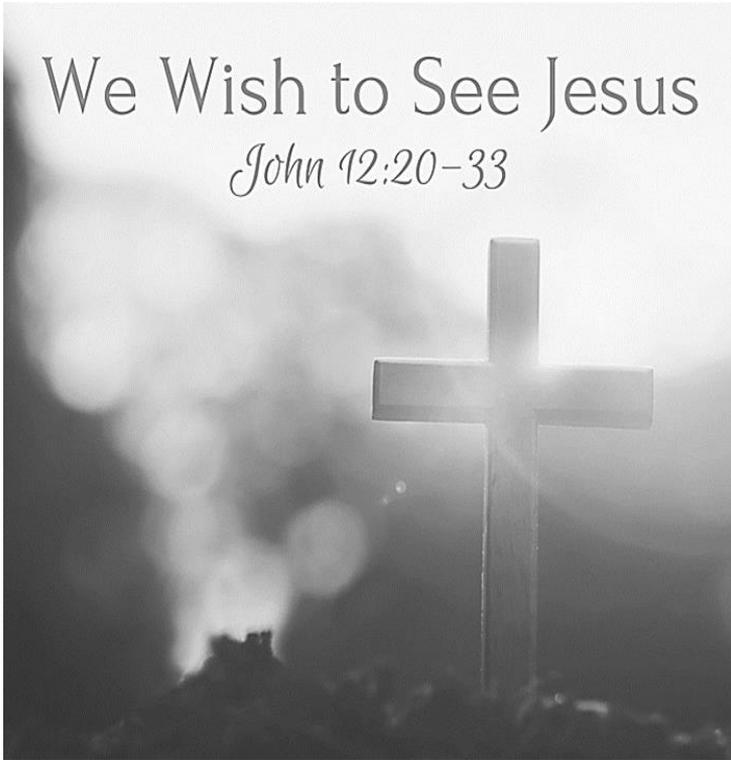


RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



153 South McKenna Avenue
Gretna, Nebraska 68028
402-332-3383
www.RELChurch.net

March 20, 2021
5:30 p.m. Saturday Worship



COMMUNION WORSHIP SERVICE
March 20, 2021

GATHERING

INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who shines in glory,
clothes us in compassion,
and bears gifts of mercy for all.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, wonderful counselor,
**we confess that we have turned from your gifts
and chosen our own way.**

**We have not made room for you
in our hearts or in our world.**

**We have lived in fear;
we have not welcomed the stranger;
we desire gifts that will not endure.**

**Forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
and open us to receive the peace of Jesus
dwelling in and among us.**

Amen.

God's lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior.
We are saved, not by anything we have done,
but by God's mercy poured out on us richly.

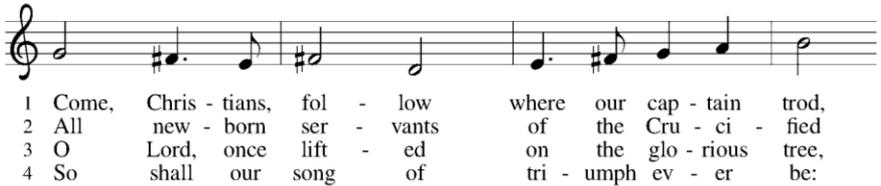
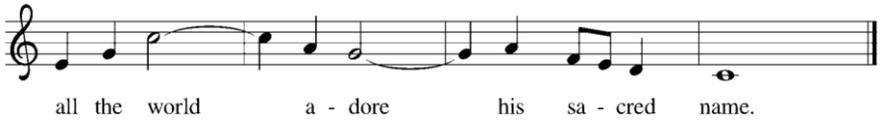
In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

Through the Spirit living in you,
God give you faith to trust Jesus,
who is Love born for you, now and always.

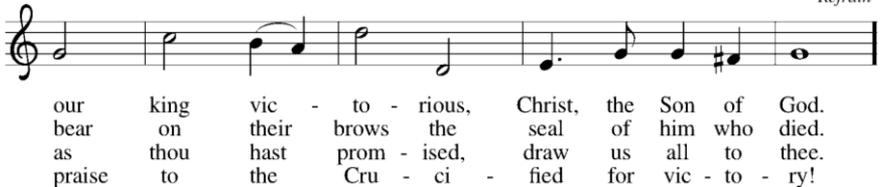
Amen.

WORSHIP SONG

Lift High the Cross, vs. 1-4



Refrain



GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in 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

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a

covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 5:5-10

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; ⁶as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." ⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

GOSPEL

John 12:20-33

The holy gospel according to St. John, beginning in the 12th chapter.
Glorify to you, O Lord.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. ²⁷Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say — 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father,

glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

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 power of 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 again 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

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

You wash us through and through and remember our sin no more.
Make your church a community of forgiveness throughout the world.

Give your people courage to forgive; through them show the world new possibilities. Bless ministries of repentance and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You fill the earth from tiny grains of wheat to the mighty thunder with your presence, and you call us to attend to your will for all creation. Grant weather that prepares the soil for seeds; protect all from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You promise to write your law on our hearts. Guide citizens throughout the world to shape communities that reflect your mercy, justice, and peace, and give them creativity to work for the welfare of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Restore the joy of all who need to know your presence: those who are lonely or feel unforgivable, those who need healing of mind or body, those who are dying, and all who grieve. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Jesus calls us to follow him in life and death. Empower this congregation in discipleship. Equip children and teachers in Sunday school, confirmation, and learning ministries. Give us your truth and wisdom and teach us to follow Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the cross of Christ, your name is glorified. We praise you for those who have given us words to worship you. With all those who have died in Christ, bring us into life everlasting. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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.**

SENDING

WORSHIP SONG

Mighty To Save

Everyone needs compassion
A love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me
Everyone needs forgiveness
The kindness of a Savior
The hope of nations

Savior, he can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever author of Salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

So take me as you find me
All my fears and failures
fill my life again
I give my life to follow
Everything I believe in
Now I surrender

Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing for the glory of the risen King, Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing for the glory of the risen King

FINAL BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Dear friends in Christ go and
Share God's word,
Show God's love,
Serve God,
Amen.

RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 20 & 21, 2021 Gretna, NE 68028

Church Office: 402-332-3383 Fax: 402-332-4784

E-mail: theooffice@relchurch.net Website: www.relchurch.net

Pr. James Sells: 402-759-6347

*We welcome you to Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church!
We hope our time together will be a blessing to you!*

Visitor & Prayers Cards—Welcome to our worship. You are in the right place! Visitor and Prayer cards are available if you'd like to fill one out. Please ask an usher to get you one and return it back to them when you are finished. Thank you for worshipping with us today!

Altar Flowers & Bulletins are given from Brenda Fleck in loving memory of her parents, Barton and Jeanne Fleck.

CURRENT HAPPENINGS

Celebration of Baptism Congratulations to Stephanie Kersten and



Keaton Shears on the baptism of their son, Kash James Shears. Kash will be baptized at our 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday. The Sponsors for Kash are Delaney Shears, Courtney Bockman and Jerry Bockman. We welcome Kash James into our church family as a baptized Child of God!

Easter Lily Order The last day to sign up is this Monday, March 22nd.



Lilies are available for the price of \$6.00. Please sign up this year on our new sign-up genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a44acad29a5f58-easter1> or give the office a call and we will get you signed up. Simply write your check payable to Resurrection Church, mark it “Easter Lily”

in the memo line, and drop your check in the mail or drop it by the office. Lilies can be taken home after the last service on Easter.

First Communion-6th Grade Students Due to the pandemic, 2019-2020



5th grades students were not able to celebrate their 1st communion in 2020. We will celebrate their **First Communion next week on Palm Sunday at our 10:00 a.m. worship service.** We look forward to sharing this special day with you.

First Communion Instruction-5th Grade Students All 2020-2021 5th



grades students First Communion classes will take place on **March 17th, 24th, and 31st at 6:00 p.m. at RELC.** These classes are required in order to celebrate their **First Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 1st, at our 7:00 p.m. worship service.** This is a very special day for all of you.

Sunday School Join us for in-person Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. in the Sunday School area. Bring your children to learn about Jesus and all his wonders as we delve into another great semester together. Please wear your masks. See you then.



Current Needs: If anyone is interested in supplying some snacks for the Sunday School children, please drop them off in the church office and label them Sunday School. Thank you!

Lenten Holden Evening Prayer Services Join us every Wednesday during Lent for our **In-Person Holden Evening Prayer service** or on **Zoom at 7:00 p.m.** We will continue this service every Wednesday until March 24th.



Please join us at home by using the following Zoom link at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85905050384?pwd=SW9sQTNIJTJAvSmQ4WnINMERBNEw4dz09>

Meeting ID: 859 0505 0384

Passcode: 1517

Lenten offering donations can be sent to:

Gretna Neighbors, PO Box 191, Gretna NE, 68028 or you can email them to make other arrangements at: GretnaNeighbors@gmail.com

Lift Up Sarpy County, 119 West Mission Ave., Bellevue, NE 68005 or you can donate online at: liftupsarpycounty.org/donate

Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry, 6757 Newport Ave., #300, Omaha, NE 68152 (*NeLCM in memo line*) or you can donate online at: NELCM.com

Tabitha, 4720 Randolph Street, Lincoln, NE 68510 or you can donate online at: Tabitha.org/give/

Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, 27416 Ranch Road, Ashland, NE 68003 or you can donate online at: NLOM.org/give

Project Hope, Inc., 6201 North 60th St., Omaha, NE 68104 or you can donate online at: ProjectHopeOmaha.org

Holy Week and Easter Worship Services



† **Palm Sunday Worship-March 28th at 10:00 a.m.**

Come and see the Jerusalem Gate and walk on palms just like Jesus did as he entered Jerusalem knowing He would be tried and crucified. Join us as we raise our palms as a symbol of praise to God for sending His Son to earth, the sacrifice Jesus made for our sins.

† **Maundy Thursday Worship-7:00 p.m.**

Join us in the Fellowship Hall as we remember and celebrate Jesus' final Passover with His disciples. They washed His feet and He commanded them to do the same for each other. This was his "Last Supper" before he was crucified. We will also celebrate our 5th grade -1st Communion Class as they celebrate this Holy day by receiving their first communion.

† Good Friday Worship-7:00 p.m.

Join us for “Prayer around the Cross” on this day commemorating a day of suffering and death for Jesus. It is important to remember that Jesus died as an ultimate sacrifice for our sins, so that we could be saved. The cross is where we see the convergence of great suffering and God’s forgiveness to us all. We will be lighting a candle and placing in the sand by the altar as we pray.

† Easter Sunday Worship Services-6:45 a.m., 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Easter Sunrise Service-6:45 a.m.

This service will be at Chalco Hills Lake. Watch your email for more information and a map directing you to the worship location. We will enter into the park on Giles Rd. If it rains, this service will be in the Sanctuary.

Easter Worship Service-8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

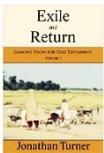
Join us this Easter as we celebrate Jesus’ resurrection from death. After His crucifixion, death, and burial, three days later, He arose from the grave. In doing so, He conquered death and redeemed us from sin if we believe in Him.

On Easter Sunday, please bring a 6x6 square of paper (we will also



have paper here) with a sin written on it that you would like to have forgiven and we will add it to our nail on the cross outside the church. After our Easter service our sins will be burned, and a rose will be left in its place.

Adult Forum: Exile and Return-“The Wilderness Journey Home”



Join us for our Adult Forum as we relate the struggle of God’s people in the 6th century BC, their Exile in Babylon and journey home to Jerusalem, to our struggle in the 21st century AD, as we start the journey home from our viral exile.

This study will be on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. and will continue into the Summer, so come along and join the adventure!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87953507438?pwd=WnU2dFVvcjNpbytoeStZRGZmSGdCZz09>

Meeting ID: 879 5350 7438

Passcode: 918225

Books are available for our study in the café and through a Thrivent Action Plan grant. All sessions will be uploaded to our YouTube channel if the time of the session doesn’t work in your schedule or a weekend is missed! Stop by to pick yours up today.

Project Hope EASTER Collection The Local and World Service Team



is inviting you to help Project Hope with some of their **critical** needs during this Lenten season. Due to Covid, we are offering two ways to help this year. One is to just go to their webpage and make a donation at Projecthopeomaha.org as they can always use the funds, especially during this time. Or, if you would rather pick up some items they need, they have specifically

requested the following items: small bottles of Laundry Detergent or dish soap, Clorox Wipes, small bottles of bleach, any type of antibacterial surface cleaners, such as Clorox, Pine Sol, Comet, etc. or cleaning tool items such as sponges, dusters or toilet bowl brushes.

Collections have begun and they will continue through **Palm Sunday, March 28th**. We will have a table set up between the Nursery Room doors for those items. We will make sure the items are delivered before Easter. Thank you so much for helping those in need this Easter season!

2021 Lenten Devotional “Awesome Mystery” A daily devotional brought to you by the alumni of Luther Seminary. Luther Seminary invites you to use the 2021 Lenten devotional, “Awesome Mystery” for your personal use throughout the Lenten season.



Stop by the red skirted table by the RELC Café to pick up a copy of our 2021 Lenten Devotional book or go to

<https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/lenten-devotional/> to download at home.

Everyday Pr. James will present the devotions live at 12:10 p.m. on Youtube. Go on an “Awesome Mystery” journey with Pr. James as we hear the powerful messages from Bible excerpts and pray together through this Lenten season.

40 Days of Giving 2021: Lenten Calendar Pick up this year’s Lenten devotional calendar that is filled with ideas for reflection and how to participate in ELCA World Hunger’s 40 Days of Giving. Begin your week with the word of God, preparing your heart and mind to learn more about what it means to hope during the season of Lent.



Read and reflect on each week’s selected Bible verses on your own, with your family or with a small group, to listen to the word of God this Lent.

LSWT Meal Support and Caring Casseroles The Local & World Service Team will now organize the church’s meal coordination and delivery for church families with new babies, deaths in the family, illnesses and other situations where a meal would be welcome. If you are interested in joining the meal support sub-team, please contact Lexie Frahm at lexie.frahm@gmail.com or 402-416-9113. The LSWT also invites members to utilize the Caring Casseroles stocked in the church’s freezer. The casseroles are for members in need or for members to give to those in need outside our church family.



ONGOING HAPPENINGS

New Covid-19 Protocols The RELC Church Council adopted revised Covid-19 Protocols during their March 16, 2021 council meeting. The Covid-19 Protocol update will also be posted on our website and our north and south bulletin boards for you to view. Should you have any questions about the revised protocols, please feel free to contact any council member.

Phase II Worship Our worship services are available in-person and online. Overflow seating is available in the courtyard if attendance surpasses our worship spaces. Sign up is no longer necessary to attend. If attendance begins to grow, we will add another Sunday service.

Please stay connected through the church's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/RELCgretna> and through our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjXnhZfhxipkc5ZTA6SrHUw>. Don't miss hearing God's word as Pr. James Sells shares the Gospel with us each week.

***Communion services** will be offered on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. If you will not be attending in person and would like to commune during our online worship service, please stop by the church to pick up your individually pre-packaged communion set.

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjXnhZfhxipkc5ZTA6SrHUw>

Facebook: [facebook.com/RELCgretna](https://www.facebook.com/RELCgretna)

LinkTree: linktr.ee/reलगretna (takes you to all online links during this time)

Youth Underground-Looking for Faith Leaders We need you!!! Would



you like to help in the faith formation of our High School Youth? We are currently looking for committed people of faith to shepherd the Youth Underground during their weekly meetings and activities. We would love to have you share in the ministry of our youth in a fun, creative and meaningful way. If this sounds interesting to you, please contact Pr. James at 402-759-6347.

SIGN-UP NOW!! Flowers and Bulletins 2021 This year our 2021 flower



Altar Flowers

and bulletin sign-up sheet is online. If you would like to call into the office, we'd be happy to get you signed up as well. We'd love to see fresh flowers on the altar for our worship services.

If you'd like to sign-up go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a44acad29a5f58-altar>. The suggested donation for bulletin sponsorship is \$20. You can drop a check in the mail or at the office, Mon—Fri, 8am-3pm. If you are interested in signing up for flowers, as always Town & Country Floral gives all Gretna churches altar flowers at cost. They will also deliver and set them up for you. You don't even have to leave the comfort of your own home. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

NOTE: If you have taken the brass flower liners home with your flowers, please return them at your earliest convenience. We only have a few sets, and they are needed each week to add the flower bouquets to the altar. Thank you!

Personal Information Changes? Do you have a name, address, phone number or email change? If so, please contact the office by phone at 402-332-3383 or email us at theoffice@relchurch.net. If you would like us to have an emergency contact number, please include that as well.

RELC Quilting Group The RELC Quilting Group will meet at 1:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Please consider dropping off any old blankets and sheets of any size, batting and 100% cotton material (scraps are fine too, if they are large enough for quilt squares). Thank you!

Food Pantry Donations Please drop off all food items in the pantry area in our south hallway by the yellow carts. Only food donations are being taken at this time. Please ***do not drop off clothing or household items to the church.*** Please find alternate drop off locations until further notice.

- ***Gretna Neighbors*** - During this time, the Gretna Neighbors Food Pantry will be open during our regular hours, which are the **1st and 3rd Saturday** of each month from **9:00-11:00 a.m.** and the **2nd Wednesday** of the month from **6:00-7:00 p.m.** We are only handing out pre-bagged groceries with pre-designated amounts of non-perishable items and frozen food items.

If you or someone you know is in need in the Gretna school district, you are invited to stop by during these hours. We don't discriminate. You will only need to show proof of residency in the school district.

- ***Project Hope Food*** Pantry – Only food donations are being taken at this time. Donations are taken monthly to Project Hope.

Hospital Visits Hospitals usually don't contact us when you go into the hospital due to the privacy act. If you or a family member is going into the hospital, be sure and let the office know so that we can be there for you with prayerful support.

TAGG To date, our church TAGGers have raised more than \$1700 for church projects sponsored by the Local & World Service Team. Download the app to your smartphone and choose RELC as the supported organization. You can also drop your receipts at the office. When you purchase from a TAGG business, it will donate up to 5% of your total purchase to RELC.



The Following Opportunities Are Available Now

Volunteer Needs:

- Youth Underground Leaders
Contact: PastorJames@relchurch.net
- Lay Reader Coordinator & Lay Readers
Contact: theoffice@relchurch.net
- Sunday School Teachers/Substitute Teachers
Contact: theoffice@relchurch.net

**If you have questions about any of these opportunities or would like more details, please contact the church office at 402-332-3383.

PRAYERS

Be still, and know that I am God...

Our shut-in members and those in the assisted living and nursing

homes: Donna Fleck, Darlene Foged, Margie Biel, Patti Huff, Marlene Kuehl, Sharon Barkley, Keith Barkley, Carol Schlueter, Marge Warren, Jim Schram, Delores Kreifels, Jackie Mowinkel, Joan Bohling, Thelma Mowinkel, Carol Ehlers

Healing and courage: Nicole Slusher's mother-Charlene Hesser, Gene Mackey Family, Miles McMahill, Kim Mefford's friend's husband, Steve Norman, Gwen Reier, Jim Raess, Jeanne Ralston's friend-Amy LaFontaine, Alvin & JoAnn Glasshoff's daughter-Dawn Allbery, Marie Lemke, Kelli Barnhart, Jeanne Ralston's friends-Larry & Judy Peterson, Joyce McMahill's cousin-Mary Weber, Jean Schnack, Miles & Joyce McMahill's friend-Rosie, Linda Karas, Kris & Becky Wagner Family, Denise McKay, Sharon Barkley's grandson-Jeremy Eidson, Wendy Killingsworth, Linda & Kevin Karas's friend-Monica March, Roger Asche, Jerry Walker, Lois Nore, Denise McKay's sister-Kathy Ewert

Sympathy: Our most heartfelt sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Ernie Olsan. You are in our prayers. Blessings to you all.

Birthdays: Lynn Bose, Gavan Huffman, Stephanie Behney, Pat Prince, Chase Meyer, Judy Feit, Zane Schuka, Eunice Legacie, Mardelle Bergsten, Donna Fleck, Patti Layher, Miles Oetjen

Anniversaries: Nicholas & Nicole Charvat, Jim & Jamie Scott

Concord Sister Congregation: Please pray for our sister congregation, Concordia Lutheran Church in Concord, NE.

Service Men and Women: For all those serving our country and for the families of soldiers who were killed or injured, that they be healed in body and spirit.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

*Hand sanitizers are available throughout the church for your use.

*If you are having trouble hearing the service, please ask an usher for a Sound Mate hearing device.

*For large print bulletins, please contact the office.

*Wheelchairs are available for your use in the church. Contact an usher or a council person for assistance.

*First Aid kits are located in the kitchen, church office

There is an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) located on the wall by the south bathrooms



RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL
L U T H E R A N C H U R C H

Pastor: James Sells

Church Council Members:

Bill Schwarten, Larry Rippe, Linda Biel-Karas, Becky Wagner, Lexie Frahm, Dave Schram, Rich Killingsworth, Darren Elliott, Evan Kock

Administrative Office Manager: Jeanne Ralston

Administrative Office Assistant: Sheri Feala

Financial Office Manager: Desiree Stednitz

Nursery Coordinator: Dhani Milliman

Music Director: Dr. Matt Hill

Sunday School Superintendent: Lynn Donahue

Custodial Needs: Property Team, Jeremy Reineke

Flowers & Bulletins:

January, February, March-Joyce McMahill

Lay Readers for March

5:30 pm (Sat.)-Linette Jahn

10:00 am-Erick Hill

ATTENDANCE

Saturday Worship (5:30pm): 23

Sunday Worship (10:00am): 23

Lenten Worship (7:00pm): 33