

# GOOD NEWS

FROM CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2026

## I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone Lutheran Service Builder 972 | study by Paul J. Cain

### Introduction

One of the surprises of Lutheran Service Book is that there are more hymns in the LSB collection than those found in the pew edition. While the pew edition's highest hymn number is 966, today's Hymn of the Day Bible Study covers hymn 972. "I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone" can be found in the Lutheran Service Builder computer software as well as LSB Accompaniment for the Hymns and LSB Guitar Chord Edition. "I Trust" appeared as Lutheran Worship 357, and as Lutheran Book of Worship 395 in a translation prepared for that hymnal. "In Thee Alone, O Christ, My Lord" was its title as hymn 319 in The Lutheran Hymnal. It has also since appeared in Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal as hymn 437.

- Why might a hymnal committee choose to include or not include a biblically faithful Lutheran hymn?
- Read through LSB 972.

### Prayer

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, because of Your tender love toward us sinners You have given us Your Son that, believing in Him, we might have everlasting life. Continue to grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may remain steadfast in this faith to the end and finally come to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen (For steadfast faith, LSB, p. 311).

### Exploring the Scriptures

Typically, the core Bible texts for a hymn are found at the bottom of a hymn's page in the LSB pew edition. If you are studying "I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone" from a copy printed from Lutheran Service Builder, you may not see the following four Scripture texts listed. Turn to Acts 4:12.

- Who is speaking in this verse?
- What is the context for Peter's preaching by God the Holy Spirit?
- What "name" is given to us by which we may be saved?
- What other names compete for worship as divine in your community? How does this verse correct the idea that "all roads lead to heaven"?

Read Rom. 8:38–39.

- What main promise are Christians given in this passage?

*(Continued on page 5)*

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**VOTERS MEETING — MARCH 8, 2026 AFTER DIVINE SERVICE**

## BIRTHDAYS

01 Lula Arlton  
08 Tatum Robison  
13 Luther Brack  
18 Lynda Nix  
21 Tamerha Miller  
26 Jodie Holtz  
27 Martin Johnson

## ANNIVERSARIES

13 Andrew & Jenny Brack

## BAPTISMS

09 Thomas Miller  
13 Phillip Flugge  
15 Tatum Robison  
19 Norma Miller  
22 Sadrine Na Kirindo  
22 Innocent Na Kirindo  
23 Benjamin Fick  
26 Lula Arlton  
26 Vickie Britson  
29 Addie Bartlett

## LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

**March 1** “This is love—the God who became a human baby for us, who suffered for us, who rose from the dead to give us everlasting life. This is love, shining into our own darkness to give us joy and salvation.”  
*Lutheran Hour Ministries Daily Devotions – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**March 8** “The call to be disciples of Jesus who live out our faith each day and, in so doing, work to make disciples of others, has never been greater ... We need to boldly proclaim what God has done for us in Christ. Not in a spirit of superiority or power, but in a posture of love and grace.”  
*Bishop Dan Selbo, North American Lutheran Church – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**March 15** “Never will a time come when the most marvelous recent invention is as marvelous as a newborn baby.” *Carl Sandburg – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**March 22** “Grief is a road no one chooses, yet in this fallen world, it is a path we must all tread. There are no words that can fully capture the sorrow of losing someone we love—no explanations that can make death seem natural or right. It wasn’t meant to be this way. Death is the great intruder, a bitter consequence of sin’s curse. And yet, even in the depths of sorrow, the Lord gives us this promise: He is near.” *Rev. M.L. Smith, Director of International Missions of Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**March 29** “No place on earth should be a safer refuge for that tiny innocent child than the womb, the place of *racham*, the place of mercy. Abortion invades and destroys that refuge, that mercy, at its very source. Sadly, abortion has become a part of the brutalization of human life, a sad commentary on the cruelty of human nature.” *Rev. Paul Clark, Lutherans For Life of Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*



**Issues, Etc.**



**Talk Radio for the  
Thinking Christian**

[www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org)

**Sacred Music 24/7**



[lutheranpublicradio.org](http://lutheranpublicradio.org)



# STEWARDSHIP

## The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter article – March 2026

As a kid, I remember my Grandma and Grandpa Diepholz' home with extraordinary joy. Family fun. Great food. A legacy of faith. One of my lasting memories of that house was the table that sat between their twin beds. It contained a lamp, a Bible, a catechism and a hymnal. These were well-worn, as Grandpa read to Grandma every night before they went to sleep! What a treasure these tools of faith are! Let us spend some time this month in the hymnal to help us better understand our life as Christian stewards! To do this, we will use LSB 785 "We Praise You, O God."

We Praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
In grateful devotion our tributes we bring.  
We lay it before You, and kneel and adore You;  
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

Stewardship is an act of worship. It flows from the grace and mercy we have received in Jesus! Faithful stewardship can never start with us. Our sinful nature will make us and our desires the center of our worship. Our tributes, our giving and our serving only flow from how the Lord Jesus has given of Himself for our sake! When we have this in clear view, our knees bow and our praises flow freely! All this flows from the Name that has been placed on us in Holy Baptism!

We worship You, God of our Fathers, we bless You;  
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.  
When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,  
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

Our stewardship that flows from what God has done for us in Jesus Christ is rooted in history. Passed from one generation to the next, stewards of the Gospel connect God's provision in the past to His continued care in the present.

So often, the struggles we face are self-inflicted. While there are indeed perils that can shake us from outside of ourselves, we are more likely enduring the suffering that comes because of our own choices that are outside the Word and will of God! But even in these situations, the Lord who loves us will never forsake us. When we become selfish, self-serving and self-destructive, the Lord NEVER abandons! The Lord helps us to overcome the struggles in faith and win the victory the steward rejoices in!

With voices united our praises we offer  
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.  
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.  
To You, our great redeemer, forever be praise!

Stewardship is more than just an individual thing. There is a corporate nature to our steward life. We see this in the Divine Service. There, stewards of all ages, all economic strata and all languages are joined in the singular task of praise. This stewardship of praise flows from the altar to us, out into the world and then back to the altar! God's strong arm leads us in this stewardship 24/7. This makes stewardship, in all times and places, a matter of worship. We praise our Redeemer who has entrusted us with this great stewardship of the Gospel which forgives our sins, grants us new life and salvation. And this treasure we freely share for God's glory and the benefit of our neighbor!

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

	<u>12/2025</u>	<u>01/2026</u>	<u>02/2026</u>
<b>Deposits:</b>	\$ 45,076.66	\$ 11,678.00	\$ 22,362.52
<b>Disbursements:</b>	\$ 28,136.34	\$ 20,879.90	\$ 20,515.87
<b>Deposit Breakdown:</b>			
<b>General Fund:</b>	\$ 40,462.66	\$ 11,672.00	\$ 19,362.52
<b>Designated Funds:</b>	\$ 4,614.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 3,000.00
 <b>Monthly Budget Requirement:</b>	 \$ 22,241.35	 \$ 17,793.08	 \$ 17,793.08
<b>Mortgage Balance as of 02/26</b>			\$ 18,612.93

**SERMON TEXT AND TITLES**

<b>03/01/26 Do You Hid Your Faith?</b>	<b>John 3:2</b>
Lord Thee I Love with all My Heart	708
<b>03/08/26 God does great things with “Nothing” but His Word</b>	<b>John 4:11</b>
O Holy Spirit, Grant us Grace	693
<b>03/15/26 How do you see God’s Work?</b>	<b>John 9:3</b>
God Loved the World so that He Gave	571
<b>03/22/26 Do you believe this?</b>	<b>John 11:26</b>
My Song is Love Unknown	430
<b>03/29/26 God Has Saved you from the final hour!</b>	<b>John 12:27</b>
A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth	438

**2026 The officers**

**President:** Luther Brack

**Elders:** 2023 Jay Holtz

**Secretary:** Alan Kludt

2024 Dan Munson

**Finance Secretary:**

2025 Les Britson

Pastor Phil Andreasen 2024

**Trustees:** 2023 Andrew Brack,

**Assistant:** Dustin Preheim

2024 Carl Deardoff

**Treasurer:** Marty Johnson 2025

2025 Jason Clare

*(Continued from page 1)*

- As necessary, review verses 31–37 to better understand these verses in context and more completely understand God’s everlasting love of us.

Read 1 John 2:1–2.

- To whom is John writing? What does he mean by “little children”?
- Discuss what John says about sin. Of what sin is he warning his readers?
- Define “advocate.” Describe Jesus’ role as your advocate.
- Define “propitiation.” How would you define this concept for a non-Christian?
- John writes about Jesus’ work being enough “for the sins of the whole world” (v. 2). Why then do not all benefit from His sacrificial death and victorious resurrection?

Read Col. 3:16–17.

- What benefit is there in singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs outside of corporate worship?
- How does the Word of Christ dwell in us richly in corporate worship?
- Some Christians do what they do in the Christian life almost as a “Please, Lord, accept and forgive me because of these works.” Compare and contrast this with the “thankyou note” response to the gifts of God in Christ in verse 16.

## Exploring the Hymn

### Background

As a deacon, hymn writer and hymnal editor in Strasbourg, Germany, Konrad Hubert (1507–77) wrote “I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone.” It appeared in Nürnberg as early as 1540. From 1545 on, it was introduced in hymnals as “A prayer-hymn to Christ, our only Savior, for the remission of sins and the increase of faith and true love.”

- How are hymns also prayers?
- What are the consequences of Jesus being humanity’s only Savior?

- “Remission” is intended as a Gospel word, but its use in the Church has recently been questioned because of modern cancer treatment and the statement that a cancer is “in remission.” What theological concern is there now with regard to this word? What alternatives would you suggest? Compare the translation of Jesus’ Words of Institution for the Sacrament of the Altar in LSB (p. 197) and your congregation’s previous hymnals (The Lutheran Hymnal, p. 27; Lutheran Worship, p. 150).
- How would you answer the question of a person investigating Christianity who asks, “Saved from what?”
- How are faith and love related in Christianity?

### Text

Longer hymns like “I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone” often have the blessing of giving us more Bible verses to study. As we turn to the Scriptures, it is helpful to remember that “trust” is a synonym for “faith” and that the “hope” sung of in stanza 1 is not merely a wish, prayer or “maybe.” Our hope in Christ is rock-solid and sure, unlike the often unkept promises of sinful human beings.

Read stanza 1.

- What reasons does this stanza present for why we trust in Christ alone?
- Define “propitiation” as used in Rom. 3:25. How is this helpful in the “evil hour” and when “human strength” fails?
- What phrase in the stanza confesses John 6:39? John 10:27–28?
- How does 1 Peter 5:8–9 describe the threat of the old evil foe? Where does this show up in stanza 1? Where do Gen. 3:15 and Rom. 16:20 come in?
- Why is 2 Cor. 3:5 important? How does it shape our Christian confidence in this stanza?

Read stanza 2.

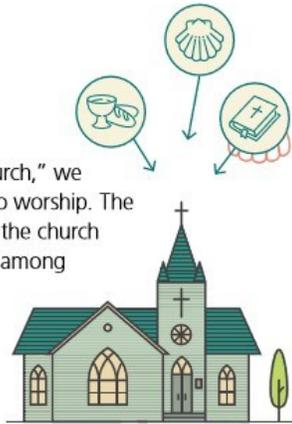
- How does Luke 23:40–43 shape our prayer? What parallels are in the Lord’s Prayer? How is stanza 2 a prayer? When would we pray such a prayer?

*(Continued on page 7)*

+ + +  
**KIDS IN THE  
 DIVINE SERVICE**  
 + + +

**What is the "church"?**

When someone says the word "church," we usually think of a place people go to worship. The Lutheran Confessions teach us that the church is the "assembly of all the believers among whom the Gospel is preached in its purity and the Holy Sacraments are administered according to the Gospel." Wow! The church is so much more than a building!



**If the church is more than just the building, then why is the building and everything in it so important?**

The church building, or the "sanctuary," is a place where God is present. We know that our Lord has promised to come to us in His Sacraments. Since God is actually here with us in His house, we should be very reverent, or respectful. We don't want anything in the church pulling us away from what God gives us in His Word and Sacraments. Everything should direct our attention toward Him.



**Parents:** Before or after the service, direct your children to the wonderfully Gospel-rich symbolism found in the sanctuary, including the on the altar, windows and banners. Remind them that the Lord truly comes to us here in His Word and Sacraments. He brings us what we really need: the forgiveness of sins.

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**UPCOMING**

**2026**

- Mar 4, 11, 18, 25 Midweek Lenten service, 7pm (Dinner prior)
- Mar 08 Daylight Savings Time Begins, 2am
- Mar 08 Voters' Meeting
- April 02 Maundy Thursday Divine Service, 7pm
- April 03 Good Friday Tenebrae Service, 7pm
- April 05 Easter Sunrise Matins Service, 7am
- April 05 Easter Breakfast, 8am
- April 05 Easter Festival Divine Service, 9:30am
- May 10 Mothers' Day Breakfast
- May 14 Ascension Day Divine Service 7pm
- June 14 Voters Meeting
- July 19-223 VBS
- Sept 13 Voters Meeting
- Nov 01 Daylight Saving Time Ends, 2am
- Nov 26 Thanksgiving Day Divine Service, 9:30 am
- Dec 2 Advent Service, 7pm
- Dec 5 decorating Tree 11am & Caroling to shut-ins to follow
- Dec 13: Voters Meeting, after Divine Service
- Dec 9, 16 Advent Services, 7pm
- Dec 20 Children's Christmas Service, 4pm
- December 24 Christmas Eve service, 5pm
- December 25 Christmas Day Service 9:30 am
- No New Year's Eve/Day Service
- Jan 06, Epiphany Divine Service 7pm

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

Mildred Corey, at home

Susan Powell, at home

Elva Clauson, at home

Denny Tellinghuisen, at home



The 2026 Flower Chart is pinned to the bulletin board in the Narthex for those who would like to provide altar flowers for a particular Sunday.

If you have any questions about providing flowers, please contact Cheri Zehendner.



**EASTER LILIES**

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for donating Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday. The cost of the lilies are \$13 each. Please sign up if you are interested .

*(Continued from page 5)*

- Review Rom. 3:25. How has the Lord answered our prayer of confession of sin? Use 1 Peter 2:24 to give a fuller answer.
- How does the world misunderstand love? Read 1 John 4:10 and restate it in chronological order.
- Read Rom. 8:34 and 1 Tim. 2:5–6. What does it mean for Jesus to intercede/mediate for us? Where are these truths sung in stanza 2?

Read stanza 3.

- The Rite of Confirmation is a confirmation of Holy Baptism. How is the word “confirm” used in stanza 3? What is meant here?
- Define “vocation.” Give examples.
- What does it mean according to Jesus’ words in John 8:31 and John’s teaching in 2 John 9 if one will not abide in God’s Word?
- Turn to John 14:23. Where is this verse found in stanza 3? Are we talking about Law or Gospel here?

If you have time, discuss the connection between these verses and the word “mandate,” from which comes the name “Maundy Thursday.”

## Making the Connection

Did your parents ever teach you the “magic words” of “please” and “thank you”?

- What is their proper use in human society?
- How could they be misused or at least misunderstood and misapplied with respect to the Lord and His gifts in Christ of forgiveness, faith, life, salvation and our promised hope of heaven?

## In Closing

The love of God to us is manifest in Jesus Christ, our Lord. We love because God in Christ first loved us. The God-given gift of faith expresses itself in love of God and our neighbor.

- Sing or read aloud together LSB 972.

## Prayer

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

(Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Lent, Three-Year Lectionary)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## VOTERS MEETING — MARCH 9, 2025 AFTER DIVINE SERVICE



### LENTEN SUPPERS & SERVICES

During Lenten season on Wednesdays, Suppers beginning at 5:30 pm. Service begins at 7pm. Please check the sign-up sheet to see if you would like to donate or help with the meals. The schedule is listed there. The meal for week 1 will be pizza, week 2 will be pulled pork, week 3 will be soup, week 4 will be meatloaf, and week 5 will be lasagna. There is a need for other components (drinks, salad, dessert, etc.) that can be brought. There is also a need for set up and clean up.

## Welcome to Christ Lutheran, Avery, Lynn, and Elaina Clark

This family comes to us from a WELS Lutheran church near Sacramento, Calif. They completed instruction with Pastor Nix and we welcome them with open arms into fellowship.

Avery is employed by Costco and Lynn is a CNA nursing aid at Avera's Prince of Peace senior retirement community. Her gifts of compassion are certainly used in this vocation.

With gratitude they are able to navigate their work schedules so that 3 year old Elaina is able to be cared for at home.

Lynn enjoys reading and can crochet almost anything according to Avery. He also enjoys reading and is embracing what the outdoors has to offer here in South Dakota.

God has brought you here and we pray that you will continue to be nurtured by Word and Sacrament and fellowship in the body of Christ.



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