

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Pastor Barry

Liturgist: Pastor Snow

Piano: Dr. Katie Rolf

String Ensemble: Ellen Degler

Easton Degler, Landen Degler,

Finley DeWaard, Elizabeth Hennen, Nate Leao

March 15, 2026 8:00/9:30/10:45am

Fourth Sunday in Lent

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN "Word of God, Come Down on Earth" LSB 545

Word of God, come down on earth, Living rain from heav'n descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth Faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.

Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die, Crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring, Speak to us, Your love outpouring.

Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our healer be; Loose our tongues to tell Your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken, Heal the world, by sin now broken.

Word that speaks God's tender love, One with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above, God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

In the darkness of the world around us and amid our own blindness to His will and ways, God calls us to confess our sins.

Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

God of God, Light of light,

we confess that by nature we are sinful and unclean, born in darkness. We are often blind to Your Word and Your work in our lives, sinning against You and against one another in thought, word, and deed. For the sake of Jesus, who is the light of the world, forgive me all my sins, that my eyes may be opened and my heart enlightened to look to You in faith and hope.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Through His death on the cross, Jesus Christ has shined His eternal light of forgiveness, peace, and life on you. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

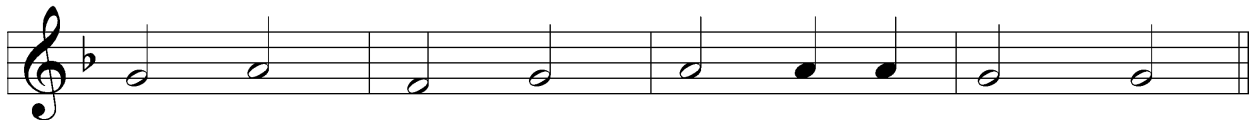
Amen.

KYRIE

LSB 186



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 42:14-21

For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the Lord? He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 5:8-14

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

"Amazing Grace"

LSB 744, vv. 1-2

Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see!

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.

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HOLY GOSPEL

John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (8:00/10:45)

HYMN OF THE DAY "God Loved the World So That He Gave" LSB 571, vv. 1-4

God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.

Christ Jesus is the ground of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone Are built on this chief cornerstone.

God would not have the sinner die; His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.

Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus' blood, Your Baptism grants the highest good.

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RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (8:00)**NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Gracious Lord, shine Your light of mercy and grace into our darkened hearts of sin and eyes blinded to Your will and ways, so that we know the fullness of Your forgiveness, life, and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Healing Lord, shine Your light of peace and healing to all who seek relief, for the sick and dying, for those troubled physically, spiritually, emotionally, and mentally, and for the grieving and the dying, that Your comfort be known, especially...Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord of all nations, shine Your light to all places in this world and to the leaders of cities, states, and countries, that Your light guide and direct them so that peace be had and justice faithfully served. Give courage and diligence to all who work to defend liberties and life, and to those who speak for those who cannot speak for themselves. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord of the Church, shine Your light upon all You have enabled to speak and proclaim Your Word. Be with our congregation, that we remain united in truth, love, faith, and service. Give courage to live as Your witnesses, that many who remain in darkness rejoice in the light of truth. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord of all seasons, in this season of Lent shine Your light upon us as we examine ourselves, see our sins, and know our need for a Savior. As we continue to follow Christ to the cross, draw our hearts and minds to You and the joys that await. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

LSB 192

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has called His people out of darkness into Your marvelous light.

Through His death and resurrection we see through the eyes of faith what You have prepared for us as we partake of Your body and blood given and shed for us. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 195



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord of heaven and earth, we praise You for bringing light to a darkened world. We bless You for calling us to be people who walk as children of the light, secure in the currents of the world around us. We thank You for inviting us to Your Holy Table. Joined together in the name of our Lord and as one with the communion of saints, we pray You to pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us to sanctify and renew us in body and soul for the sake of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

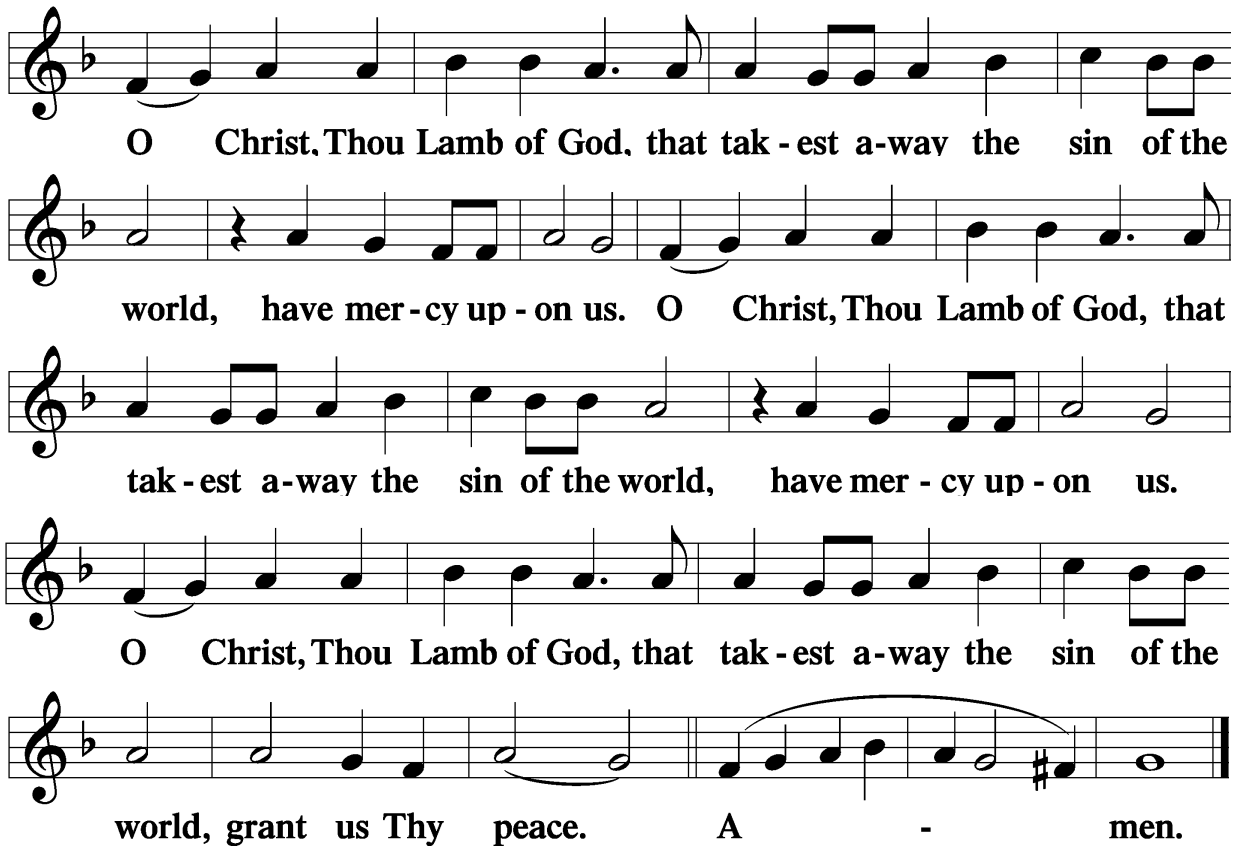
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

LSB 197

AGNUS DEI

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION AT ST. JOHN'S

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood. This we eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm, and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold to a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the pastor or an elder. For further readings in Scripture, we suggest Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

- **Communicants will receive elements in a continuous fashion.**
- **If you would like the pastor to bring communion to you, please inform an usher anytime during the service.**
- **Children of all ages may join their parents and receive a special blessing.**
- **For those who desire it, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center ring of the tray of individual cups.**

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

“Just as I Am, without One Plea”

LSB 570

Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
With many_a conflict, many_a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Public domain

HYMN**“Amazing Grace”****LSB 744, vv. 3-5**

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail
In heaven’s joy and peace.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we’d first begun.

Text: Public domain

HYMN**“When to Our World the Savior Came”****LSB 551
(Tune: LSB 920)**

When to our world the Savior came The sick and helpless heard His name,
And in their weakness longed to see The healing Christ of Galilee.

That good physician! Night and day The people thronged about His way;
And wonder ran from soul to soul, “The touch of Christ has made us whole!”

His praises then were heard and sung By opened ears and loosened tongue,
While lightened eyes could see and know The healing Christ of long ago.

Of long ago: yet living still, Who died for us on Calv’ry’s hill;
Who triumphed over cross and grave, His healing hands stretched forth to save.

His sov’rign purpose still remains Who rose in pow’r, and lives and reigns;
Till ev’ry tongue confess His praise, The healing Christ of all our days.

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HYMN**“Jesus Comes Today with Healing”****LSB 620**

Jesus comes today with healing,
Knocking at my door, appealing,
Off’ring pardon, grace, and peace.
He Himself makes preparation,
And I hear His invitation:
“Come and taste the blessed feast.”

Christ Himself, the priest presiding,
Yet in bread and wine abiding
In this holy sacrament,
Gives the bread of life, once broken,
And the cup, the precious token
Of His sacred covenant.

Under bread and wine, though lowly,
I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv’n for me,
Very Lamb of God from heaven,
Who to bitter death was given,
Hung upon the cursèd tree.

God descends with heav’nly power,
Gives Himself to me this hour
In this ordinary sign.
On my tongue His pledge receiving,
I accept His grace, believing
That I taste His love divine.

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POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Blessed are You, heavenly Father, for You have once again fed and nourished us at Your Table through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. As Lord of our lives, strengthen and support us so that we may walk as children of the light, and, sharing that kindly light, proclaim Your love to all the world. Bless us day by day, and keep us hope-filled as we await Your eternal kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN “O God of God, O Light of Light” LSB 910, vv. 1, 4

O God of God, O Light of Light,
O Prince of Peace and King of kings:
To you in heaven’s glory bright
The song of praise forever rings.
To Him who sits upon the throne,
The Lamb once slain but raised again,
Be all the glory He has won,
All thanks and praise! Amen, amen.

Text: Public domain

Then raise to Christ a mighty song,
And shout His name, His mercies tell!
Sing, heav’nly host, your praise prolong,
And all on earth, your anthem swell!
All hail, O Lamb for sinners slain!
Forever let the song ascend!
Worthy the Lamb, enthroned to reign,
All glory, pow’r! Amen, amen.

SENDING

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPING WITH ST. JOHN’S TODAY!
If this is your first time at St. John’s, we invite you to fill out
a **CONNECTCard** located at the Welcome Desk or by using
the QR code. We look forward to **CONNECT-ing** with you.



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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolytes: 8:00 Emma Johnson/10:45 Ridge Edwards

Communion Assistants: 8:00 Gayle Degler, Chris Mundahl, Marcus Simpson

9:30 Jon DeBoer, Tim Goltz, Scott McCarty

10:45 Paul Dolan, Lyle Hilke, Ben Wiegert

Elder: 8:00 Paul DeRocher/9:30 Pete Siedelman, Timothy Peterson

10:45 Josh Peterson

Usher Team: 8:00 Jeff Rasmussen/9:30 Brian Dahlke/10:45 Craig Pauling

Welcome Team: 8:00 Leona Family/9:30 Mike and Elizabeth Bennes

10:45 Julie Bruce, Aliyah Messer

Tech Crew: 8:00 Jason Eickhoff/9:30/10:45 Bennett McGlothlin

Coffee Hour: 9:00 Emily Watry

UPCOMING WEEK	
Sunday, March 15	Youth Night 6:00pm
Monday, March 16	Men's Bible Study 6:30am
	Monday Night Meal 5:15pm
	AA 7:00pm
Tuesday, March 17	Executive Council Meeting 6:30pm
Wednesday, March 18	Moms in the Word 9:30am
	Lenten Midweek Worship 4:15/6:30pm
	Messengers of Praise Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm
Thursday, March 19	Women's LifeLight Bible Study 9:30am
	Trail Life Troop Meeting 6:30pm
Friday, March 20	AA 6:30pm
Saturday, March 21	Bible and Bacon Men's Bible Study 7:30am
Sunday, March 22	Worship 8:00/9:30/10:45am
	Education Hour 9:30am
	Sugar City 4-H Club Meeting 6:00pm

Prayers for Healing and Strength

Izzy King
Brody Miller
Tim Laubach

Sandra Lovan
Lois Wenz
Steve Lenzen

Mary Swanson
Pastor Al Holthus
Jolene Berg

Ongoing Prayers

Carol Affeldt
John Barney
Merlin Bentz
Jack Boman
Jimann Campbell
Julie Carver
Marguerite Craighead
Sunnie Deis

Anita Doss
Sid & Merna Fjelstad
Dennis Gaarder
Ruth Harms
Eugene Henke
Carol Jones
Len Kallsen
Tracy Koepsell

Gretchen Laubach
Marilyn Lenzen
Melinda Meuwissen
Steve Pond
Cliff Waller
Ruth Ziegler

Expectant Moms

Clara Crawley-Reid
Izzy King

Brenda Simpson
Brittany Thormodson

Kourtney Vipond

Celebrating Birthdays

3/15

Adam Berczinski
Mark DeRocher
Ron Dial
Laura Larson
Wesley Oliver
Sean Siegle

3/16

Hailee Achtenberg
Patrick Griffin
Jacob Kuddes

3/16

Christopher Kulish
Kevin Moldenhauer

3/17

Vivian Kloos
Dianna Langmade
Randy Moldenhauer
Lacey Scotthennen

3/18

Eric Anderson
Barbara Holthus

3/20

Sophia Hagen

3/21

Allison Clemens
Erich Fiebelkorn
Cameron Herelle
Leah Shanahan

Celebrating Anniversaries

3/14 Don and Monica Green

3/19 Scott and Kimberly Marella

3/20 Nathan and Kara McCormick