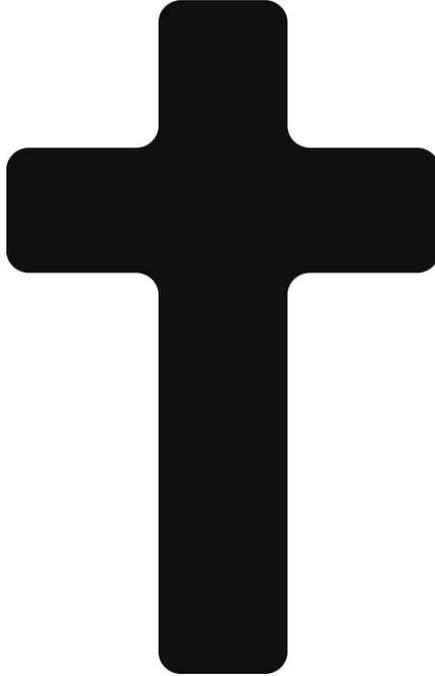


The American Lutheran Church of Windom

Living God's grace, we cultivate community to love and serve.



Sunday, April 18th, 2021 9:00 AM
Third Sunday of Easter

906 Prospect Ave, PO Box 188
Windom MN 56101; Phone: 507-831-1794
E-Mail: winalc@windomnet.com
Website: www.alcofwindom.com

Sundays 9:00 am Worship & 10:30 am Virtual BAM-S
Wednesdays 5:45 pm WOW (Worship On Wednesdays)

Pastors Sarah Tadé and Adam Roberts
Ministers: Everyone

WELCOME!

WE ARE HAPPY YOU ARE WORSHIPPING WITH US TODAY

If you are new to us or visiting from another church, please fill out a yellow postcard for us or email our ALC office winalc@windomnet.com if you would like more information on our Church or would like to know how to join.

We'd love to be in touch with you.

AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDING may be in progress during church services /events. Audio, video, and/or photos of the services/events may be posted or aired online for public viewing.

Please check out our ALC website, www.alcofwindom.com, YouTube Channel, and our Facebook page to view online services, events, and stay up-to-date on the latest information.

GATHERING MUSIC

Rozanne Gronseth, Pianist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Creation Sunday

GATHERING:

P: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: What kind of house shall we make for you, God?

C: **One built with human hands,**

L: When heaven is your throne

C: **And earth your footstool?**

L: Our creator's hands have made everything—

C: **Let us praise almighty God!**

OPENING HYMN

“Rejoice in God's Saints”

ELW #418

- 1 Rejoice in God's saints today and all days! A world without saints forgets how to praise. Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer, their depth of adoring, Lord, help us to share.
- 2 Some march with events to turn them God's way; some need to withdraw, the better to pray; some carry the gospel through fire and through flood: our world is their parish, their purpose is God.
- 3 Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknown, who bear someone's cross, or shoulder their own: they share our complaining, our comforts, our cares: what patience in caring, what courage is theirs!
- 4 Rejoice in God's saints today and all days! A world without saints forgets how to praise. In loving, in living, they prove it is true: their way of self-giving, Lord, leads us to you.

“Rejoice in God's Saints” Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000 Text © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Printed | Streamed used by permission under One License #A-718031.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Risen Lord,

C: We admit that we are slow to believe, and even slower to follow where you lead us. We doubt your promise, divide your people, and fail to proclaim the power of your resurrection. We choose to live small lives when you have given us the biggest gift of all: your eternal life. Forgive us. Raise us up to a place where we can serve you faithfully.

P: Christ is arisen, bringing gifts of life, mercy, and pardon for sin! Because he lives, you are forgiven, therefore go out and live in the joy of your Lord's resurrection in the power of God's Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

KYRIE

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"I Love to Tell the Story"

ELW #661

1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because I know it's true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

Refrain

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet! I love to tell the story, for some have

never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy word. *Refrain*

- 3 I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

"I Love to Tell the Story" Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911 Public Domain.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of might, Your messengers' words were not always well received, but they were full of your truth. Give us courage to speak out in the face of injustice and opposition, confident that you will strengthen us by the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 6:1 - 7:2a, 44-60 Pew Bible p. 889

6 Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. ²And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, ⁴while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." ⁵What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. ⁸Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. ¹⁰But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. ¹¹Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." ¹²They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. ¹³They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; ¹⁴for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." ¹⁵And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

7Then the high priest asked him, “Are these things so?” ²And Stephen replied: “Brothers and fathers, listen to me. The God of glory appeared to our ancestor Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran.” ⁴⁴“Our ancestors had the tent of testimony in the wilderness, as God directed when he spoke to Moses, ordering him to make it according to the pattern he had seen. ⁴⁵Our ancestors in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the nations that God drove out before our ancestors. And it was there until the time of David, ⁴⁶who found favor with God and asked that he might find a dwelling place for the house of Jacob. ⁴⁷But it was Solomon who built a house for him. ⁴⁸Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with human hands; as the prophet says, ⁴⁹‘Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest? ⁵⁰Did not my hand make all these things?’ ⁵¹‘You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. ⁵²Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. ⁵³You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.” ⁵⁴When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. ⁵⁵But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord/ **Thanks be to God.**

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CHILDREN’S SERMON

Pastor Sarah

MESSAGE

Pastor Sarah

SONG OF THE DAY

“Beautiful Savior”

ELW #838

1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

- 2 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.
- 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!
"Beautiful Savior" Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904 Public Domain.

APOSTLES' CREED

p. 105

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

"Please share a greeting with those around you with a wave of your hand."

OFFERING

We give, because God gives to us! Our ministries share God's love.

As you leave the sanctuary, there will be an opportunity to place your offering in the offering plates located at the back of the church.

OFFERING PRAYER

We bring, as you have commanded, this offering of our abundance and ask that you bless it and use it towards the cause of justice in the world, and so that all may be fed and receive what is necessary for life, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN ***"Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory"*** ELW #890

- 1 Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:
his truth is marching on.

Refrain

Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.

ALC IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO COVER FOR THE CUSTODIAN ON SUNDAY MORNINGS THIS SUMMER. This will entail a small list of duties to prepare for our Sunday morning worship. If you're interested please call or text Steve Johnson at (507)822-2716 to be put on a volunteer list and learn more of what duties will entail. Thank you!

COUNCIL RETREAT THIS SUNDAY: The ALC Council and your church leaders are taking time to listen to God, to each other and to our context as we plan for the future of this congregation. The retreat is 04.18 from 2:30 - 5:30 at Shalom Hill Farm, led by Rev. Dee Pederson, Director for Evangelical Mission from the Synod. Please pray for this process, and stay tuned!

HELP WANTED: The American Lutheran Church of Windom is seeking a part-time Youth and Family Coordinator & Christian Education Coordinator to help with our Bible And Me (BAM) Sunday school program and also our teenage youth groups. Go to alcofwindom.com for more information.



TEEN BIBLE STUDY *"You were Made to Make a Difference"* by Max Lucado and his daughter Jenna Lucado Bishop today, Sunday, April 18th at 4:30pm in the Youth room. Please join us!

HOLY COMMUNION for those worshipping at home: please call the church to arrange for one of the pastors to bring you Communion at home, or if you prefer to come in during the week or even drive by, that can be arranged too.

AED TRAINING: Cardiac emergencies can happen to anyone at any time, even in church. Knowing how to handle this crisis leads to a greater survival rate. ALC has an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) and we want to make sure our ushers and enough members know how to use it. **An AED training course will be held on April 25th at 10 AM** following worship in the Skylight Court taught by Jim Axford.

GLOW SEWING DAY Tuesday, April 20th from 9AM-2PM in the fellowship hall. Please bring a sack lunch. We'll be making quilts, baby care kits, fabric kits, personal care kits, and school kits for Lutheran World Relief. Come for an hour or the whole time! No experience necessary! If you have any questions you may contact Kathy Hiley at 831-4109.



The wealth we have has its source in God. "But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth" (Deut. 8:18).

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