

FredSVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH NEWSLETTER



Connect with us



The Rev. Lee R. Gable, Pastor



32756 150th Street
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613



319-989-2065



www.FredsvilleLutheran.org



Fredsville@FredsvilleLutheran.org



@Fredsvillelutheran



YouTube @Fredsvillevideos

Upcoming Events

- March 1 - Baptism of Natalie Faust
- March 12 - Founders Day
- March 21 - Call to Climate Action: Cedar Rapids - Iowa Faith & Climate Network
- March 23 - Council Meeting
- March 27 - NE Iowa Food Bank: Empty Bowls Dinner
- March 29 - Palm Sunday
 - LWR Health Kit assembly
- April 2 - Holy Thursday
 - Dike UMC at 7 pm
- April 3 - Good Friday
 - Fredsville at 7 pm
- April 5 - Resurrection Sunday



Birthdays

Wells Aronson - 1
Heidi Mounce - 1
Katie Camarata - 2
Miles Mounce - 2
Walter Brekke - 3
Carol Watson - 3
Paisley Hines - 4
Macy Wildeboer - 5
Paul Koch - 6
Loren Bakker - 9
Michael Camarata - 9
Sarah Nank - 10
Cara Lott - 11
Helene Wertz - 11
Art Lupkes - 12
Jenny Stewart - 17
Margaret Johnson - 19
Nancy Stage - 19
Jane Campbell - 22
Kody Kruger - 22
Kathryn Nielsen - 22
Tom Soska - 23
Kaj Riggle-Foust - 26
Trevor Dumler - 27
LuAnn Jones - 27
Pat Pruisner - 27
Thomas Verhulst - 28
Octavia Adams - 29
Danielle Husmann - 29
Haddi Yearous - 29
Nicholas Howe - 29
Jason Lott - 31

MARCH 2026



Anniversary

Michael & Tiffany Asche - 10
Jerry & LuAnn Jones - 19



Prayer List

- **Sharon Hemmen**
 - Loss of sister
- **Linda Feuchtwanger**
 - Shoulder surgery and recovery
- **Deana Peters**
(SIL of Jana and Cory Hermann)
 - Diagnosed with Breast Cancer
- **Catherine Petersen**
 - Wound care and wrist fracture

These names were received by the church from the individual or their family and have consented to have their names released to the Fredsville congregation. Please do not hesitate to contact the church office (319-989-2065) to be included in our weekly prayers or contact Pastor Lee.

Pastoral Pondering ... “You give them something to eat.”

The feeding of the 5,000 appears in all three of the synoptic Gospels, Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:30-44, and Luke 9:10-17.

Each time Jesus and the disciples have intentionally tried to get away to a deserted place, to rest and renew. And each time word spreads and the crowds find where they are and come hungering for healing and hope. Jesus has compassion for the people and cares for them. Then as the day draws to a close the disciples recognize a need, the crowd is hungry and needs to be fed. They suggest that Jesus send them to near by villages to find food. Jesus has a much bolder idea, “You give them something to eat.” . . .

This direct command takes them by surprise. They know what they have and it is not enough for the need that they see. Five thousand hungry people, five loaves of bread and two fish. The math is not adding up. Jesus takes what they have, blesses it, breaks it and gives it back to the disciples. The disciples in response give it to the people. There is enough to feed everyone and more.

I think what I like best about this story is the way the disciples recognize the need in their community. They see that people are hungry and they want to help them. They recognize the limits of their own resources and still they are willing to place what they have into the hands of Jesus and serve the community of people before them. This story about God’s abundance in the midst of our scarcity is a miracle of Grace. The beauty of God’s grace, is that it doesn’t need to make sense or be understood, to be received. Grace is a gift. They give of what they have and God transforms it into enough and more.

As disciples of Jesus we follow this faithful pattern. We welcome the people of our community into relationship with Jesus. Compassion for others recognizes needs and identifies resources to address those needs. Then we place it all in the hands of God and respond to the Grace of God in our midst.

One of the needs in our community is the Meals on Wheels program in Dike. During the summer this program does not deliver food to our neighbors. In response Jean Loger and Shelley Viet asked what can we do? We have three congregations in the Dike area. We have many generous and helpful people. So we are putting it all in God’s hands and asking Jesus to bless this ministry for our neighbors. There are 13 weeks from June-August that need covered 3 days a week. Each Congregation will cook and deliver food one day a week. Fredsville has Wednesdays. There are 9-10 neighbors who will receive this blessing. Can you help us prepare food or deliver? Let’s work together and give our neighbors something to eat.

May the Peace of Christ be with you always...

Pastor Lee

Q&A

By: Sue Green

Deaconess Irene DeMaris - The Iowa Faith & Climate Network March 2026

Many of you had the opportunity to hear Deaconess Irene DeMaris, the Executive Director of the Iowa Faith & Climate Network, preach the sermon at Fredsville on January 25th. I thought that it would be good for all of us to find out more about our guest and the Iowa Faith & Climate Network.

Q: Could you give me some background on yourself Deaconess Irene?

A: I was born and raised in Washington State. My first job out of college was being the Program Assistant for Ministries with Young People for The Pacific Northwest Conference of The United Methodist Church. I always wanted to learn more about the intersections of justice and theology so I left my job to attend seminary full-time. I have a Master of Divinity from Seattle University's intentionally ecumenical School of Theology and Ministry. Upon graduation, I was a Faith Organizer Fellow for "Faith in Public Life", working on their Faithful Voter program. I have also worked for Wesley Theological Seminary as their Associate Director of the Center for Public Theology where we helped students and community leaders navigate the tension between faith and public policy. I've been at the Iowa Faith & Climate Network since 2020, being named the Executive Director in 2022.

Q: What is the Iowa Faith & Climate Network?

A: Iowa Faith & Climate Network is a faith-based climate nonprofit. We nurture environmental leadership by equipping individual and faith communities of all kinds with the resources to take climate action. We envision a world where people of diverse faith and spirituality work together towards a healthy, just and sustainable future for all.

Q: How did the opportunity for preaching at Fredsville come up?

A: Pastor Lee is on the Board of the Iowa Faith & Climate Network. When Pastor Lee heard that the Iowa Faith & Climate Network was going to have a function at ThreeHouse Ministries in Cedar Falls on January 24th, he extended the invitation to preach at Fredsville.

I gladly accepted.

Q: Why is it important that people of faith be concerned for the environment?

A: At its core, caring for the environment is deeply spiritual work. Every major world religion includes some call to care for our shared planet. Creation care is one of the places where people of many faiths can come together. When we work together, our impact is stronger and our witness is clearer. At the same time, it's important to be rooted in your own tradition. As Christians, we don't have to stretch to find a reason to care for creation. It's woven throughout scripture. In *Genesis 1:31*, we read: "God saw everything that [God] had made, and indeed, it was very good." If God calls creation very good, then caring for it is an act of honoring God. In the Ten Commandments, we are instructed to love our neighbor. Environmental care is one way we live that out. Pollution, extreme weather, and rising energy costs affect real people. Loving our neighbor includes ensuring they have clean air, safe water, and a stable climate.

In the Lutheran tradition, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America grounds this commitment clearly in its social statement, *Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice*. It calls Lutherans to pursue justice for creation through participation, solidarity, sufficiency, and sustainability that is expressed through worship, learning, moral reflection, and advocacy.

That's exactly what you are doing here at Fredsville. Your environmental work isn't separate from your faith. It is an expression of it.

Q: What are your thoughts about the steps (solar panels, prairie planting on the west side of the sanctuary) Fredsville has taken to be more environmentally aware?

A: Impressed, excited, and faithful are the first words that come to mind when I think about what Fredsville has done.

In many ways, you are ahead of the curve when it comes to environmental projects. That's because, at key moments, you've said yes to creation care. Those faithful yeses matter. They build on one another. They open the door to new projects here at the church and ripple outward into your homes and daily lives.

Your congregation's story is important to share. It's a witness to what's possible when faith communities take action. That's why you were the first congregation featured in our "Stories That Inspire" series, "For Fredsville Lutheran, Creation Care Shines Bright." Your light really does shine.

Q: Do you have any other information that you would like to share?

A: First, I want to say thank you! What you are doing in Fredsville matters, and it is part of something bigger than any one congregation.

I would love to invite you to our *Called to Climate Action Conference* on Saturday, March 21 in Cedar Rapids. It is a day of worship, learning, and practical tools to help people of faith grow in confident, grounded climate action. You will leave encouraged and equipped.

I also encourage you to sign up for our email list. That is the best way to stay informed about action alerts, upcoming events, and stories of what other congregations are doing across the state.

And finally, please explore our free resources. We have tools for worship, education, and advocacy that can help deepen your faithful climate work. Whether you are just getting started or already well on your way, we want to support you.

You are not alone in this work. We are stronger together, and I am grateful to be in it with all of you in Fredsville!

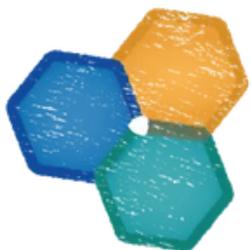
Q: What is your favorite Bible verse? (I always finish my Q & A's with a favorite Bible verse.)

A: Isaiah 58:6 NRSV: "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?"

I first encountered this verse in a new and powerful way during Lent in 2016, and it has stayed with me ever since. It reminds me that faith is not individual. It is about justice and community. It is about freedom for all. It is about participating in God's work of loosening what binds people and breaking what harms them.

For me, this verse names my personal call to walk alongside people as they embrace their God given agency to seek justice rooted in their faith. That is also what we do at Iowa Faith & Climate Network. We help people connect their faith to action so that together we can loosen the bonds of injustice, including those that harm our communities and our planet.

Thank you, Deaconess Irene for taking the time to answer my questions! The Iowa Faith & Climate Network under your leadership doing "great work" as evidenced by articles in The Cedar Rapids Gazette, the Des Moines Register and the Iowa Capital Dispatch along with a podcast on Iowa Public Radio. May God bless the Iowa Faith & Climate Networks efforts inspire individuals and congregations to take climate action.



**IOWA
FAITH & CLIMATE
NETWORK**



FREDSVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Sunday, February 22, 2026 11:00 am

Attendance:

Present: Pastor Lee; Amy Camarata; Abby Brekke; Keen Peterson; Gary Koenen; Wanda Nielsen; Roy Stefan; Linda Nielsen (Treasurer); Jodi Bergmann; Amanda Bakker

Absent: Tony Norton

Call to Order

Pastor Lee called the meeting to order and opened with prayer, giving thanks for a warm place to gather, for congregational resources entrusted across generations, and for wisdom and stewardship in council leadership.

Treasurer's Report (Linda Nielsen)

Linda reviewed fund abbreviations used on the financial statements and explained how to read the balance sheet and profit and loss by class.

General Fund: \$71,756.70

Building Fund: \$20,104.54

Memorial Fund: \$8,833.40

Old Business

Annual Meeting Follow-Up: Council discussed questions received after the annual meeting clarifying what items were voted on. The pastor encouraged members to refer questions as needed to ensure accurate information is shared.

Constitution Updates: Pastor reported ELCA-provided language updates are being included. A committee will work on congregation-specific items and return a more finished draft for council review. Constitution Committee Volunteers: Amy Camarata; Brenda Cooper; Tom Verhulst; Travis Wibben.

New Business

Officer Elections:

President – Amy Camarata was elected unanimously.

Vice President – Gary Koenen agreed to serve and was elected unanimously

Secretary – Amanda Bakker agreed to serve as secretary going forward; elected unanimously

Pastor's Report / Looking Ahead

Pastor Lee Shared updates on worship, pastoral care, education, and ministry involvement from late January through Feb. 19. Pastor led services, visited members, supported families, and participated in meetings and events, including

regional ministry gatherings. Confirmation students studied the Gospels, and upcoming Lent activities and community events are planned. Administration work included reports, constitution updates, and event prep. A full Pastor's report is available as an attachment in the Secretary's Notebook.

Committee / Council Point-Person Assignments

Cemetery: Roy Stefan

Social Ministry: Wanda Nielsen & Keen Petereson

Technology / Worship support: Amy Camarata

Finance: Amanda Bakker

Endowment (Council point of contact): Gary Koenen

Property: Keen Peterson & Tony Norton

Education: Abby Brekke & Amanda Bakker

Next Meeting

Due to conflicts on Palm Sunday (March 29), council agreed to reschedule the March meeting.

Next Council Meeting: Monday, March 23, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. (at the church).

Adjournment

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Minutes Submitted By: Abby Brekke



Meals on Wheels Community Service Summer 2026

Since Meals on Wheels lunches through DNH school end with the completion of the school year, Dike United Methodist, Fredsville Lutheran and Liberty Baptist will be collaborating to providing Meals on Wheels for clients during the summer. Meals will be available Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, June through August 28. Fredsville is responsible for Wednesdays.

The meals will be prepared and delivered by volunteers. Jean Loger will serve as the Fredsville coordinator, but this is a community project. We need your Help. Clients will receive enough food for one meal and no drinks will be provided. There will be 9-10 clients each day. Food will be in disposable containers that do not need to be returned. Meals will be delivered between 11:00 -11:30 a.m.

This is a community service - not a catering service. There is no fee for clients. If clients wish to donate the funds will go toward the Dike Food Pantry at the Methodist Church.

Fredsville History



March 12, 1871

The congregation was organized on this day originally known as "Fairfield Scandinavian Lutheran Congregation"



Looking ahead

Fredsville Lutheran Church

PRAYERS FOR HEALING
Sunday, March 15

How may we pray for you?



"Are any among you sick?
... pray over them,
anointing them with oil
in the name of the Lord."

James 5:14

IOWA
FAITH & CLIMATE
NETWORK

CALLED TO CLIMATE ACTION
2026 CONFERENCE

MARCH 21, 2026

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, CEDAR RAPIDS

Get inspired, equipped, energized
& connected for the challenging
& important journey ahead of us.

SAVE THE DATE!

Get Updates
iowafaithandclimate.org/ctca

Palm Sunday
Hosanna in the highest!

March 29, 2026
Fredsville Lutheran Church

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

APRIL 2 - MAUNDY THURSDAY
7PM - DIKE UMC

APRIL 3 - GOOD FRIDAY
7PM - FREDSVILLE LUTHERAN

WORSHIP TOGETHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

EASTER
Sunday
April 5th

8:30 Breakfast
9:30 Worship

Fredsville Lutheran Church



During the months of February and March, Fredsville will once again collect items for Lutheran World Relief Personal Care kits and assemble them on Palm Sunday.

Cleanliness may not actually be next to godliness, but it certainly helps a person feel more human. When families find their homes destroyed, or must flee for their safety, soap and a towel may not make the cut for what they can carry. Arriving in a refugee camp or other place of safety, they are scared, vulnerable and dirty from the travel. The simple items included in these kits provide much-needed self-care, critical germ fighting, and the chance to regain dignity amidst situations of fear and uncertainty. Join us in making a big difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

The following items go in each kit:

- **One - lightweight cotton or cotton blend bath size towel**
 - (20' x 40' to 27' x 52') dark colors recommended
- **Two or three - bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz.**
 - any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars
- **One - adult-size toothbrush in original packaging.**
 - Multi-packs can be broken down and individually sealed in business-size envelopes.
- **One - sturdy comb**
 - no picks or fine-toothed combs. Remove packaging.
- **One - metal nail clippers.**
 - Remove packaging.



AEBLESKIVER

APRIL 19

4PM - 7PM

**FREDSVILLE
LUTHERAN CHURCH**



**Adults \$10
Children \$5**



**PROCEEDS BENEFIT
THREEHOUSE**
Collaborative Campus Ministries

& FREDSVILLE YOUTH ACTIVITIES

32756 150th St Cedar Falls, IA 50613
www.FredsvilleLutheran.org

****Pleased be advised, the aebleskivers
are baked in peanut oil.****

SUNDAY BOWLING FUN-DAY



6 Lanes OF FUN



Thank You Notes

Dear Fredsville Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$1,000 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

“From [Christ’s] fullness we have all received, grace upon grace”
-John 1:16

As a church, we are empowered to love and serve our neighbors as Christ first loved us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power and hope that flow from God’s full, boundless love. Drawn together and guided by the Holy Spirit, we accomplish together what none of us could do alone, grace upon grace.

Your Spirit-filled generosity helps families and communities reeling from disasters, in the immediate aftermath and far into the future. No matter the disaster, no matter the need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. You make God's love real.

With gratitude,
The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, Congregational Generosity



Fredsville Family,

Thank you for all the thoughtful gifts and cards. I am grateful for the opportunity to share my talents with my Fredsville family, and your support is appreciated.

Thanks for brightening my day!

Linda

Thank You Notes

Fredsville,

Thank you all for the cards and gifts, it really brightened my day. I can not express how thankful I am to have been hired on as Fredsville new secretary. I am beyond thankful for the opportunity to make Fredsville such a caring community. I look forward to support Fredsville's needs for many years to come.

Thank you,
Ashley Graas



Fredsville Family,

Thank you for the prayers and expressions of appreciation during the Christmas season and in my recent cancer treatment. So blessed by you all.

Thank you,
Jean Loger



Fredsville Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous donation to the Panther Pantry. Your support plays a vital role in helping us provide consistent access to food and essential items for students facing food insecurity. We are beyond grateful to have caring people like you all in our corner. This donation truly makes a difference and will have a far-reaching impact! Thank you!

The Panther Pantry Team! Go Cats!

Thank You Notes

Fredsville Family,
Grace and Peace

I cannot say THANK YOU enough to this Beloved Community. Your continued Kindness and Generosity, in cards, gift cards, supportive words, and prayers are truly humbling. Thank you for trusting me to walk and work with you in ministry and share life together in this community.

May the Peace of Christ be with you always.

The Rev Lee R. Gable



Fredsville Lutheran Church and Pastor Lee,

A million thanks for your financial support of the scholarship program at Wartburg Theological Seminary! As a current student who benefits directly from those funds, I can say with confidence that your gifts are much appreciated. When I started as a Wartburg student two years ago, I vowed that I would not borrow any money. It is only with Wartburg's help that I am able to do so.

Many thanks for your assistance!

Gratefully,

Libby Horian



Endowment Committee Grant Application

March 1st is the due date for receiving grant applications for the Endowment Committee to consider different charitable organizations. An organization submitting an application must have a 401(C)3 IRS designation to qualify. Anyone that would like to promote a local charity please work with that organization and get them to submit an application. Those are available at the church office or on the Fredsville web site.

Worship Readings, Prayers, & Introductions from SundayandSeasons.com

Sunday, March 1 - 2nd Sunday of Lent

Purple

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

Prayer of the Day

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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.

- **Genesis 12:1-4a** - The blessing of God upon Abram
- **Psalms 121** - I lift up my eyes to the hills; my help comes from the Lord. (Ps. 121:1, 2)
- **Romans 4:1-5, 13-17** - The promise to those who share Abraham's faith
- **John 3:1-17** - The mission of Christ: to save the world

Sunday, March 1 - 3rd Sunday of Lent

Purple

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- **Exodus 17:1-7** - Water from the rock in the wilderness
- **Psalms 95** - Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. (Ps. 95:1)
- **Romans 5:1-11** - Reconciled to God by Christ's death
- **John 4:5-42** - Baptismal image: the woman at the well

Worship Readings, Prayers, & Introductions from SundayandSeasons.com

Sunday, March 15 - 4th Sunday of Lent

Purple

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

Prayer of the Day

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- **1 Samuel 16:1-13** - David is chosen and anointed
- **Psalm 23** - You anoint my head with oil. (Ps. 23:5)
- **Ephesians 5:8-14** - Awake from sleep, live as children of light
- **John 9:1-41** - Baptismal image: the man born blind

Sunday, March 22 - 5th Sunday of Lent

Purple

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- **Ezekiel 37:1-14** - The dry bones of Israel brought to life
- **Psalm 130** - I wait for you, O Lord; in your word is my hope. (Ps. 130:5)
- **Romans 8:6-11** - Life in the Spirit
- **John 11:1-45** - Baptismal image: the raising of Lazarus

Worship Readings, Prayers, & Introductions from SundayandSeasons.com

Sunday, March 29 - Palm Sunday

Purple

Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

Prayer of the Day

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- **Matthew 21:1-11** - Jesus enters Jerusalem as the humble king
- **Philippians 2:5-11** - Christ's humility and exaltation

Thursday, April 2 - Maundy Thursday

Purple

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.

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- **Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14** - The passover of the Lord
- **Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19** - I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.
(Ps. 116:13)
- **1 Corinthians 11:23-26** - Proclaim the Lord's death until he comes
- **John 13:1-17, 31b-35** - The service of Christ: footwashing and meal

Worship Readings, Prayers, & Introductions from SundayandSeasons.com

Friday, April 3 - Good Friday

No Color

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.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

- **Isaiah 52:13-53:12** - The suffering servant
- **Psalm 22** - My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Ps. 22:1)
- **Hebrews 4:14-16** - Confidence to approach God through Christ
- **Hebrews 5:7-9** - Christ perfected through suffering
- **Hebrews 10:16-25** - The way to God is opened by Jesus' death
- **John 18:1-19:42** - The passion and death of Christ

Sunday, April 5 - Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day

White or Gold

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.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- **Acts 10:34-43** - God raised Jesus on the third day
- **Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24** - This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps. 118:24)
- **Colossians 3:1-4** - Raised with Christ to seek the higher things
- **Matthew 28:1-10** - Proclaim the resurrection

2026 MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Choir Practice 8:45 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Baptism of Natalie Faust	2 Piano Tuning 9:30 am - 1:30 pm	3 Bible Study 9:00 am	4 Lent Simple Supper Dike Library 6:30 pm	5 Quilters 9:00-11:30 am	6 Pastor's Day Off	7
8 Choir Practice 8:45 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Piano Recital & Potluck 3:30-6:30pm	9	10 Bible Study 9:00 am Pillowcase Dresses 12:00 pm	11 Lent Simple Supper Dike Library 6:30 pm	12 Quilters 9:00-11:30 am <i>Fredsville Founders Day</i>	13 Pastor's Day Off	14
15 Choir Practice 8:45 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am	16	17 Bible Study 9:00 am HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18 Lent Simple Supper Dike Library 6:30 pm	19 Quilters 9:00-11:30 am	20 Pastor's Day Off	21  IOWA FAITH & CLIMATE NETWORK Call to Climate Action Conference St. Paul's United Methodist Church Cedar Rapids 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
22 Choir Practice 8:45 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am	23 Church Council Meeting 5:30 pm	24 Bible Study 9:00 am	25 Lent Simple Supper Dike Library 6:30 pm	26 Quilters 9:00-11:30 am	27 Northeastern Iowa Food Bank  Pastor's Day Off	28
29 Palm Sunday Choir Practice 8:45 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Piano Recital 2:00 pm	30 Lutheran World Relief Health Kit assembly 	31 Bible Study 9:00 am	 April 2 Maundy Thursday 7pm Dike UMC	Looking Ahead April 3 Good Friday 7 pm Fredsville		 April 5 Resurrection Sunday 8:30 Breakfast 9:30 Worship
						April 19 Aebleskiver 4 - 7 pm