

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025



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Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: "Adagio - first movement from Sonata No 3" - G.F. Handel
Gretchen Theesfield, violin

Welcome

Gathering Song: "Beneath the Tree of Life - Gathering Song" - Marty Haugen

Refrain - All sing together

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef, with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a 2/2 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. Brackets indicate where optional phrases can be inserted. The lyrics are: * [Come and gath - er] be - neath the tree of life. [Come and gath - er] be - neath the tree of life; Root of wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of heal - ing and re - lease. [Come and gath - er] be - neath the tree of life. The score ends with a double bar line and a right-pointing arrow.

*[Come and gath - er] be - neath the tree of

life. [Come and gath - er] be -

neath the tree of life; Root of

wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of heal - ing and re -

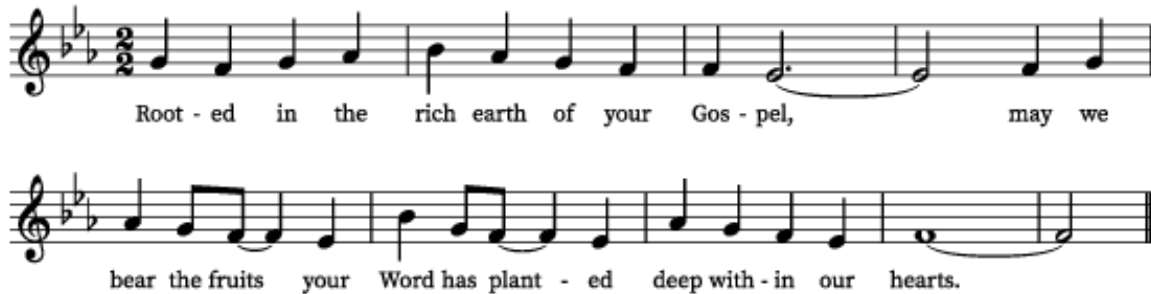
lease. [Come and gath - er] be -

neath the tree of life.

* The following phrases may be inserted wherever there are brackets.

Streams of mercy...	Lay your burdens...
No more dying...	Grace and pardon...
Sweet forgiveness...	Joy and new hope...

Verse 5 - All sing together



Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

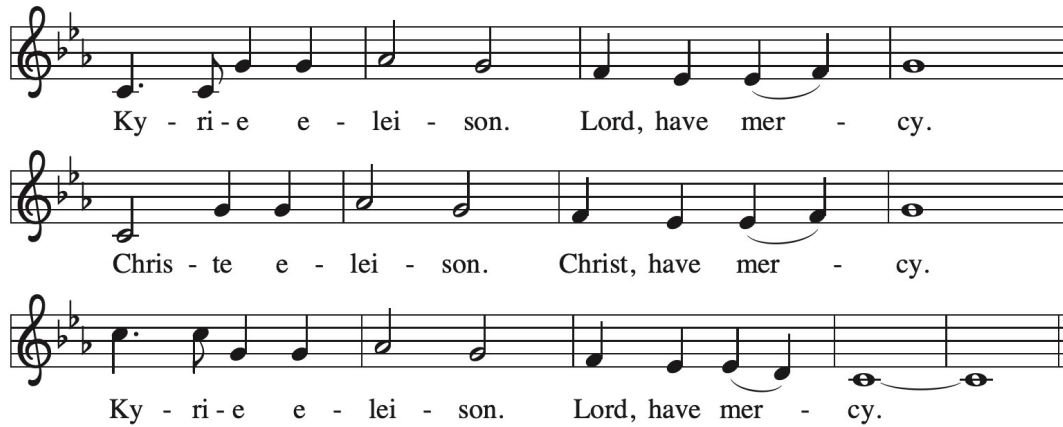
Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.
We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.
We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.
We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.
Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.
In + Christ your sins are forgiven.
You have a place in God's house forever.
Amen.

Kyrie - ACS Setting 12



The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy. Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

16 Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
17 who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
18 Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
19 I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
20 The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,

rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
21 the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126

All sing refrain

Refrain



- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."
- 3 The LORD has done great | things for us,
and we are glad indeed. **Refrain**
- 4 Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.
- 5 Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.
- 6 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves. **Refrain**

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children at Heart Sermon

Gospel Acclamation - ACS Setting 12



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

Gospel Reading: John 12:1-8

The Gospel according to John

Glory to You, O Lord

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Take My Life that I May Be" - ELW #583

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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

Music Voluntary: *“Arise, My Soul, Arise”* - Dan Forrest
Memorial Choir with violinist Gretchen Theesfield

Offering Prayer

Gracious Provider,
you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
 through our Savior Jesus Christ.
 You call your people to cleanse their hearts
 and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
 that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
 we may come to the fullness of your grace.
 And so, with all the choirs of angels,
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy - "*Beneath the Tree of Life*" - Marty Haugen

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san-na in the

high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Words of Institution

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

All who are hungry, come!
The feast of grace is spread.

Hymns during Communion

"Lamb of God" (see next page)

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" - ELW #803

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, have

mer-cy on us. us. Grant us your peace.

Prayer after Communion

Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
+ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn: *“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”* - ELW #335

Dismissal

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude: *“Prelude in E Minor”* - J.S. Bach

Lois Theesfield, organ

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

Please keep the family of Teresa Krebs and Stacie Link in your prayers following the death of their sister-in-law, Jean Monahan

Please keep Eric and Jenny Adelmund and family in your prayers following the death of Eric's father, Jesse Adelmund

Jill Rhodes	Marty Schuler	Carol Vincent
Judy Johnson	Katy Beno	Cassie Harrell
Gloria Jacobson	<i>sister of Sandy Christian</i>	Jean Smith
Connie Robinson	Kathy Larsen	Easton Farrington
<i>sister of Shirley Klonglan</i>	Eric Forsyth	Janice Hartz
Baby Paisley	Crystal Vines	Jackie Byers
Barb McDaniel	Katie Bass	<i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>
Ken Huffaker	<i>niece of Judy Coverdale</i>	Donna See
<i>father of Kendra McCauley</i>	Wayne Johnson	Norma Dannan
Emma Nelson	Troy Vincent	<i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
<i>granddaughter of Steve & Nan Jungst</i>	Johann Thiel	Fred Samuelson
Ardith Forsyth	Mike Neal	Jaylee Bartleson
Gene Newsome	Christina King	George Forsyth
<i>friend of Mike Coverdale</i>	Sherry Kluever	Janeen Driscoll
Eileen Miller	Kim Elliott	Julie Sutherland
Karen Anderson	Pr. Marcia Kisner	Jan Cook
Caleb Roof	Marlene Waddell	
Evelyn Onstot	<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>	

Hospitalizations: *If you are in the hospital or are going to be in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf. Unless directed otherwise, your name will be placed on the prayer list and included in electronic notifications.*

Announcements

Church Potluck Wednesday, April 9, 6 PM

We'll be gathering for our last Lenten supper and service with a potluck on April 9. Please bring a dish to share!

Easter Lily Dedications Due April 16

Dedicate an Easter lily in honor or memory of a loved one and help decorate the church for Easter! Please fill out a form in the Narthex or contact the church office at 515-382-6509 or emily@mlcnevada.org. A suggested donation is \$8 per lily (payments may be brought to the church office or dropped in the secure box outside Emily's office). Thank you!

New Member Orientation - Thursday, April 24 at 6 pm

Are you interested in learning more about what it means to be a member at Memorial Lutheran? Are you considering joining the people of God at Memorial by taking the step of becoming a member? If so, we invite you to attend an orientation on the evening of Thursday, April 24. Join us for a meal and conversation about how Memorial seeks to live into God's mission here in Nevada. New members will be received in worship on Sunday, April 27. Please RSVP by e-mail Pastor Kathleen at PastorKathleen@mlcnevada.org.

Celebrating our loan payoff - don't forget to update your Tithe.ly recurring giving!

As you may have heard, we joyfully announced the payoff of our "A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place" heating and cooling project loan! If you have been giving through Tithe.ly as an automatic recurring gift to "A Welcoming Space=A Welcoming Place", please make sure to cancel this giving and prayerfully consider moving it to another area in need through Tithe.ly, such as Capital Improvement or one of our special building projects. If you have questions, please contact Emily Dalthorp. Thank you!

Online Giving with Tithe.ly—New Funds Available for Designated Gifts



Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/> give or by scanning the QR code. ***Did you know?* In Tithe.ly, you can set up one-time or recurring gifts to the General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, Drive for the Drive Pavement Project, Sanctuary Screens Fund, Sanctuary Carpet Fund, and more!**

Stay Connected with Memorial

Keep up-to-date with Memorial and community events, prayer requests, volunteer opportunities, and more; sign up to receive emails and/or periodic texts at bit.ly/memorialconnect or by using the QR code



Save the Date

Church Potluck

Bring your favorite dish to share!

When: Wednesday, April 9, 6 PM

Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday Worship

When: Sunday, April 13, 9 AM

Maundy Thursday Worship

When: Thursday, April 17, 7 PM

Good Friday Worship

Meditative harp music will be provided 30 minutes before worship begins

When: Friday, April 18, 7 PM

Easter Dawn Worship

When: Sunday, April 20, 7 AM

Easter Brunch

Fundraiser for Memorial Youth

When: Sunday, April 20, 7:45 - 8:45 AM

Easter - He is Risen!

Egg hunt to follow 9 AM service

When: Sunday, April 20, 9 AM

New Member Orientation

When: Thursday, April 24, 6 PM

Our 2025 Goals

As discussed and approved at the January 2025 council meeting

1. We will gather with Memorial members with an emphasis of creating an environment of belonging, fellowship, and family.
2. We will build on the ongoing ecumenical work.

Our 2025 Council

Steve Lekwa, President

Wayne Kinyon, Vice President

Erin Rewerts, Secretary

Hattie Rhodes, Treasurer

Carl Link

Connie Kinyon

Denise Rehor

Emilia Stage

Larry Parker

Lynn Rhodes

Mike Neal

Steve Jungst

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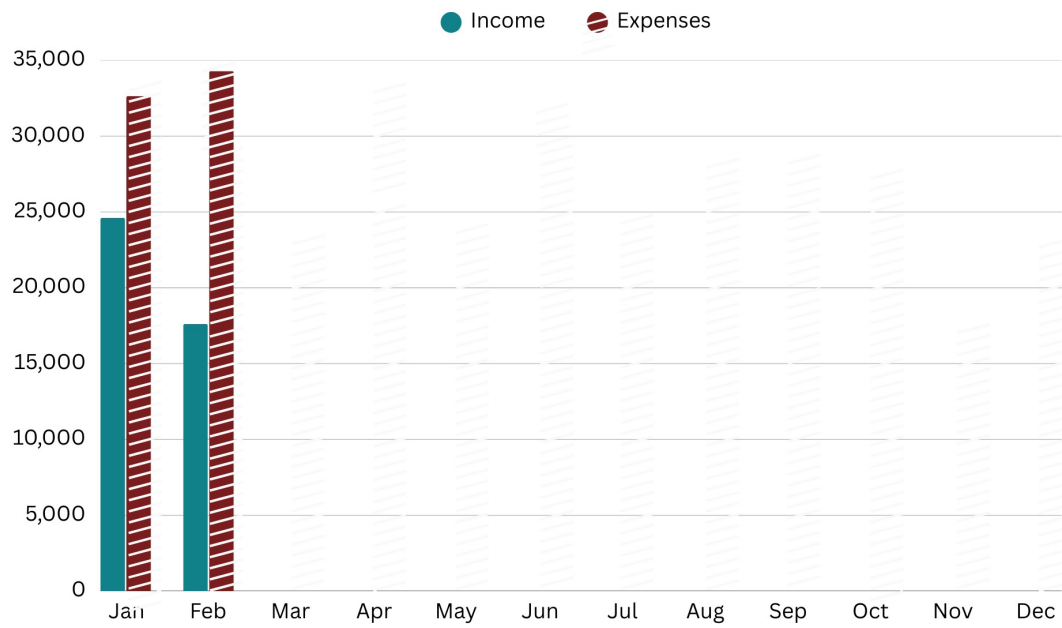
General Fund 2025

Cumulative Income vs Expenses as of February 28, 2025

Income: **\$42,225**

Expenses: **(\$66,936)**

Current Deficit: **(\$24,711)**





This Week at Memorial

Monday, April 7 - Sunday, April 13

7 Monday Church Office Closed	8 Tuesday 6:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal 6:30 PM Endowment Committee Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	9 Wednesday 6:00 PM Church Potluck <i>Please bring a dish to share!</i> 7:00 PM Mid-week Lenten Worship	10 Thursday 5:00 PM Finance Team Meeting 7:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting
11 Friday Have an idea for our monthly newsletter? Perhaps a focus on a ministry or group you're involved with at Memorial or in the community? We would love to hear from you! Please contact emily@mlcnevada.org or call the church office.		12 Saturday	13 Sunday 9:00 AM Worship at Memorial and online 10:30 "Rapture Exposed" Book Study in library

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@memluthnevada  Memorial Lutheran Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
 Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
 Mike Coverdale, Custodian

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