

**Wilson Lutheran Church
401 310th Street
Wilson WI 54027
Address Service Requested**

**Mission Statement
Gathered. Renewed. Sent**

**We are:
Gathered by the Spirit.
Renewed by the Word.
Sent to Serve**

April 2023, Newsletter for Wilson Lutheran Church



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Cover Picture by Pastor Doug Brandt

BISHOP LAURIE SKOW-ANDERSON'S EASTER MESSAGE

Dear Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

Join me and that great cloud of witnesses this Easter in the acclamation: Christ is Risen, he is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

The gospel reading for this Easter is from the book of Matthew. Matthew is the only gospel writer that records an **earthquake** on Easter morning. The women arrive at the tomb and are greeted by an earthquake, an angel rolling back the stone, and the news that their Lord and Savior wasn't there, **JESUS HAD BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD**. What? The women were filled with shock and fear. The aftershocks of this earthquake are still felt. The news that death doesn't win and is defeated by the power of God in Christ Jesus continues to shock and amaze us.



What if we imagined Easter not as a lovely spring ritual filled with pastel-colored eggs and candy but as the violent earthquake that it is? Few living in the Midwest have experienced an earthquake. A pastor born in California remembers her mother putting rubber bands on the kitchen cupboard handles so the china dishes wouldn't fall out when there was an earthquake. When has a death of a loved one shaken the foundation of your world? When have you realized how fragile life can be? Christ's resurrection from the dead, his victory over sin, death, and the devil shakes up everything. It is the good news that can even shake us loose from our grief.

What if we experienced Easter as a violent earthquake more like a fresh egg dropped to the floor than one hard-boiled and beautifully decorated? What if the Easter Earthquake shakes us awake, shakes everything out of the cupboards and closets so we are forced to do spring cleaning and decide what to put back and what to throw out? What if we get rid of stuff that doesn't work and give more space to what's important? What is really important? What is God's will for you? What are our Easter priorities?

What if this year the Easter Earthquake cracks open and rolls away the stone from our hearts, shakes loose old ideas, breaks down rock-hard prejudices, and opens us up to new ways to love our neighbor and to share this amazing good news that Jesus lives? What new life might rise up from the rubble? What new relationships might develop? Like a chick struggles to break free of the egg's shell, new beginnings are rarely easy, but they are worth it.

The good news is that Christ's resurrection from the dead and his victory over death is good news even to those who have experienced a literal shifting of tectonic plates beneath the earth. On February 6, 2023, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit Turkey and Syria leaving over 50,000 people dead and hundreds of thousands more wounded, displaced, or homeless. More than 10,000 aftershocks have been felt since February 6 leading to more deaths, fear, and trauma. The aftershocks will continue for a long time.¹

This Easter, in response to the earthquake that opened the tomb and to the good news that Jesus has been raised from the dead, I encourage you to give a gift to the Lutheran Disaster Response to help the victims of the Earthquake in Turkey and Syria. Here is a link to help you do that. https://community.elca.org/middle-east-crisis?_ga=2.89763675.1129066314.1679579365-256581953.1608055964

Suddenly there was a great earthquake...

In Christ,

Rev. Laurie Skow-Anderson

THE DAYS

INTRODUCTION

Every Sunday in worship the church celebrates the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit gathers us to receive again the gifts of God that come to us through Christ, the saving Word. On several key days at the center of the church year, however, worship takes a particular shape. These central days have come to be known as the Three Days, recalling Jesus' own words to his disciples that he would be handed over to death, and that "after three days he will rise again" (Mark 10:34). The Three Days encompass the time from Maundy Thursday evening through the evening of Easter Day. In particular, the services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter unfold in a single movement, as the church each year makes the passage with Christ through death into life.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

GOOD FRIDAY

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

VIGIL OF EASTER *(Not observed at Wilson)*

This is the night of salvation! At the Vigil of Easter, we gather around fire, word, water, bread, and wine, proclaiming through story and song that ours is a God who continuously brings life out of death. On this night the faithful experience again the heart of God's baptismal promise and the center of our faith: we are claimed and cleansed, and renewed in the death and resurrection of Christ. We gather with all the saints of every time and place to celebrate the good news: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, EASTER DAY

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, "God shows no partiality" (Acts 10:34): Christ's resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

April 2023 – Holy Week and Season of Easter

Sunday, April 2 – Palm / Passion Sunday

- ❖ Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- ❖ Color: Purple
- ❖ Holy Communion – Continuous Serving
- ❖ Readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11
- ❖ Holy Gospel: Matthew 27:11-54: In fulfillment of scripture and obedience to God's will, Jesus goes to the cross so that a new covenant in his blood may bring forgiveness of sins. Even the soldiers who crucify him recognize him to be the Son of God.

Thursday, April 6 – Maundy Thursday

- ❖ Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- ❖ Color: White
- ❖ Holy Communion – Continuous Serving
- ❖ Readings: Exodus 12:1-10; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
- ❖ Holy Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35: The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.

Friday, April 7 – Good Friday

- ❖ Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- ❖ Color: None
- ❖ No Communion
- ❖ Readings: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25
- ❖ Holy Gospel: John 18:1-19:42: On Good Friday, the story of Jesus' passion—from his arrest to his burial—is read in its entirety from the Gospel of John.

Sunday, April 9 – Easter Sunday

- ❖ Color: White
- ❖ Holy Communion – Continuous Serving
- ❖ Readings: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4
- ❖ Holy Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10: Sorrow gives way to "fear and great joy" when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is risen!

Sunday, April 16 – Easter 2

- ❖ Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- ❖ Color: White
- ❖ Holy Communion – Continuous Serving
- ❖ Readings: Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9
- ❖ Holy Gospel: John 20:19-31: The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

Sunday, April 23 – Easter 3

- ❖ Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- ❖ Color: White
- ❖ No Communion
- ❖ Readings: Acts 2:14a, 35-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23
- ❖ Holy Gospel: Luke 24:13-35: The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

Sunday, April 30 – Easter 4

- ❖ Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- ❖ Color: White
- ❖ Holy Communion – Continuous Serving
- ❖ Readings: Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25
- ❖ Holy Gospel: John 10:1-10: Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

MISSION STATEMENT

GATHERED – RENEWED – SENT

Gathered by the Spirit. Renewed by the Word. Sent to Serve.

Pastor's Office Hours: Pastor Bob may be reached at the church office, 715-772-3150, Wednesday through Friday, and Saturday morning. In the event of an emergency or hospitalization, he can be reached at 715-235-4900 (home), 612-270-3838 (cell), or by email at PastorBob@wwt.net.

WELCA Meetings: The next regular WELCA meeting will be held Thursday, April 13. Pastor Bob will lead a Bible study from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. (men and women are welcome to attend), followed by a business meeting. Monthly meetings will be held the second Thursday of each month. All women of the church are invited to attend.

W/ELCA March Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2023

President Tracy Davis called the meeting to order at 1050.

7 members present; Tracy Davis, Kathy Barton, Sharon Bowell, Mary Brandt, Louann Anderson, Ginny Overland, Karen Esanbock

Secretary's report read. Motion by Sharon, second by Mary to accept, motion approved.

Treasurer's report read with balance of 1454.25. Motion by Louann, second by Ginny to accept, motion approved.

Old Business:

- Pancake Supper
 - Sharon reported on sausage information. After discussion, decision to serve link sausage. Louann will check with school, Tracy will check with Pegs and Ginny will check with Nilssens for availability and cost.
 - Mary will apply for a Thrivent gift card to help cover expenses.
 - Mary will ask Linda Rambo to work with her to develop the flyer, will print 75 for distribution in the area. Mary reviewed newspaper advertising used in the past. Sharon will mail flyers to area churches.
 - Pancake mix has been donated.
 - Will need 4 griddles, 4 people to flip and 2 people mixing
 - Karen will investigate milk donation.
 - Maple syrup will be donated.
 - Tracy will review list of other supplies needed
 - Karen will check with Keehr Funeral Home for placemats and napkins.
 - Discussed designation of proceeds. After discussion, decided to designate to W/ELCA Helping Hands to support local ministries of Spring Valley Cancer Fund and Spring Valley Seniors Staying Put.
 - Karen will invite a representative from Staying Put to a meeting later this spring.
- Dish washing, canceled in February due to weather, rescheduled for March 22 at 10:00 am.

No new Business.

Motion by Sharon, second by Ginny to Adjourn

Adjourned at 1146

Next meeting April 13 following 9:30 am Bible Study

Submitted by Karen Esanbock, Secretary

Wilson Council: The next regular meeting is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13. All members of the church are welcome to attend.

March 9 Council Meeting Highlights: *(Complete minutes are available in the church office.)*

- Still need voting members 1 male/1 female for the Synod Assembly – April 29- Bethany Lutheran Church, Rice Lake.
- New Acolyte robes have been received and the old ones will be cleaned along with Pastor’s robe.
- Tracy reported on the process of the April 27 Pancake Supper. Anyone interested in helping wash dishes on March 22 at 10am is welcome.
- After discussion it was decided to table moving some finances in checking till the next meeting.
- Tracy suggested having a Fall Ice Cream Social/Rally to kick off Sunday School with some local entertainment.
- Pastor Bob reported Sunday School Children will have a program during Sunday Service for Mother’s Day.
- The Sunday School will be in need of leadership in the fall for the 2023-2024 Sunday School Session.
- Louanne reported the Cemetery Committee will be reviewing the fee schedule.

Tuesday Community Supper: Gethsemane Lutheran Church will be serving the Tuesday Community Supper from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4th, in the Fellowship Hall at Gethsemane. The menu is: lasagna, bread, vegetable tray and Easter cookies. Come and enjoy the company of your friends and neighbors.

The Tuesday Community Supper is served the first Tuesday of the month at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 1350 Florence Street, Baldwin, Wisconsin. This is a free meal open to anyone in the community. Area churches, businesses and organizations take turns preparing and serving good nutritious food.

Food Pantry Support: Thank you for your continuing support of our hunger ministry. The food pantry box in the narthex was again filled, with the March contributions going to the Elmwood Food Shelf. April donations will go to the Spring Valley Food Shelf. It is anticipated the elimination of the federal FoodShare Funding program will have the greatest impact of our senior citizens and those with disabilities, which means local food shelves will be in even greater need of our support.

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

Month	Altar Care	Communion Assistant	Ushers	Sundays
April	HELP NEEDED	Rex Brandt	Scott and Kathy Borton	5 Sundays <i>Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday</i>
May	HELP NEEDED	Kathy Borton	HELP NEEDED	4 Sundays

WORSHIP HELP NEEDED

Help is needed with altar care for April, and altar care and ushering for May. If you’re unable to serve the entire month, perhaps you could share the Sundays with another person. Please let Pastor Bob know if you are able to help.

ACOLYTE and READER SCHEDULE

Month	Date	Acolyte	Reader
April			
<i>Palm / Passion Sunday</i>	2	Lucie and Owen	Ginny Overland
<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	6	Ryan	Doug Faber
<i>Good Friday</i>	7	Brady	Sherry Ellefson
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	9	Lucie and Owen	Janet Brandt
	16	Ryan	Tracy Davis
	23	Brady	Dean Rambo
	30	Lucie	Darren Peterson
May			
	7	Owen	Owen Hague
	14	Ryan	Rex Brandt
	21	Brady	Doug Faber
	28	Lucie	Ginny Overland

2023 HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date	Service	Time
April 2	Palm / Passion Sunday	9:00 a.m.
April 6	Maundy Thursday	7:00 a.m.
April 7	Good Friday	7:00 p.m.
April 9	Easter Sunday	9:00 a.m.

PARISH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES – MARCH 2023

Birthdays				Anniversaries	
April 2	Judy Johnson	April 20	Sarah Blegen	April 15	Keenan and Becky Stahl
April 3	Darren Peterson	April 24	Sue Faber	April 21	Andy and Jes Lamb
April 4	Jordan Lamb	April 24	Nicole Lamb	April 24	Dean and Linda Rambo
April 7	Kinsley Blegen	April 27	Sawyer Pomasl	April 28	Dean and Sue Timm
April 13	Peggy Timm	April 27	Cody Pomasl		
April 17	Briana Lund				

Sunday School Note: The Sunday School room is open every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. following worship. We would love to see the happy faces you bring to Wilson Lutheran to have fun and learn a thing or two about God's promise. We're also planning a little Mother's Day program for Sunday, May 14th. More to come on that but wanted to put a bug in your ears. Lastly, we are always looking for help with Sunday School teachers. If you would be willing to help out reach out to Andy Lamb or Pastor Bob.

Synod Assembly – April 29: The annual NW Synod Assembly is scheduled for Saturday, April 29 at Bethany Trinity Lutheran Church, Rice Lake. Two representatives, one male and one female are needed to represent the congregation at this event. The \$50.00 registration fee, paid by the congregation, includes program costs, materials, lunch, and breaks. "Young Adults" – those voting members between the ages of 18 and 30 – attend

FREE! Registration must be completed by April 19. Anyone interested in attending is invited to contact Pastor Bob for information.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Our Fellowship Hour following Sunday worship has been a real success. Thanks to everyone who gathers to enjoy the great “schneckies”, coffee and fellowship. And, thanks to everyone who has signed up to provide the treats, serve, and clean up. This only works with that kind of help, so thank you.

Given family gatherings following the Easter Sunday worship, we had not planned a Fellowship Hour for that Sunday, but we’ll pick it up again the following Sunday. The signup sheet is on the table in the narthex. Please help if you are able.

EVAN PETERSON RECEIVES EAGLE SCOUT AWARD



Evan Peterson of Spring Valley Boy Scouts of America Troop 145 received Scouting’s highest distinction in an Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony held at the Spring Valley Fire Hall on Sunday, March 5, 2023.

Troop members, family, friends, and community members gathered to recognize Evan for this major life achievement in the Boy Scout program. Among others who presented portions of the program, Pastor Bob had the privilege of delivering the invocation, closing prayer and benediction.

The Eagle rank not is achieved by every Scout. It’s awarded only following a significant amount of work and dedication to scouting and service to the community.

CONGRATULATIONS EVAN!! WE’RE PROUD OF YOU.

THE TRADITION OF THE EASTER LILY

Thanks to everyone who contributed Easter Lilies to brighten our Easter Sunday worship. Besides being a lovely and fragrant flower, there is a bit of tradition linked to them.

The Easter Lily is a symbol of spring with deep roots in American and Christian traditions. In the Christian tradition, the Easter Lilies were nicknamed "white-robed apostles of hope," their white color symbolizing the purity of Christ. The trumpet shape of the bloom symbolizes the message that Christ has risen on Easter Sunday.

Their growth cycle also echoes the Christian tradition of the Resurrection. It begins as a brown bulb that grows in the ground for three years before emerging with a beautiful white bloom. These three years in the ground echo the three days Christ spent in the tomb before his Resurrection on Easter Sunday. There are many other Biblical links to the Easter Lily beyond the Resurrection story. For example, many Biblical scholars believe the Easter Lily was the flower that bloomed in the Garden of Eden where Eve’s remorseful tears fell to the ground.

2023 EASTER LILIES GIVEN

Given By	In Memory Of	In Honor of
Bob and Sue Dahm	Our Parents Robin, Jeff and Ron	
Dean and Sue Timm	Junior and Elaine Timm Brian and Beverly Kirby	
Mike and Sherry Ellefson	Lloyd Ellefson Erling Moldenhauer	
Rex and Janet Brandt	Carl Hunt Ralph and Lucille Brandt, and Roger Brandt	
Scott and Kathy Borton	Our Parents and Grandparents	
Duane and Pat Butler	Clarence and Helen Butler, Richard C. Butler, and Louise Butler Pinch	
Lamb / Stahl Family	Chuck Lamb	
Jan Timm	Dennis (Denver) Timm Bob Larson	
Charles and Sharon Bowell		To the Glory of God
John and Ginny Overland	Dale and Audrey Overland Melvin and Betty Dolalie	
Deb Tolvanen	Louis Tolvanen Timothy Monio Jr.	
Leslie Larson	Karen and Richard Larson	
Jill Menk	Andy Menk	
Vicki and Jerry Glampe	Bud, Arlis, Mark, Todd and Julie Timm Avis and Harry Glampe, and Mary Overby	
Dean and Tracy Davis	Jackie Davis	
Don and Junalee Hogenson	Henry and Mary Hogenson, Ernest and Dorothy Moe	
Esanbock Family	Gordon Hedrickson	
Shelby Crow and Nancy Cleveland		Wilson Lutheran Church
Mary Timm	Rodney Timm Dennis Timm Emil and Evelyn Timm	
Tyler and Tori Timm and Kids	Todd Timm	
Dave and Linda Powers	Dick and Judy Powers	
Duane Nelson	Sharon Nelson	
Doug and Mary Brandt	Frank and Fern Olsen, and John Olsen Roger and Lucille Brandt, and Roger Brandt	
Dennis and Barb Blegen	Bud, Arlis, Mark, Julie and Todd Timm, Cam Stasiek, Henry, Mardell and Doug Blegen	
Barb Kronholm	Roger Kronholm Joe and Irene Peterson	
Galen Thompson Family	Galen Thompson	
Charlie and Sue Ross	Bob and Bette Brandvold Oscar and Dorothy Brandvold	

Revised Common Lectionary
Daily Readings – Year A
April 2023

Date	Day	Psalm	First Reading	Second Reading	Gospel
1	Saturday	Psalm 31:9-16	Lamentations 3:55-66		Mark 10:32-34
2	Sunday <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Psalm 31:9-16	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Philippians 2:5-11	Matthew 26:14-27:66
3	Monday	Psalm 36:5-11	Isaiah 42:1-9	Hebrews 9:11-15	John 12:1-11
4	Tuesday	Psalm 71:1-14	Isaiah 49:1-7	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	John 12:20-36
5	Wednesday	Psalm 70	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Hebrews 12:1-3	John 13:21-32
6	Thursday <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19	Exodus 12:1-14	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
7	Friday <i>Good Friday</i>	Psalm 22	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Hebrews 10:16-25	John 18:1-19:41
8	Saturday	Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16	Job 14:1-14	1 Peter 4:1-8	Matthew 27:57-66
9	Sunday <i>Easter Day</i>	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Acts 10:34-43	Colossians 3:1-4	Matthew 28:1-10
10	Monday	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Exodus 14:10-31; 5:20-21	Colossians 3:5-11	
11	Tuesday	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Exodus 15:1-18	Colossians 3:12-17	
12	Wednesday	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Joshua 3:1-17		Matthew 28:1-10
13	Thursday	Psalm 16	Song of Solomon 2:8-15	Colossians 4:2-5	
14	Friday	Psalm 16	Song of Solomon 5:9-6:3	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	
15	Saturday	Psalm 16	Song of Solomon 8:6-7		John 20:11-20
16	Sunday	Psalm 16	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	1 Peter 1:3-9	John 20:19-31
17	Monday	Psalm 114	Judges 6:36-40	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	
18	Tuesday	Psalm 114	Jonah 1:1-17	1 Corinthians 15:19-28	
19	Wednesday	Psalm 114	Jonah 2:1-10		Matthew 12:38-42
20	Thursday	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	Isaiah 25:1-5	1 Peter 1:8b-12	
21	Friday	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	Isaiah 26:1-4	1 Peter 1:13-16	
22	Saturday	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	Isaiah 25:6-9		Luke 14:12-14
23	Sunday	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	1 Peter 1:17-23	Luke 24:13-35
24	Monday	Psalm 134	Genesis 18:1-14	1 Peter 2:1-3	
25	Tuesday	Psalm 134	Proverbs 8:32-9:6	1 Peter 2:1-3	
26	Wednesday	Psalm 134	Exodus 24:1-11		John 21:1-14
27	Thursday	Psalm 23	Exodus 2:15b-25	1 Peter 2:9-12	
28	Friday	Psalm 23	Exodus 3:15-22, 4:18-20	1 Peter 2:13-17	
29	Saturday	Psalm 23	Ezekiel 34:1-16		Luke 15:1-7
30	Sunday	Psalm 23	Acts 2:42-47	1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Prayer Ventures
April 2023

1 Arab American Heritage Month Remember in prayer the diverse gifts, stories and cultures of our Arab and Middle Eastern siblings in Christ, who remind us of the church's rich history and tradition. Ask God to bless the advocacy, witness, leadership development and ministry support provided by ELCA Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries and the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage.

2 Palm Sunday Pray for strength to follow Christ and the will of God, especially when fear of criticism or standing out discourages us from proclaiming and demonstrating our faith.

3 Give thanks for the chance to study, pray, reflect and give during ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving, joining partners, companions, friends and neighbors around the world in doing God's work.

4 "How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings" (Psalm 36:7). Give thanks and praise for God's love and grace, which envelop all people and are never deterred by borders, divisions or regulations of our making.

5 Remember in prayer people who live in despair and yearn for hope, especially those recovering from natural disasters, incarcerated in prisons and jails, displaced by war and economic crises, or suffering poverty, hunger, unemployment or lack of shelter.

6 Maundy Thursday When we gather for communion with our siblings in Christ, we remember when Jesus gathered with disciples, friends and strangers around a meal. Give thanks for the bread and wine that remind us of God's abundant mercy and the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ, providing us the nourishment to live our baptismal call, walk in God's ways, serve our neighbor and share the gospel.

7 Good Friday Ask the Spirit to renew and strengthen our faith as we recall the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus for the sake of the world. Pray that our hope will be stirred and our lives

energized by God's grace, given despite our complexity, weakness and suffering.

8 Holy Saturday Give thanks that darkness and death no longer hold us captive — God's promise of forgiveness, freedom and new life has been fulfilled for us in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

9 Easter Sunday "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised" (Matthew 28:5-6). Praise God! Give thanks that our lives, purpose and hope are forever changed in the risen Christ, God's tangible expression of love and mercy for humankind.

10 Give thanks for musicians, choirs, cantors, music directors, orchestras and bands that give witness to our faith, draw us into worship and reflection, and help us express our joy and praise to God.

11 Remember in prayer ELCA missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission serving alongside our companions in Germany, Austria, Belgium and the United Kingdom.

12 Give thanks for God's steadfast love and kindness, which are so often obscured by our daily activities, concerns and distractions.

13 Pray for students in our seminaries who, responding to the Spirit's call, explore opportunities for ministry and service wherever God is at work in the world.

14 Pray for the Peace Not Walls campaign as we work for justice, peace, human rights, reconciliation and healing in Palestine and Israel. Ask that our efforts might yield results as we accompany the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and all Jews, Christians and Muslims working together for peace with justice.

15 Give thanks for teachers in our public schools and pray that God will sustain and renew their energy and commitment as they manage the challenges of their vocation. Ask the Spirit to grant them compassion, wisdom and skill to attend to the needs of students and parents, and promise to generously support their service.

16 The story of Thomas, who was skeptical when Jesus first appeared to the disciples after his resurrection, is not unlike our own when we feel doubt and yearn for proof of God's presence and love. Ask God to forgive our uncertainty, and pray that our faith, like Thomas', will be renewed, so that we, too, might proclaim of Jesus, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).

17 Pray for our presiding bishop, Elizabeth A. Eaton, that the Spirit will sustain her faith and wisdom and continue to equip her for guiding our church through the challenges of doing God's work in an ever-changing world.

18 Ask God to help us serve our neighbors in need, share the gospel, endure all hardships in this world and find comfort in the assurance of "an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven" (1 Peter 1:4).

19 Remember in prayer ELCA missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission serving alongside our companions in Mexico, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Brazil.

20 Pray for God's counsel in how to be a positive, compassionate and healing influence in society and the world, following the path of life, light and truth.

21 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Western Iowa and Southwestern Texas synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

22 *Earth Day* Praise God for the diverse and abundant natural resources that sustain life, the interconnection of all that exists, and the wonders of creation that inspire and humble us. Pray that we will wisely steward what God has entrusted to our care and work diligently to restore what we have damaged and depleted — for the well-being of humanity and the honor of our Creator.

23 Pray that we might take advantage of opportunities to talk with one another about our

faith, our questions, our thoughts and the challenges of following Christ.

24 Pray for farmers, ranchers and agricultural workers who, each spring, prepare, plant and tend fields, orchards and herds so that they will produce bountiful harvests and feed the world.

25 Rejoice in the good news that God has reclaimed us with the blood of Christ — Savior, Messiah and Teacher, the light of the world and the bread of life that sustains our spirit.

26 Remember in prayer musicians and worship leaders gathering online for the Music that Makes Community webinar "Composing Ourselves: A Laboratory for Creating Congregational Songs." Pray that the Spirit will inspire and nurture their skills for writing new worship songs drawn from diverse cultures and traditions.

27 Thank God for listening and responding to our prayers, both spoken and silent.

28 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Minneapolis Area, Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana and Alaska synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

29 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northwest Intermountain Synod, the Northeastern Minnesota Synod and the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

30 Pray that our faith might grow and mature as the Spirit guides and encourages us through worship, service, Bible study, involvement in a faith community, and the witness of our global companions.

Wilson Lutheran Church PANCAKE SUPPER

AND BAKE SALE

Thursday, April 27, 2023

4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

**Pancakes...
with real
maple syrup!
Applesauce
Sausage
Cheese**



**Proceeds
will be used
to support
local
ministries.**

FREE WILL OFFERING

401 - 310th Street, Wilson, WI 54027

APRIL 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Palm / Passion Sunday 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School	3 Pastor's Sabbath	4 Pastor's Day Off	5	6 9:30 St. a.m. Croix Conference Pastor's Meeting 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship	7 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Worship	8
9 Easter Sunday 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School	10 Pastor's Sabbath	11 Pastor's Day Off	12 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	13 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. WELCA Meeting 12:30 a.m. Council Meeting	14	15
16 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School Newsletter Deadline	17 Pastor's Sabbath	18 Pastor's Day Off	19 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	20	21	22
23 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School	24 Pastor's Sabbath	25 Pastor's Day Off	26 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	27 4:30 p.m. Pancake Supper and Bake Sale	28	29 Synod Assembly – Rice Lake
30 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School	May 1 Pastor's Sabbath	2 Pastor's Day Off	3 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	4 9:30 a.m. St. Croix Conference Pastor's Meeting	5	6