



Concordia Lutheran Church

"Learning, Living, Sharing the Gospel"

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Singing with the Exiles

Gathered by the waters of Babylon, exiled from the Promised Land, God's People wondered: *Is God for real? If so, does He really care about us? What does our future hold? Will this ever change?* God's people had watched their world shatter into a million pieces. They were demoralized and disillusioned. Their disaster looked and felt terminal.

Do you feel this way? Does it look as though your current problems are more than you can bear? Do you find yourself asking: *"Why did this happen? Why did God allow it? Is there any order in the world? Will God really deliver on what He said? Can I really count on God's Promises?"*

God, of course, listens to our questions, worries, comments and concerns ... and offers His answer. Through Isaiah, God answers our questions in chapters 40–55. He announces that just when Israel's history seemed closed and controlled by hopeless Babylonian imperial policy, to the shock and surprise of everyone the Lord will confront the leaders in the land, provide a meaningful and lasting solution to Israel's problem(s), and offer His tired and struggling People a glorious legacy! Standing behind these marvelous promises is God's almighty Word. "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever" (Isaiah 40:8). The exiles are going home! The exiles will go home singing the praises of their great God!

That's why they are "Singing with the Exiles" as we are redeemed and restored.

This Lent Season, beginning with Ash Wednesday, March 6th, Isaiah 40–55 will shape us as we meditate upon this wondrous poem ... study the texts and contexts of God's Promises to His People ... listen to God's Powerful Word proclaimed:

Ash Wednesday (March 6): "God Has a Word for That" (Isaiah 41:14–16)

Lent 1 (March 13): "He Only Has Eyes for You" (Isaiah 43:1–7)

Lent 2 (March 20): "Marked" (Isaiah 44:1–5)

Lent 3 (March 27): "Breaking Down the Gates" (Isaiah 45:1–8)

Lent 4 (April 3): "Get Out!" (Isaiah 48:17–22)

Lent 5 (April 10): "One Little Word Can Fell Him" (Isaiah 49:1–6)

Holy Thursday (April 18): "He Prepares a Table" (Isaiah 49:7–13)

Good Friday (April 19): "All" (Isaiah 52:13–53:12)

Easter Vigil On-the-Web (April 20): "Nothing" (Isaiah 54:1–8)

Easter Sunday (April 21): "We Are Going Home" (Isaiah 55:6–13)

Prepare and plan now to sing with the exiles as we learn from Isaiah to walk the Lenten way to the cross and to the empty tomb. God promises to turn our weeping into joy and our present pain into an endless Alleluia!

Happy March Birthdays

03/01 Jim Schlaver

03/01 Aidan Moon

03/01 Samuel Schumacher

03/01 Berkley Oamek

03/03 Marty Boomgarden

03/08 Susan Dreska

03/09 Gene Carrell

03/14 Dianne Weber

03/17 Jake Weber

03/23 Grace Olinger

03/23 Katelyn Olinger

03/26 Nancy Kounovsky

03/27 Bette Rinck/Vandahl

03/28 Bonnie Baggenstoss

03/29 Wendy McConnell

03/30 Donna Wentzel

Happy March Anniversary

03/14 Keith & Shirley Zuehlke

Ash Wednesday

March 6th Soup Supper at 5:30 with the service following

Lent Services

March 13th, March 20th, March 27, April 3, April 10

Soup Supper at 5:30 with the service following

Holy Week

Wednesday, April 17 - 5:30pm "Passion of the Christ" movie

Maundy Thursday, April 18 - 6:30pm Communion Service

Good Friday, April 19 - 6:30pm Tenebrae Service

Easter

Sunrise Service, April 21 at 6:20am Communion

Services at 8am (Communion) & 10:30am

Congratulations Jan Fritz on receiving the 2019 Hazie Werner Award!

You have been a light in Steamboat helping people who are fighting cancer and living in hospice care. We are blessed and honored to have you in our church family and community.



AN OLD IRISH BLESSING

MAY LOVE *and* LAUGHTER
LIGHT YOUR DAYS,

and warm your heart and home.

MAY GOOD AND FAITHFUL *friends* BE YOURS,

WHEREVER YOU MAY ROAM.

MAY PEACE AND PLENTY BLESS YOUR WORLD
WITH JOY THAT LONG ENDURES.



MAY ALL LIFE'S PASSING SEASONS

bring the best to you and yours!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Men's Bible Study Breakfast: Saturday, March 9th at 7am @ the Egg & I

Women's Community Bible Study (CBS): Thursdays at 9am and 6pm

Yampa Valley Men's Bible Study: Thursdays at 6pm

Men's Night Out: Monday, March 25th at 5pm @ Dude & Dans

Women's Night Out: Monday, March 25th at 5pm @ Aurum