# The Messenger -Feb. & March

2023

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#### Ash Wednesday Worship February 22

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the lifegiving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. This ashen cross is the great equalizer...no one of us is any better than another. We have all been chosen by God in the waters of baptism. We all die with God one day to see Him face to face. During this Lenten season, we intentionally die to self and bear fruit of grace and mercy for the sake of the world.

- We join with our sister congregations, Trinity and Zion, for worship at noon at Zion.
- Our own worship will be at 7:00pm at King of Glory with Glory Singers and special music. Come and worship, begin the Lenten season in right spirit with our Lord.

## From Pastor Ruth Ann



Pastor's Ponderings...Lent: looking towards the Tree

During Lent we'll return to liturgy, Tree of Life. 2023 also brings us back to Year A in our Lectionary cycle where we focus on Matthew's Gospel as our primary text for preaching. We remember that

Matthew 28 is often called, 'The Great Commission' as our Risen Lord commissions the disciples to 'go into all nations baptizing them in my name and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you.'

Yet in His five major teachings in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus gives many instructions how to be a disciple. Those who are obedient to God's will in

hearing and action. Those who go out in mission with promised rewards for faithfulness. Disciples are blessed and ready to bring out new things for the Kinadom.

Jesus' disciples had to keep their focus on Jesus. Likewise. Jesus had his focus on the Tree which came more and more into view near the end of His life. May we who love the Lord, focus on the One who will hang on the tree on Good Friday? In doing so, may we also be motivated to grow ever more deeply into the disciples, Jesus calls us to be. Let's look to the Tree...of Life!

#### Mid-week Lenten worship

On Wednesdays at 6:00pm beginning March 1, we will have a thirty-minute worship. Singing the songs of Taize, we can enter into sung prayer. Hear scripture and bask in the soft light of candles. Come!

#### Worship Update

We will have our last Worship Listening Session on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> in between worship services. Then the Leadership Team will take all the complied notes and comments to study them. We will use our retreat time on February 11<sup>th</sup> to further this conversation and form a recommendation to the congregation.

### <u>Leadership Team has Annual Retreat –</u> February 11<sup>th</sup>

The Leadership Team for 2023 will gather together on Saturday, February 11 for a time getting to know one another and begin our work as a team. We have a full agenda of discerning worship times, reflecting upon Classic Church and Church Becoming, our core values and goal setting. Thanks in advance for holding us in prayer!

**Welcome LuMin CSU Student Preacher Brooke** Jensen! On February 4-5, we support Pastor Paul Judson and the students at LuMin CSU with a student preacher, who just happens to attend King of Glory. Get ready to welcome Brooke Jensen. You've heard her sing, now we'll get to hear her thoughts on faith too! Such a blessing!

2023 Lenten Theme This year, our Lenten theme will be "Seeking: Honest Questions for Deeper Faith." Using a resource called Sanctified Art, each week we'll dive into a question from the Lectionary text. Many of these texts have people seeking something of or with Jesus: Nicodemus, the woman at the well, or the blind man. Some of these weekly questions are: Who will you listen to? How do we begin again? We will also use a devotional that includes incredible art and probing questions to help us go deeper. I'm very excited and I hope you'll find the series valuable for your Lenten journey with God!

World Hunger: We have such capacity to help others! In Luke 6:38 it says: "Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." Oh my goodness, what a joy it is to give freely without any strings attached. Our Lord says, when we give, we receive in return! So much so, that it is running over in our spirits and hearts and minds.

Therefore, we will be collecting funds for World Hunger. Our church is known within the ELCA nationally as a generous church because of our offering which we send to World Hunger after Easter. Let's do it again! These monies give women microloans. Buy seedlings that can withstand drought and provide fruit. Children can go to school with books in their hands. Farmers learn more farming techniques for where they live. Chickens provide eggs to eat and sell at market. World Hunger is our way to give and be blessed!

#### Coming in March ....

**Daylight Savings begins March 12** – Turn those clocks ahead one hour!

Welcome Sky Ranch executive director, Lori Bode on Sunday, March 12 to give a brief update about the ministry of Sky Ranch.

# **Faith Formation News**

Youth Happenings in February and March!
Confirmation: February 5 at Zion: Two Kingdoms
February 26 at LuMin: Vocation

Middle School Fellowship and Fun Nights every Monday night at Trinity, 7-8 pm. Come and bring a friend even if they don't go to church!



**High School play time** at the Summit, March 3<sup>rd.</sup> Stay tuned for more details!

#### **MUSIC NOTES**

#### Singing Together!!

After Singing Together at the Thanksgiving Service at King of Glory, choirs from Trinity, Zion, and King of Glory decided to continue the tradition during February, March, and May of this year. (We all have plenty to do at our individual church's during April with Holy Week and Easter.) All three choirs will sing at King of Glory on February 19, Trinity on March 12, and Zion on May 14.

Why? Because it was a wonderful musical experience singing with other Lutherans in a larger choir setting. Also, these are our "sister churches" and we all enjoy the fellowship, as we enrich worship at each church. Don't miss our *Singing Together* at **King of Glory on February 19**...see you then!

#### **Special Service Liturgies**

King of Glory will be doing special liturgies on the following Sundays:

February 19-Jazz Liturgy

February 26-Begin Tree of Life Liturgy

March 26- Rhythm and Blues Liturgy

May 21-Celtic Liturgy

Of course there will be special services during Lent and Holy Week, so stay tuned for more information.

#### **Mardi Gras Sunday**

Mardi Gras Sunday, February 19, will be a festive celebration before the Penitential Season of Lent. Choirs from Trinity and Zion Lutheran Churches will join the King of Glory Singers in Robert Ray's "He Never Failed Me Yet" as part of our Singing Together series. Don't forget to wear *green*, *gold*, and purple Mardi Gras colors and enjoy King Cake while hoping to find the baby in your piece of cake for good luck in the rest of the year. We will also be doing the Jazz Liturgy, so warm up your vocal folds and get ready for some wonderful improvisation from Gavin and the other instrumentalists! Yes, we have had some difficult decisions these past few years, but come and join in the revelry and fun this Sunday and celebrate with other Lutherans.

#### **Dinner and a Mardi Gras Concert**

Continuing our Mardi Gras celebration, we have the rare opportunity to celebrate again on **Fat Tuesday**, **February 21**, with a Mardi Gras Dinner and Jazz Concert. Gavin, our service and choir accompanist will bring his *Jazz Trio* to King of Glory to lift our spirits and enliven our souls.

But that's not all! Before the concert we are serving a New Orleans-style gumbo dinner prepared by King of Glory's excellent chefs! It doesn't get much better than this! Join in this unique and "tasty" celebration for Fat Tuesday!! **Dinner at 6:00 pm; Concert at 7:00 pm.** 

**Bell Choir – The "Glory Ringers"** rehearse at **4:30pm every Wednesday.** 

**Choir - The "Glory Singers"** rehearse on **Wednesdays at 7:00pm.** 

If you have questions or would like more information about our music programs, please contact Dr. Jane Andrews at 319-830-7895

#### **Studies and Activities**

#### Have You Ever Wondered?

Our Sunday adult class continues at 9:45am in the Fellowship Room and by Zoom...

Have You Ever Wondered?

<u>Easy Does It Fitness Class</u> Join us as we continue our Tuesday &Thursday 10:30am schedule in the Fellowship Room. Questions? Contact Pam Phifer!

#### **Prayer Shawl**

KOG's knitting & crocheting group welcomes all levels of crafters. We meet on the first Monday of the month, (Feb 6 and March 6) at 1:00pm in the church library. For more info please

**1:00pm** in the church library. For more info please contact Barbara Brackin-Bartel (970-213-3256).

#### **The Sonrisers**



Christian Men's Reading Group is for men who like to read Christian/ spiritual books, meet on a weekly basis, and engage in discussion about the reading

and their experiences. We meet at Perkins Restaurant every **Friday at 8:00am**.

Please contact Nick Balogh at 970-669-1072 or baloghn@comcast.net for more information and the sign-on link. This is a great opportunity for growth and fellowship. Please give us a try!

2<sup>nd</sup> Wind (Retirees) Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Wind group of retirees would like to welcome any interested member of the congregation to join us. We meet together on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 9:30am in the church library. Questions? Contact Jerome Beckmann

#### **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

Meets at 9:30am in the fellowship hall. There is a ZOOM link if you prefer to participate from home. Look for it in the Friday email.

Lectio Divina is the prayer practice of engaging God's word. Join us on ZOOM, Fridays at 1:00pm. Look for the link in the Weekend devotion email.

Financial Update: We are in a solid position starting the New Year, with good end of the year income (\$498,647) and a steady bank balance (\$81,318 as of 1/26). Pastor Deb's Appreciation Gift of three month's salary and benefits has been paid. Thank you for your strong and faithful giving!

Your 2022 Annual Giving Statement for tax purposes is in your church mail box. Please pick yours up! The remainder will be mailed out soon.





King of Glory Lutheran Church 2919 N. Wilson Avenue Loveland, CO 80538-2461







"As God's People, Graced by Differences, Nurtured by the Spirit, and Gifted to Serve, We Invite and Welcome All to Grow in Faith."

#### 2023 Leadership Team

President: Bryan French
Vice President: Mike Dodge
Treasurer: Ron Lamb
Secretary: Luci Roberts
Kathy Cisar
Liz Melton
Jerry Rogers
Jeanette Williams

To see Newsletters, sermons and worship videos please check our Sermon Archive or www.kingofgloryloveland.com



# Feb. & March 2023

Weekend Worship Times -- Saturdays 5:30pm; Sundays 8:30 & 10:45am

Feb. 4/5 – Campus Ministry Weekend

Feb. 11 - Leadership Team Retreat, 9:00am-12:00pm

Feb. 21. – Mardi Gras Dinner, 6:00pm; Mardi Gras Jazz Concert, 7:00pm

**Feb. 22 – Ash Wednesday:** Joint Noon worship at Zion 7:00pm worship at King of Glory

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March 12 – Daylight Savings time begins Set clocks ahead 1 hour!

