

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod



The Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

Divine Service, Setting Three – LSB 184

8:00 & 10:30*am, 5:00 pm

*livestreamed on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

AS WE GATHER

Jesus Calls You to Repentance

“Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3, 5). By this warning, the Lord would turn us away from wickedness and bring us to life in Himself. For He is patient with us, that we would not be cut down in our sin but live and bear fruit in Him. As He lives, the Lord has “no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live” (Ezek. 33:11). So the Scriptures have been “written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come” (1 Cor. 10:11), that we should not desire evil but trust in Christ. He alone is faithful, the Rock who feeds us with His “spiritual food” and pours out His “spiritual drink” (1 Cor. 10:3–4).

[Rev. Eric J. Edwards](#) † **[Rev. Christopher Beck](#)** † **[Rev. Liwei Sui](#)**

2200 S. High Street, Bloomington, IN † 812-332-1668 † office@faithbtown.org † www.faithtown.org

✠ ✠ ✠ GATHERING ✠ ✠ ✠

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC – *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me* (arr. Benjamin M. Culli)

HYMN OF INVOCATION – LSB 809 – Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

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INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

✠ ✠ ✠ WORD ✠ ✠ ✠

INTROIT – Psalm 5:4-8; antiphon: Psalm 1:6

Leader: For the Lord knows the way of the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.



C For you are not a God who delights in | wickedness;*
evil may not | dwell with you.

Leader: The boastful shall not stand be- | fore your eyes;*
you hate all evil- | doers.

C You destroy those | who speak lies;*
the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and de- | ceitful man.

Leader: But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will en- | ter your house.*
I will bow down toward your holy temple in the | fear of you

C Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my | enemies;*
make your way straight be- | fore me.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
For the Lord knows the way of the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

KYRIE – Lord, Have Mercy



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**
- P** Let us pray... one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON – Ezekiel 33:7-20 – Ezekiel is Israel’s watchman.

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

¹⁰“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ ¹¹Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

¹²“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins.

¹³Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. ¹⁴Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, ¹⁵if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ¹⁶None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

¹⁷“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. ¹⁸When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. ¹⁹And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. ²⁰Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL – Sung by congregation. – *Hebrews 12:2*



**O come, let us fix our eyes on | Jesus,*
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,*
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.**

EPISTLE – **1 Corinthians 10:1-13** – Warning against idolatry

¹I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.

¹¹Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹²Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

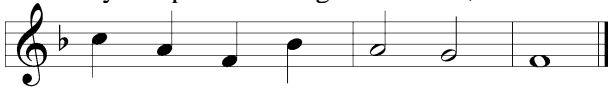
C Thanks be to God.

VERSE – *Joel 2:13b*

C 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.

HOLY GOSPEL – Luke 13:1-9 – Repent or perish

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

⁶And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ ⁸And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

8:00 am – APOSTLES’ CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

10:30 am & 5:00 pm – NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

8:00 am – CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY – LSB 824 – May God Bestow on Us His Grace



1 May God be - stow on us His grace, With bless - ings rich pro -
2 Thine o - ver all shall be the praise And thanks of ev - 'ry
△ 3 O let the peo - ple praise Thy worth, In all good works in -



vide us; And may the bright - ness of His face
na - tion; And all the world with joy shall raise
creas - ing; The land shall plen - teous fruit bring forth,



To life e - ter - nal guide us, That we His sav - ing
The voice of ex - ul - ta - tion. For Thou shalt judge the
Thy Word is rich in bless - ing. May God the Fa - ther,



health may know, His gra - cious will and plea - sure,
earth, O Lord, Nor suf - fer sin to flour - ish;
God the Son, And God the Spir - it bless us!



And al - so to the na - tions show Christ's rich - es with - out
Thy peo - ple's pas - sure is Thy Word Their souls to feed and
Let all the world praise Him a - lone, Let sol - emn awe pos -



mea - sure And un - to God con - vert them.
nour - ish, In righ - teous paths to keep them.
sess us. Now let our hearts say, "A - men!"

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SERMON – *Unless You Repent* – Luke 13:1-9

OFFERING – *Variations on May God Bestow on Us His Grace* (arr. Robert Lind)

OFFERTORY – *Psalm 51:10-12*



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- A** Let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** ...one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

8:00 am – Continues with the **Lord's Prayer** (*page 9*)
and concludes with the **Benediction and Closing Hymn** (*page 13*).

✠ ✠ ✠ **SACRAMENT** ✠ ✠ ✠
10:30 am & 5:00 pm – LSB 194

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
- C** It is meet and right so to do.
- P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary...evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS – LSB 195 – Holy, Holy, Holy – Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
 ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
 bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

- C** 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI – The Peace of the Lord – John 20:19

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** Amen.

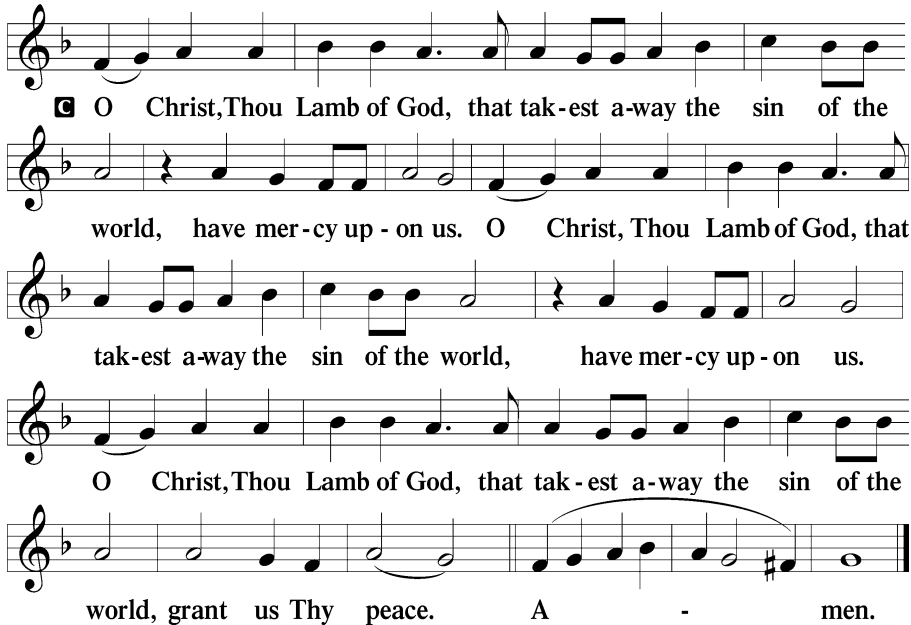
For Guests and Visitors Desiring the Sacrament

As a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, we confess, in accord with the Scriptures, that **in this sacred meal Jesus Himself is truly present to forgive our sin and strengthen our faith.**

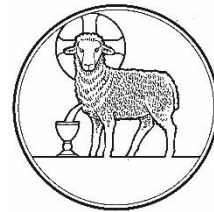
Participation in this meal indicates that you **believe, have been baptized, and have been taught** according to our Lord's command **and are in doctrinal agreement** with this confession.

- **If you are visiting from outside the Lutheran Church or are new to the faith,** we welcome you to come to the altar with arms crossed to receive a blessing.
- **If you desire to receive instruction for the Lord's Supper,** please speak with one of our pastors.

AGNUS DEI – LSB 198 – Lamb of God - John 1:29



□ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.



Distribution Notes:

If you need **gluten-free wafers**, please let one of the pastors know.

Non-alcoholic grape juice, containing a trace amount of wine, is available in the center of the tray.

DISTRIBUTION

Anthem - *In God, My Faithful God* (arr. Carl Schalk)

*In God, my faithful God,
I trust when dark my road;
Though many woes o'ertake me,
Yet He will not forsake me.
His love it is doth send them
And, when 'tis best, will end them.*

*My sins assail me sore,
But I despair no more.
I build on Christ, who loves me;
From this Rock nothing move me.
To Him I all surrender,
To Him, my soul's Defender.*

*O Jesus Christ, my Lord,
So meek in deed and word,
Thou once didst die to save us
Because Thy love would have us
Be heirs of heav'nly gladness
When ends this life of sadness.*

*"So be it," then I say
With all my heart each day.
We, too, dear Lord, adore Thee,
We sing for joy before Thee.
Guide us while here we wander
Until we praise Thee yonder.*

LSB 761 – Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;
When I soar to worlds un - known, See Thee on Thy judg - ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
Foul, I to the foun - tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

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LSB 627 – Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way God's
2 As His pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre - cious
3 Je - sus here Him - self is shar - ing; Heed then how you
4 Praise the Fa - ther, who from heav - en To His own this



wrath for - ev - er; By His bit - ter grief and woe
food sup - ply - ing, Gives His bod - y with the bread,
are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be - lieve,
food has giv - en, Who, to mend what we have done,



He saved us from the e - vil foe.
And with the wine the blood He shed.
His judg - ment then you shall re - ceive.
Gave in - to death His on - ly Son.

5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken
That this food is to be taken
By the sick who are distressed,
By hearts that long for peace and rest.

6 Agony and bitter labor
Were the cost of God's high favor;
Do not come if you suppose
You need not Him who died and rose.

7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor,
And receive My grace and favor:
Those who feel no pain or ill
Need no physician's help or skill.

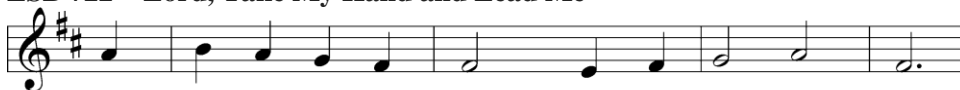
8 "For what purpose was My dying
If not for your justifying?
And what use this precious food
If you yourself were pure and good?"

9 If your heart this truth professes
And your mouth your sin confesses,
You will be your Savior's guest,
Be at His banquet truly blest.

10 Let this food your faith so nourish
That its fruit of love may flourish
And your neighbor learn from you
How much God's wondrous love can do.

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LSB 722 – Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

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POST-COMMUNION SONG – LSB 767 – Jesus, Remember Me

Sung as the distribution comes to a close and repeated as needed.



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THANKSGIVING

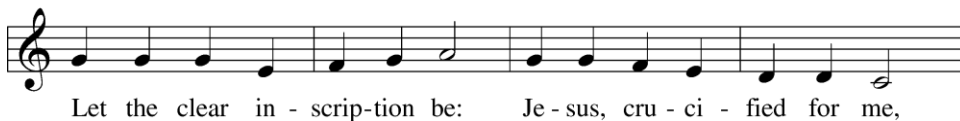
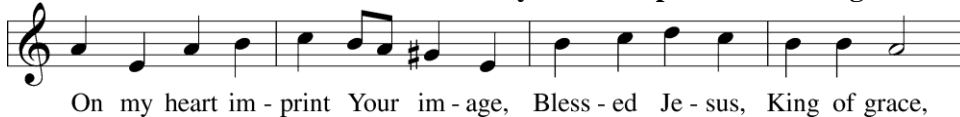
P O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.
C and His mercy endureth forever.

P Let us pray... one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
C Amen.

HYMN TO DEPART – LSB 422 – On My Heart Imprint Your Image



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SILENT PRAYER / ANNOUNCEMENTS

POST-SERVICE MUSIC – *Variations on May God Bestow on Us His Grace* (arr. Robert Lind)



TODAY, March 23

Spirit Camp registration will open up to the community this afternoon. Be sure to register your kids (or grandkids) ASAP before the classes fill up! <http://tinyurl.com/SpiritCamp2025>

TUESDAY, March 25

9:30am **Chinese Bible Study** (Grand Hall)

2:00pm **Quilting** (kitchen)

5:15pm **First Steps in Music**

5:30pm **HHCMT** (Zoom)

WEDNESDAY, March 26

Midweek Lenten worship (see schedule on back page)

7:45pm **Senior Choir** (sanctuary)



Men (age 18+) –
Join our 2025 Spring/Summer **Softball Team!**

All levels of experience are welcome. **Sign up on the clipboard in the church office.**

Contact Mark Riggins (markriggins@hotmail.com) or check your Friday@Faith email for more information.

HELP PREPARE 10,000 MEALS



**Saturday,
April 5**

DETAILS AND SIGNUP AT
HOOSIERSAGAINSTHUNGER.ORG



The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on **Sunday, April 13.**

Donations of **individually wrapped candy** may be left in the marked bin in the narthex. Thank you!



Easter Breakfast casseroles may be donated at faithbtown.org.



SATURDAY, April 26 (5:00pm) Confirmation Examination and Fellowship

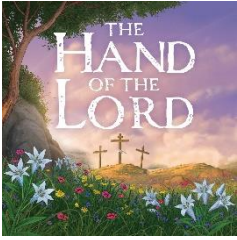
SUNDAY, April 27 (10:30am) Rite of Confirmation



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Subscribe to **FaithBtown News** for weekly announcements and updates.





Lent - Easter 2025

Wednesdays – March 12, 19, 26; April 2, 9

Midweek Lenten Fellowship & Worship:

Noon **Worship** † 12:30pm **Meal**

5:45pm **Meal** † 7pm **Worship**

† **Personal confession/absolution** in the pastors' studies †
30 mins before & immediately after each service

† † †

Holy Week

Palm/Passion Sunday – April 13

8 & 10:30 am **Procession with Palms**

Divine Service *with Holy Communion*

11:30 am **Easter Egg Hunt**

5 pm **Divine Service** *with Holy Communion*

Maundy Thursday – April 17

Noon & 7 pm **Worship** *with Holy Communion*

Good Friday – April 18

Noon **Stations of the Cross**

8 pm **Tenebrae** (*Service of Darkness*)

† † †

The Resurrection of our Lord

Easter Vigil – April 19

8 pm **at Faith**

Easter Sunday – April 20

8 & 10:30 am **Festival Worship** (*Holy Comm. & special music*)

9:15 am **Easter Breakfast**

5 pm **Worship** *with Holy Communion*