10.** for Luther Seminary in Seoul, South Korea, that the Lord would preserve those who teach and those who learn to hold fast to His Word in all circumstances.

**11.** for the ministry carried out through the Westfield House of Theological Studies in Cambridge, England, as this ministry trains church leaders for England and many other church bodies around the world.

**12.** for the Lutheran Center for Theological Studies (CLET) in Togo, that theological training for men from French-speaking countries in West Africa might continue.

**13.** for Concordia Reformer Seminary, Dominican Republic, that the students there might share the Gospel throughout Latin and South America.

**14.** for the Synod's Global Seminary Initiative (GSI), which helps to fill the need for trained church leaders who are native to the region and cultures in which they serve, that God would guide this program to strengthen the formation of pastors and deaconesses around the world.

**15.** for LCMS professors and pastors who travel overseas to teach seminars and intensive courses for our current and emerging church partners, that God would grant them safe travel and fruitful labors.

## MARCH *Pray For Us Calendar*

**16.** *for the international students who come to the Synod's seminaries, that God would grant safe travels and comfort while away from family and friends.*

**17.** *for Lutheran pastors worldwide, that they would have access to the necessary books and resources to teach Law and Gospel.*

**18.** *for the health and safety of LCMS missionaries who provide theological education, thanks that they have heeded the call to serve Christ in this way.*

**19.** *for Lutheran church workers in Europe, that their work is fruitful.*

**20.** *for the seminaries of LCMS partner churches around the world, that they would faithfully educate future leaders for their churches.*

**21.** *for the Gospel multiplication as pastors are equipped to teach their flocks and train new leaders for the church, thank God for the growth of His Kingdom.*

**22.** *for the continued growth of Christ's Church on earth, that the Lord would continue to raise up missionaries according to His good and gracious will.*

**23.** *for Lutherans throughout the world, that they rejoice in God's gifts of His Word and Sacraments.*

**24.** *for the Synod's generous donors, thanks for those who make it possible for LCMS theological education around the world.*

**25.** *The Annunciation of our Lord, thank God for sending His Son into our flesh.*

**26.** *for our partner churches, that God would raise up pastors and servants to serve His people.*

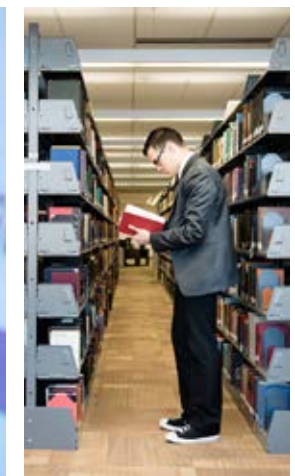
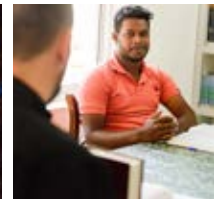
**27.** *for sound doctrine throughout the world, that God would preserve the truth of His Word against false teachings.*

**28.** *for those on vicarage from our partner seminaries, that God would bless their time in the field as part of their education.*

**29.** *for seminarians' wives, that they would be prepared to support their husband's call into ministry.*

**30.** *for seminarians' children, that they rejoice in the Gospel and in their father's calling.*

**31.** *for all who listen to those who receive theological education, that the Gospel might take root and produce fruit.*



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