



# The Gloria Dei Grapevine



The *Gloria Dei Grapevine* is the monthly newsletter of Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church. For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact us.

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## *Please Join Us*

- ◆ **Sunday Morning Worship** at 9:00am
- ◆ **Communion** on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month
- ◆ **Adult, Teen, & Children's Sunday School** at 10:00am, September thru May
- ◆ **Adult Bible Study** - every Thursday at 9:00am
- ◆ **Youth Group** (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) First Saturday of the month, 6-9pm. Contact Laura or Allen Mortimer for more information.
- ◆ **Lutheran Pioneers** (K-8<sup>th</sup> grade) Meets twice monthly September

Scan in your banking app to make your offering for

Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church at  
financialsec@gloriadeigb.com



## *From the Pastor...*

Abraham was God's special man. The Lord had called him from among the people who were into idolatry and had blessed him with many earthly possessions. He also blessed Abraham spiritually, telling Abraham that the Savior from sin would come from his family. But the Lord had a test for Abraham. And it was big.

Abraham eagerly answered the Lord when he called out to him. But when the Lord starts to speak, you have to think that perhaps Abraham began to think that he should have ignored the Lord's call. He asks Abraham to do something unthinkable – to sacrifice his own son. This seemed so wrong because the Lord had promised that Abraham's offspring was going to be as numerous as the sand on the seashore. How could that happen if Isaac were dead?

More than that, the Lord's own words heightened the significance of this test. He reminds Abraham that Isaac was his only son. And then he talked about how Abraham loved his son. Imagine if you were in Abraham's sandals and you hear the words "only son whom you love"

and those words strike hammer blows on your heart. For that reason alone we couldn't really blame Abraham if he refused to do what the Lord wanted him to do.

But Abraham wastes no time. It's likely that the Lord spoke to him at night, and even though he probably lost a lot of sleep (if he slept at all), he got up early the next morning, chopped the wood for the sacrifice, loaded up the donkey and was off with Isaac and some servants. Again, this is amazing. This is where we see Abraham's faith, the same faith that we hear about in the New Testament book of Hebrews. There the inspired writer says that Abraham knew that no matter what happened, Isaac had to live. This was obvious because of God's promises. So Abraham figured that if he had to, the Lord would raise Isaac from the dead. We see that in Abraham's own words to his servants when he says to them, "We will come back to you."

For a moment, let's think about the tests of faith that we face. How have you handled them?

# Serving in March

## March 2

Ushers: Mitchell Bessolo, Joe King, Kent Kerwin

Communion Set Up: Sharich

Communion Assistant: Jim Luisier

Power Point Assistant: Calvin Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Callahan & Furnner

Cleaners: Moore

## March 5

Ushers: Mark Moore, Harold Fox

Power Point Assistant: Owen Straub

Livestream Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Counters: Straub & Luisier

## March 9

Ushers: Tom Furnner, Marshall Bessolo, Eric Bessolo

Power Point Assistant: Mitchell Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Allen Mortimer

Counters: Mortimer & Major

Cleaners: Bessolo

## March 12

Ushers: Scott Mortimer, Allen Mortimer

Power Point Assistant: Noah Straub

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Neuwirth & Moore

## March 16

Ushers: Rocky Bessolo, Eric Metz, Paul Allar

Communion Set Up: Sharich

Communion Assistant: Gary Richmond

Power Point Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Livestream Assistant: Allen Mortimer

Counters: Mortimer & Metz

Cleaners: Mortimer



## March 19

Ushers: Jim Sharich, Jim Luisier

Power Point Assistant: Marshall Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Counters: Callahan & Furnner

## March 23

Ushers: Mitchell Bessolo, Joe King, Kent Kerwin

Power Point Assistant: Calvin Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Paul Allar

Counters: Straub & Luisier

Cleaners: Reinke

## March 26

Ushers: Mark Moore, Harold Fox

Power Point Assistant: Owen Straub

Livestream Assistant: Luke Mortimer

Counters: Mortimer & Metz

## March 30

Ushers: Tom Furnner, Marshall Bessolo, Eric Bessolo

Power Point Assistant: Mitchell Bessolo

Livestream Assistant: Allen Mortimer

Counters: Neuwirth & Moore

Cleaners: Gresock



Are we like Abraham who woke up early on the next day, packed up everything, and did what the Lord asked of him? Not really, right? Often, we resist the tests. We complain that the Lord is allowing us to endure some health problems. We face some financial difficulties so we deal with another person dishonestly or fudge numbers to dodge it. We don't want to deal with the burden of following God's rules because 1) we want to have friends and 2) we feel that we can do much more with our lives. If we are honest with ourselves, we have failed tests of faith repeatedly.

Abraham almost did it. He bound Isaac. He had the knife in his hand. But just as quickly as the test began, it was over. The Angel of the Lord called out to Abraham. Remember that in the Old Testament, this Angel of the Lord wasn't just any angel. If you listened to the Angel's words carefully, you'd realize that this is God himself speaking. From this portion of God's Word and the other appearances of the Angel of the Lord we can see that he is the pre-incarnate Christ, that is, Jesus himself before he was born of the virgin Mary.

The Lord did provide. There was a ram caught up in a thicket. Abraham did not have to sacrifice his son. The Ram took Isaac's place. What we see here is quite something, isn't it. You have Jesus himself appearing to Abraham and a perfect picture of what Jesus was going to do. All people deserve eternal death because of their sins. But Jesus steps into our place, so that we will not die eternally. During the season of Lent we see in bright relief the substitutionary work that Jesus did for us. We don't die for our sin. On Mt. Calvary he died for our sin. And in his death we see our sins forgiven and our ticket punched to life in heaven.

Many people treat the season of Lent in a way that sort of away from that center of the season. Many believe that Lent is only about us giving something up – be it chocolate or television or whatever – as we go through the 40 days. Now don't misunderstand – there's nothing wrong with giving something up for Lent, as long as it's done for the right reason. This is where this story helps us. Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son because he knew "the LORD will provide." And his trust in the Lord was not misplaced. The Lord gave a ram in place of Isaac.

Lent is a time for us to keep that same confession on our lips – the LORD will provide. And we use these 40 days to see in very bold colors just how the Lord provided his Son as a substitute to cover all our sins and failures when it comes to the tests of faith we endure so that one day he will provide us with eternal life with him.

**<sup>13</sup>Abraham looked around and saw that behind him there was a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>Abraham called the name of that place "The Lord Will Provide." So it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided." (Genesis 22:13-14)**

Saturday, April 5, 9:00am.

Inside and out clean up!



## Men's Breakfast and Bible Study

The March Men's Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, March 15, at 8:00am. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.



## Birthdays in March

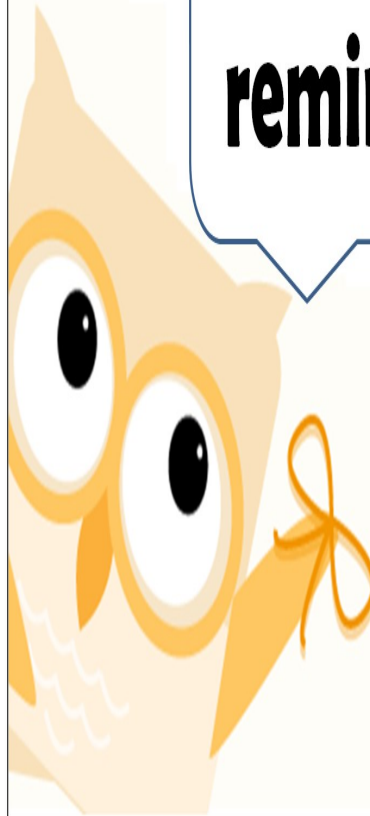
3/01	Leah Kwon
3/03	Val Hoppe
3/03	Deb Mortimer
3/04	Ralph Dudley
3/05	Laura Leplow
3/05	Joan Willmann
3/07	Elizabeth Peterson
3/11	Jean Eldred
3/13	Brittany Lawrence
3/16	Tricia Guffey
3/19	Tammy Dudley
3/21	Barb Lambert
3/21	Ciara Cheney
3/22	Karren Richmond
3/24	Karen Edwards
3/25	Mark Leplow
3/26	Kane Kerwin
3/26	Frank Portelli
3/30	Helen Harrington
3/30	Madelyn Callahan
3/31	Matthew Bessolo



## Anniversaries in March

3/25 Ray & Karen Palmer

Just a  
reminder...



*We will be starting our weekly Lenten Meals and Services on Ash Wednesday, which this year is March 5. We are looking for 3-4 families each Wednesday to provide a light supper at 6:00pm. Lenten Services will follow at 7:00pm.*



# *Bible Study for March*

<b>DATE</b>	<b>OLD TESTEMENT</b>	<b>PSALMS</b>	<b>PROVERBS</b>	<b>NEW TESTEMENT</b>
1-Mar	Lev. 25	54	1	Luke 22
2-Mar	Lev. 26	55	2	Luke 23
3-Mar	Lev. 27	56	3	Luke 24
4-Mar	Num. 1,2	57	4	John 1
5-Mar	Num. 3	58	5	John 2
6-Mar	Num. 4	59	6	John 3
7-Mar	Num. 5,6	60	7	John 4
8-Mar	Num. 7	61	8	John 5
9-Mar	Num. 8,9	62	9	John 6
10-Mar	Num. 10,11	63	10	John 7
11-Mar	Num. 12,13	64	11	John 8
12-Mar	Num. 14	65	12	John 9
13-Mar	Num. 15,16	66	13	John 10
14-Mar	Num. 17,18	67	14	John 11
15-Mar	Num. 19,20	68: 1-18	15	John 12
16-Mar	Num. 21,22	68: 19-35	16	John 13
17-Mar	Num. 23,24	69: 1-15	17	John 14,15
18-Mar	Num. 25-26	69: 16-36	18	John 16,17
19-Mar	Num. 27,28	70	19	John 18
20-Mar	Num. 29,30	71: 1-16	20	John 19
21-Mar	Num. 31,32	71: 17-24	21	John 20,21
22-Mar	Num. 33,34	72	22	Acts 1
23-Mar	Num. 35,36	73: 1-14	23	Acts 2
24-Mar	Deut. 1	73: 15-28	24	Acts 3
25-Mar	Deut. 2,3	74: 1-11	25	Acts 4
26-Mar	Deut. 4	74: 12-23	26	Acts 5
27-Mar	Deut. 5,6	75	27	Acts 6
28-Mar	Deut. 7,8	76	28	Acts 7
29-Mar	Deut. 9,10	77	29	Acts 8
30-Mar	Deut. 11,12	78: 1-20	30	Acts 9
31-Mar	Deut. 13,14	78: 21-33	31	Acts 10



# Serving in April

## April 2

**Ushers:** Scott Mortimer, Allen Mortimer  
**Power Point Assistant:** Noah Straub  
**Livestream Assistant:** Paul Allar  
**Counters:** Mortimer & Major

## April 6

**Ushers:** Rocky Bessolo, Eric Metz, Paul Allar  
**Communion Set Up:** Richmond  
**Communion Assistant:** Mark Moore  
**Power Point Assistant:** Luke Mortimer  
**Livestream Assistant:** Allen Mortimer  
**Counters:** Callahan & Furnner  
**Cleaners:** Major

## April 9

**Ushers:** Jim Sharich, Jim Luisier  
**Power Point Assistant:** Marshall Bessolo  
**Livestream Assistant:** Luke Mortimer  
**Counters:** Straub & Luisier

## April 13

**Ushers:** Mitchell Bessolo, Joe King, Kent Kerwin  
**Power Point Assistant:** Calvin Bessolo  
**Livestream Assistant:** Paul Allar  
**Counters:** Mortimer & Metz  
**Cleaners:** Allar

## April 17

**Ushers:** Mark Moore, Harold Fox, Tom Furnner  
**Communion Set Up:** Richmond  
**Communion Assistant:** Rod Davies  
**Power Point Assistant:** Owen Straub  
**Livestream Assistant:** Luke Mortimer  
**Counters:** Neuwirth & Moore

## April 18

**Ushers:** Marshall Bessolo, Eric Bessolo, Scott Mortimer  
**Power Point Assistant:** Mitchell Bessolo  
**Livestream Assistant:** Allen Mortimer  
**Counters:** Mortimer & Major

## April 20


**Ushers:** Allen Mortimer Rocky Bessolo, Eric Metz  
**Communion Set Up:** Richmond  
**Communion Assistant:** Wayne Pennell  
**Power Point Assistant:** Noah Straub  
**Livestream Assistant:** Paul Allar  
**Counters:** Callahan & Furnner  
**Cleaners:** Moore

## April 27

**Ushers:** Paul Allar, Jim Sharich, Jim Luisier  
**Power Point Assistant:** Luke Mortimer  
**Livestream Assistant:** Allen Mortimer  
**Counters:** Straub & Luisier  
**Cleaners:** Bessolo



# MARCH 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>23</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship</p> <p>10:30 am - Adult, Teen, &amp; Children's Bible Class</p> <p><i>Epiphany 7</i></p>	<p>24</p> <p>Cleaners for March 2: Moore</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p>	25	26	<p>27</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p>	28	<p>1</p> <p>6:30pm—Youth Group</p>
<p>2</p> <p><b>*Donation Sunday*</b></p> <p>9:00 am - Worship with Communion</p> <p>10:30 am - Adult, Teen, &amp; Children's Bible Class</p> <p><i>Transfiguration Sunday</i></p>	<p>3</p> <p>Cleaners for March 9: Bessolo</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p>	4	<p>5</p> <p>6:00pm—Meal</p> <p>7:00pm—Ash Wednesday Service</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p>	7	<p>8</p> 
<p>9</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship</p> <p>10:30 am - Adult, Teen, &amp; Children's Bible Class</p> <p><i>Lent 1</i></p>	<p>10</p> <p>Cleaners March 16: Mortimer</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p>	11	<p>12</p> <p>6:00pm—Lenten Meal</p> <p>7:00pm—Lenten Service</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p>	14	<p>15</p> <p>8:00am—Men's Breakfast</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship with Communion</p> <p>10:30 am - Adult, Teen, &amp; Children's Bible Class</p> <p><i>Lent 2</i></p>	<p>17</p> <p>Cleaners for March 23: Reinke</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p>	18	<p>19</p> <p>6:00pm—Lenten Meal</p> <p>7:00pm—Lenten Service</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p>	21	22
<p>23</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship</p> <p>10:30 am - Adult, Teen, &amp; Children's Bible Class</p> <p><i>Lent 3</i></p>	<p>24</p> <p>Cleaners for March 30: Gresock</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p>	25	<p>26</p> <p>6:00pm—Lenten Meal</p> <p>7:00pm—Lenten Service</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p>	28	29
<p>30</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship</p> <p>10:30 am - Adult, Teen, &amp; Children's Bible Class</p> <p><i>Lent 4</i></p>	<p>31</p> <p>Cleaners for April 6: Major</p> <p>6:30pm—Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:00pm—Choir Practice</p>	1	<p>2</p> <p>6:00pm—Lenten Meal</p> <p>7:00pm—Lenten Service</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 am - Adult Bible Class</p>	4	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 am - Church Clean Up Day</p> <p>6:30pm—Youth Group</p>