

Sexagesima

February 23, 2025



As for the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

(Luke 8:15 ESV)

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

615 Parker Road

Wylie, TX 75098

972-461-2777

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Welcome to the Divine Service where the risen Christ comes into our midst to bring us the peace of His cross and empty tomb. We pray that the Lord would grant us His Holy Spirit that His Word would bear the fruits of faith in Christ and works of love toward our neighbor.

The Lord's Supper is a confession that we are united in holding to all the doctrines of God's Word. Those who do not know and hold to the doctrinal commitment of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are requested to attend the Adult Instruction Class for membership before communing at Faith Lutheran Church.

Scripture Alone

The Sower sows the seed of His Word (Luke 8:4–15). This Word is living and powerful (Heb. 4:9–13) to conceive new life in those who hear it. But the planting of Christ is attacked by the devil, the world, and the flesh. Satan snatches the Word away from hard hearts. The riches and pleasures of this life choke off faith. Shallow and emotional belief withers in time of temptation and trouble. But see how Christ bears this attack for us! Christ's cross was planted in the hard and rocky soil of Golgotha. A crown of thorns was placed upon His head. Satan and His demons hellishly hounded and devoured Him. Yet, through His dying and rising again, He destroyed these enemies of ours. Jesus is Himself the Seed which fell to the ground and died in order that it might sprout forth to new life and produce much grain. In Him, the weak are strong (2 Cor. 11:19–12:9). He is the Word of the Father which does not return void (Is. 55:10–13) but yields a harvest hundredfold.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please remember to silence your cell phones during the Divine Service.)

Women of Faith, mark your calendars to join us on March 7 and 8 for our Women's Retreat at Springhill Retreat Center in Richardson. We will be considering the topic of "Prayer in our Vocations". Registration sheets are available in the narthex or may be found online at <https://www.faithlutheranwylie.org/womens-retreat-2025/>. If registration costs are an issue, please contact Pastor Ulmer.

Each year, the choir from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis schedules tours throughout the country. As part of its current tour, the group will be singing at Zion Lutheran Church, Dallas, on March 16, 7:00 p.m. *Laudamus* is a select choir of seminarians who are preparing for full-time pastoral ministry. You are invited to hear as they proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through music with this year's theme, "My Song is Love Unknown". Please plan to attend and invite your friends and family.

Zelle has recently added features that now allow us to view what is on the MEMO line of the transaction. This will allow us to expand and include Restricted Fund giving via Zelle. A full list of all current restricted fund accounts is posted on the bulletin board next to the water coolers. Going forward, please specify the account name in the memo line on all Zelle contributions. This will ensure that your offerings are placed in the proper fund. Failure to do so will result in the donation defaulting to the General Fund.

Expert guests, expansive topics, extolling Christ... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: Critical Theory; The Foundation, Focus & Shape of the Christian Life; Communion with Christ; The Gift of Marriage and more. You can listen at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](https://www.issuesetc.org), Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

OUR LIFE AS CHRISTIAN STEWARDS

Luke 8:11 – "The seed is the word of God." The plant begins as a seed — and everything in the church begins with the Word. "In the beginning ... the Word was with God" (John 1:1). "He saved us ... by the washing of

regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit” (Titus 3:5). “The word of our God will stand forever” (Is. 40:8). We never outgrow our need to hear the Word of God. We will never achieve such greatness that we don’t need the blessings of God’s Word. Rather, the Christian life is one of always striving to conform our lives to God’s Word — to live out the truth of our Baptisms, that we are God’s children by the power of His Word.

UPCOMING WEEK’S EVENTS

SUNDAY	<i>Sexagesima</i>
<i>02/23/25</i>	9:30 AM – Divine Service 11:15 AM – Sunday School / Bible Class
TUESDAY	9:00 AM – Women’s Bible Study 3:00 PM – Adult Catechesis
WEDNESDAY	6:15 PM – Youth Catechesis
THURSDAY	10:30 AM – Men’s Bible Study
FRIDAY	9:30 AM – Matins 10:15 AM – Confession and Absolution
SUNDAY	<i>Quinquagesima</i>
<i>03/02/25</i>	9:30 AM – Divine Service 11:15 AM – Sunday School / Bible Class

PRAYERS

- For all who serve in public safety as police officers, firefighters, and paramedics, that God would protect them, give them courage in danger, and grant them wisdom as they perform their duties, especially Joshan Savage (police officer), Joe Krizan (firefighter and paramedic), Elisabeth Handgraaf, Jonah Underwood (paramedics).
- Baptismal birthdays celebrated this week: Greg Sims.
- Birthdays celebrated this week: Kristie Messer, Ben Schwiesow, Robin Hauth, Tim Boeder.
- Jenny Long, daughter-in-law of James Long, in thanksgiving for a return home from the hospital and a good recovery.
- Renee, Sandra Traugott’s sister, in thanksgiving for a return to better health.

- Emma Casanova, Susan Dickson, and Brianna Mallon for protection of mother and child in pregnancy (Psalm 139:13).
- Those struggling with ongoing health issues:
Dony Reaves, Connie Kimber, Tula Sheehan, Devin Jackson, Doug Drawe, Gary Sakko, Deanna, Dana Evans, Greg McClure, Georgette Walter, Dan Kostoff, Jill, Rush, Ninette DeYoung, Kristina Wishmeyer, Brandon Rhodes, Todd Hauth, Gaye, JE Purcell, Rachel Preuss, the Schwiesow family.
- Those struggling with other ongoing needs:
Frank and Antonia, Matt, Michael.

Assisting in the Divine Service Today:

Elder – Brian Hendon

Altar: Aimee Hendon/Robin Hauth

Organist – Nathan Leicht

2/16/25 General Fund Offerings received: \$3,810.00

Restricted Fund Offerings received: \$24.00

Weekly budget needed: \$4,642.80;

Budget year to date: **deficit: -\$5,048.48**

Calendar year to date: **deficit: -\$4,590.35**