

Schedule and Announcements

Today

8:30 AM – Radio Program (AM 1150 / FM 92.9)

9:30 AM – Divine Service with Holy Communion Rite II Worship

10:45 AM – Bible Class (The Original Game of Thrones)

Tuesday

3 PM – Quarterly Elders Meeting

4 PM – Council Meeting

Wednesday

Ash Wednesday

5:30 PM – The Service of Cooperate Confession with Holy Communion

6:30 PM – Lenten Supper

Thursday

5:15 PM – Confirmation Class

Next Sunday

8:30 AM – Radio Program (AM 1150 / FM 92.9)

9:30 AM – Divine Service Rite II Worship

10:45 AM – Bible Class (The Original Game of Thrones)

Liturgy until Easter

In Pre-Lent and Lent, we omit *The Gloria in Excelsis Deo* and any *Alleluias*. We will sing them again on Easter.

Meetings This Month

The Quarterly Elder's meeting and Council Meeting will be this week on Tuesday the 17th. The times will be 3 PM and 4 PM.

Midweek Lent

Midweek Lenten Services begin on Wednesday, February 18th. The theme for these services is “A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth” It will focus on hymn 331 which has this title, written by the famous Lutheran hymn write, Paul Gerhardt. On Ash Wednesday, individual absolution will be given at the Communion rail.

Lenten Suppers

The schedule for Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18th. Like in Advent, the service times will be at 5:30 PM, followed by a Supper. Counting Ash Wednesday, there will be 6 midweek church services. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Sign-Up Sheet for the Lenten Suppers is on the table in the fellowship hall. There are three suppers left.

Paul Gerhardt

Paul Gerhardt lived from 1607-1676. He lived during a great time of Lutheran Orthodoxy and with this came its many worldly struggles. Gerhardt wrote the hymn, “A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth,” in the context of his life of suffering during the devastation of the Thirty Years’ War and later church conflicts, which deeply shaped his emphasis on Christ’s willing sacrifice and the believer’s trust in God in affliction. In a paper on the hymnwriter, President Schmeling writes,

“Paul Gerhardt was the greatest German hymnist of the seventeenth century. Along with Luther he is regarded as one of the greatest hymn writers in all of Lutheranism. More of his lyrics have made their way into the English language than those of any other German writer and their popularity continues to increase. His 139 hymns and poems are indispensable part of the Christian heritage. In his hymns and other writings, the Gospel always predominates as he applies that Gospel truth to the burdens and struggles of the Christian’s life. He faced the Christian cross, and his hymns offer comfort as we face the Christian cross. His enemies considered him to be as thickheaded as a mule and as stubborn as one, but his friends knew that his strong convictions were based on the salvific Word of the Lord. This divine, sifted in Satan’s sieve, is indeed the sweet singer of Lutheranism” (Schmeling, Gaylin R. “*Paul Gerhardt: Pastor and Theologian*”).

Reading for the Week

This Week: Genesis 43-49

Psalms 31-35

Proverbs 19-21

Next Week: Genesis 50, Exodus 1-6

Psalms 36-40

Proverbs 22-24