

FELC Friendship Pads

Please fill out the Friendship Pad when asked during worship. If the church office does not currently have your contact information or it has changed, please indicate that in the appropriate column.

Nursery Care

The Downtown Site Nursery (located across from the Library in the Gathering Area) is open for family use during all services and staffed during the 9:15 a.m. service. The North Site Nursery (off the main hallway, across from the restrooms) is staffed at both services. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Hearing Assistance

If you are in need of a personal receiver, ask a Downtown Site usher, or a North Site soundboard technician.

Large-print Resources

If you are in need of a large print Bible or bulletin, ask an usher at the Downtown Site, or a greeter at the North Site.

AED Units on Site

Automated external defibrillators are outside the Downtown Site Usher's Room and next to the North Site sound booth.

Video Recording

The 8 a.m. Downtown Site worship service is video-recorded to share with our homebound members upon request.

In Need of Prayer?

For additions to the prayer chain, email or call the church office (felc@felc.com; 733-2303) or email Pastor Mary (mbauer@felc.com).

More Information

For detailed information on these and more FELC events, opportunities and ministries, pick up a newsletter in the Gathering Area, visit our website at www.felc.com, or check the bulletin boards and kiosks in the Gathering Area.

The Week of Mar. 11, 2018 At-A-Glance

Sunday, Mar. 11

8:50 a.m.
9:15 a.m.
9:15/9:25 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
2 p.m.

Monday

9 a.m.
Noon
5 p.m.
5:15 p.m.
6 p.m.
6:30 p.m.
8:15 p.m.

Tuesday

6:30 a.m.
5 p.m.
7 p.m.
7 p.m.

Wednesday

9:30 a.m.
10:15 a.m.
Noon
Noon
Noon
1 p.m.
4:45 p.m.
6:15 p.m.
7 p.m.
7 p.m.
7 p.m.
7 p.m.
7 p.m.

Thursday

6 a.m.
9 a.m.
11:30 a.m.

Friday

6:30 a.m.

Sunday, Mar. 18

8:50 a.m.
9:15 a.m.
9:15/9:25 a.m.
9:30 a.m.

Daylight Savings Time Begins; Scrip Sale

Cherub/Angelus Choir Rehearsal, DS 220/Choir Room
Adult Learning Time, DS Lounge
Children's Learning Time, DS/NS
Women's Study Group, NS Library
New Horizon's Orchestra Concert, NS Sanctuary

DS=Downtown Site
NS=North Site

Newsletter Deadline

Monday Morning Quilters, DS Fellowship Hall
Intern Enrichment Ministry Team, DS Lounge
Arts & Environment Committee, DS Lounge
Stephen Ministry Meeting, DS 221
Communion Class, DS 010-013, Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary
GriefShare, DS Lounge
Pick Up Basketball, NS Activity Center

Men's Ministry, NS Library
Invitation & Hospitality Ministry Team, DS Kitchen
Men's Ministry, DS 221
Worship & Music Ministry Team, DS Lounge

NS Activity Center Closed to Outside Activities thru Mar. 25

Lenten Morning Service, DS Sanctuary
Lenten Study with Pastor Mary, DS 221
Noon Hour Philosophers, DS Fellowship Hall
Sarah Circle, DS 114
Stewardship Committee, DS Lounge
Miriam Circle, DS Library
Lenten Meal, NS Activity Center
Lenten Evening Services, NS Sanctuary
Lenten Study & Panel: *Shaped by the Cross*, NS Library
Parish Choir Rehearsal, NS Sanctuary
Confirmation General Session, NS Assigned Rooms
Kid's Life, NS 6
reFUEL Grades 10-12, NS Youth Room

Early Risers Women's Bible Study, DS Lounge
Adult Bible Study, DS Lounge
50+ Planning Meeting, DS 114

Men's Ministry, NS Library

Scrip Sale Pick Up

Cherub/Angelus Choir Rehearsal, DS 220/Choir Room
Adult Learning Time, DS Lounge
Children's Learning Time, DS/NS
Women's Study Group, NS Library

Monthly Women's Book Club

Thursday, Mar. 22 at 1 p.m. in the Downtown Site Lounge, we discuss *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd. Enjoy time talking with other women whether or not you've had a chance to finish the book.



First English Lutheran Church
www.felc.com felc@felc.com

Downtown Site

Sunday Worship: 8, 9:15, & 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Worship: 6:15 p.m.
Office Hours: M-Th: 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.
F: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

North Site

Sunday Worship: 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.
Office Hours: W: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Announcements
Week of Mar. 11, 2018

Love Jesus. Live your call.

Sunday at FELC

Girl Scout Sunday is Today!

This is the 106th year celebrating Girl Scouts of America. Today emphasizes the promise that Girl Scouts make during their pledge each week, "On my honor, I will try to serve God." Thank you for all of your dedicated work and for continuing on this amazing legacy.

Downtown Site Learning Time

Plan ahead to join us next Sunday as Prof. Roberta Albrecht teaches the final class on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book *Meditations on the Psalms*. Whether or not you have the book, you are sure to be enlightened by her insights and scholarship concerning Bonhoeffer's poetry. The class meets on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Downtown Site Lounge. Today's class will be led by Pastor Robert Herder.

Help for the Homeless

Today is the deadline to drop off your NEW hygiene and cleaning items for local crisis agencies through The Family radio's annual *Help for the Homeless* hygiene drive. Please place your donations in the collection box located in the Gathering Area. Thank you!

Wednesday Evening Activities Move to the North Site This Week!

New Horizons Orchestra Concert

New Horizons Orchestra Fox Valley invites you to a free concert at 2 p.m. today at the North Site. Afterward, you are invited to a reception in the Gathering Area with treats made by orchestra members. We hope to see you there.

The North Site provides its Sanctuary as the orchestra's rehearsal space. The orchestra is grateful to FELC for its ongoing hospitality and encouragement.

Looking Ahead

Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® by Mar. 31

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars® have until Mar. 31 to direct them. If you are an eligible member, don't miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding to First English Lutheran Church. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call (800)847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

Submit 'Can't Serve' Dates for Worship Volunteering

Another worship schedule is coming up for Apr. 11 - July 1. Please review your personal calendars. Keep in mind new summer Downtown Site worship times and let us know of your preference. The deadline to submit unavailable days is Monday, Mar. 19.

Lenten Series

This Lent, allow yourself to be *Shaped by the Cross*. Drawing on analogies from Michelangelo's statue, *The Pieta*, we will focus on how God uses struggles to conform us to the image of Christ. On Wednesday, Mar. 14, invite friends to the Downtown Site (9:30 a.m.) or the North Site (6:15 p.m.) to hear Dianne Droster speak about living through divorce. Join a morning study on the book *Shaped by the Cross* by Ken Gire (10:15 a.m.). Attend the evening panel discussion where you can ask questions about Dianne's journey (7 p.m.). And for fellowship, join us for the Lenten supper from 4:45-6 p.m. in the North Site Activity Center.

Palm Sunday Breakfast Served by the Men of the Congregation

Make breakfast at church a part of your Palm Sunday tradition. It's a delicious way to get to know people and to begin your Holy Week celebration. The men of the congregation will be serving from 8:30-11 a.m. at the Downtown Site and 9-11 a.m. at the North Site on Palm Sunday, Mar. 25.

Calling all men: Are you willing to help prepare, serve, or cleanup the breakfast? Please sign up using the poster in the Gathering Area or sign up online at www.felc.com/forms.

The Intern Enrichment Ministry Team Thanks You!

The Intern Enrichment Ministry Team would like to thank everyone who helped the *Make an IMPACT!* event result in such a great success! Between sponsorships, cash donations, and event tips and activities, you have all contributed to raising over \$33,000 for the Summer Intern Ministry. Watch for further details and photos in the April Newsletter, but until then, thank YOU for making an IMPACT!

We Need Faith Interviewers!

Each 9th grade Confirmation student is required to participate in a faith interview as part of their final preparation for Affirmation of Baptism. This is an important opportunity for students to give voice to their ideas about faith. Every interview is given by two or three members of the congregation that have given their time to have kind, open ears to hear our students' thoughts. We need interviewers for the evenings of Tuesday, Apr. 3 and/or Wednesday, Apr. 4 at the Downtown Site. Select your preferred times via the First English webpage at www.felc.com/forms.

Volunteer Scheduling for New Downtown Site Summer Services!

This summer, the Downtown Site worship times will change to 8:30 and 10 a.m. beginning May 27 and continuing through Sept. 2. Along with changes in worship times comes change in the volunteer schedule. Preferences will be pre-set for you unless you indicate otherwise. If you prefer the 8 a.m. service you will be assigned to the 8:30 a.m. service. If you prefer the 9:15 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. service you will be assigned to the 10 a.m. service. If you wish to change your worship volunteer preferences please contact Kathy Larson at klarson@felc.com or call the church office (733-2303).

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who receive special training to provide one-to-one Christian care to people in our congregation and community experiencing challenges in life: grief, loneliness, divorce, hospitalization disability, job loss and many other life difficulties. To learn how to become a Stephen Minister, or receive care from one, contact a pastor.

Noon Hour Philosophers

The Noon Hour Philosophers meet for an hour at noon in the Downtown Site Fellowship Hall each Wednesday. If you have questions please contact Mary Poulson at mmaryjep@att.net or (920)734-8137.

Mar. 14: Scams, Schemes and Frauds Impacting Adults and How to Avoid Being a Victim

Sergeant Adam Van Zeeland
#9184, Threat Assessment Officer
Appleton Police Department

Don't Miss Out on Wednesday Lenten Meals at FELC

Each Wednesday during the Lenten season, a meal is sponsored by one of the church ministry or fellowship teams. The meals are served from 4:45-6 p.m., followed by worship in the Sanctuary at 6:15 p.m. All are welcome. A free will offering will be collected.

Please note: the meals switch to the North Site this week.

Mar. 14: Chili, Sponsored by the Women's Book Club at the North Site

GriefShare

GriefShare is a nation-wide ministry that helps people cope with the death of a loved one. This 13-week video curriculum is followed by a discussion each week. The spring session of GriefShare runs through the months of March and April. You may join at any point in the curriculum. Sessions are on Monday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Downtown Site Lounge.

AA Corner

If you are or someone you know could use some confidential help with stopping drinking, please call Dale R. at (920)419-2794.

Prayer Connection

Prayer connects us to each other in this community of faith and to Christ. To be included in the list of prayers, submit names to the church office or the First English staff. Names are removed after one month, but can always be extended by request. Please remember these First English members, friends and families in prayer in the coming week:

Prayers of Healing, Wholeness & Peace

- Nathan Meissner
- Angel Manos
- Todd Hollenberger
- Mary Lou Garnsworthy
- Brooklyn Ann Converse
- Jacob Schwab
- Justin Schwab
- Laurie Niles
- Lynn Boenker
- George Krempin
- Debra Boushley
- David Heindel
- Doug Hansen
- Taylor Vivian Thompson
- Amy Ponomarev
- Moore Peregrine
- Tom Roy
- Je'Ann Johnson
- Paul Henrikson
- Juanita Gauerke
- Robb Schaefer
- Dean Peterson
- Kim Norland
- Cheryl Quello
- Jim Trundle
- Beverly Hoff

Prayers of Comfort

Families of:

- Roy Bartz
- Bill Nussbaum

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Baptism of:

- Madilynn Grace Lamal

Prayers for Those Called to Serve in Other Countries

- Stephanie Olson

Prayers for Those in Seminary

- David Shudy

Prayers for Those in the Military

- BM3 Kyle Kramer, USCG
- LCPL Robert Kopesky II
- PFC Samuel Sinclair

This Week's Community Care Focus

- Aurora at Home Hospice & Palliative Program

Contact: Jayne Syrjamaki
(920)252-5146; jayne.syrjamaki@aurora.org



High School Youth News

Grades 9-12

Mar. 4, 2018

reFUEL

DS YOUTH ROOM
WEDNESDAYS 7-8 P.M.
For Grades 10-12



During the season of Lent, we will be expanding on topics that each speaker gives messages on during the Wednesday night worship services

- 3/7: Lent Topic: Our Wounds Open Us to Christ's Mercy
Speaker: Megan DesRochers
- 3/14: Lent Topic: Surrendering Control of Those We Love
Speaker: Dianne Droster

"Lent is about becoming, doing, and changing, whatever it is that is blocking the fullness of life in us right now."

-J. Chittister

ATTENTION GRADUATING SENIORS!

FELC offers four different scholarships for graduating seniors. All scholarship qualifications and applications can be found at www.felc.com/forms under the High School column. Applications can be sent to Heidi. Questions, contact Heidi Schreiner (hschreiner@felc.com).

ELCA Youth Gathering Updates

March Calendar

- Mar. 11: Scrip Sale
 - Mar. 18: Scrip Pick Up
 - Mar. 25: Palm Sunday Brunch Helpers
- Sign up Geniuses are out!



Questions? Contact Heidi
(hschreiner@felc.com)

Mar. 4, 2018



Information for FELC Youth and Families
Grades K-12

VBS PLANNING TEAM NEEDS YOUR NOODLE!



Each year we find that pre-packaged Vacation Bible School curriculum is both expensive and often doesn't meet our needs. This year we are unpacking the FELC VBS program and building a version from the ground up that will hopefully incorporate more family involvement and spark our congregational creativity. We will be meeting soon to start coalescing ideas and crew.



Please go to the www.felc.com/forms page to let us know if you can help. We will send a Doodle survey out to find the time that works best for those interested to meet. We need your noodle to brainstorm an exciting new program!

Find us on Social Media Outlets

Instagram: felc.youth Facebook: FELC YOUTH

Connect with FELC Youth Staff

Kirsten Owens, Faith Formation Coordinator: kowens@felc.com
Heidi Schreiner, Youth & Summer Ministry Coordinator: hschreiner@felc.com

Love Jesus. Live your call.



Elementary Sunday School, Song, And Special News



Confirmation and Middle School Scoop



Turn Around in Lent

During Lent we are offering a different one day family activity each week to help focus on this special time of year. The activity will be on the back half of the Pastor Chat sheet.

During Lent we don't just look at ways to take things out of our lives, we also look at ways to acknowledge and replicate the ways of Jesus.

This week the family Lent activity is kindness bombing for a day.

- >Hand out wrapped candies while you're at a sports game
- >Send a text or note to a friend or family member telling them something you admire about them
- >Read uplifting passages in the Bible to one another
- >Bring a cupcake or cookie to your teachers/bosses

The possibilities to show Christ's love in the world are limitless. When we jam-pack a day with kindness we are reminded that Christ showed us the way to be kind to all.

Communion Class Is Filling Up

If you have a student grade 2 or higher that is ready to learn about and receive this sacrament, please register in advance at www.felc.com/forms. This class is on Monday, Mar. 12 from 6-8 p.m. for students & parents at the Downtown Site.



**Remember Kid's Life on Wednesday Nights,
7-8 p.m. Downtown Site Room 014.**

Those Voices Are Ready to Sing!

Cherub Choir sings TODAY at 9:15 a.m. worship.

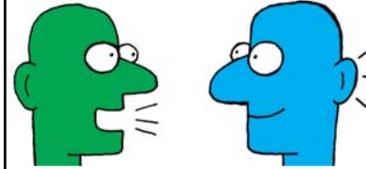
Angelus Choir sings Sunday, Mar. 11 at 9:15 a.m. at the Downtown Site and Wednesday, Mar. 14 at 6:15 p.m. at the North Site



Confirmation

Grades 7 & 8 Small Group

Grade 7: Students should have a chapter 9 question done in their journals



Grade 8: Students should have a chapter 9 question done in their journals

Grade 9 Large Group

Faith Statement Review in large group



Compassion Pantry Drive on Mar. 7, 14 & 21

Now's the time to start stocking up on and basic hygiene items quick or no prep food products for our Compassion Pantry Drive on Mar. 7, 14 & 21.

This has been an extremely popular service event in the past where we donate items for local students that have a gap in their basic needs. This year our donations will be going to students at Appleton East High School. Here are some items that are needed: Toothbrushes, tooth paste, deodorant, soap, feminine hygiene products, and granola bars are in greatest demand for this school, as well as, fruit cups, microwave noodle or soup cups, single serving cold or hot cereal, fruit leather, individual packages of crackers, etc. Please, no items that need an oven or stove to prepare.

Eek! How did that happen? Missed the camp deadline? Contact Kirsten!

*Have questions or want to volunteer?
Contact Kirsten Owens at kowens@felc.com or 733-2303.*



Celebrate the Resurrection



Remember a loved one at Easter this year.
A \$12 gift will purchase an Easter lily to beautify the Sanctuaries at one of our two sites. Please return this order form with your payment to the church office or drop it in the offering plate.

Payment can also be made online at www.felc.com.

All gifts will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletins. If you purchase a plant, please take one home anytime after the 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday services and before Monday, Apr. 16.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

I would like to order _____ Easter lily(s) and will pick it (them) up after the 10:30 a.m. Easter service.

In Honor of or In Memory of (Circle one): _____

In Honor of or In Memory of (Circle one): _____

In Honor of or In Memory of (Circle one): _____

Total amount due: \$ _____

The deadline to order is Monday, Mar. 26. Thank you!



Celebrate the Resurrection



Remember a loved one at Easter this year.
A \$12 gift will purchase an Easter lily to beautify the Sanctuaries at one of our two sites. Please return this order form with your payment to the church office or drop it in the offering plate.

Payment can also be made online at www.felc.com.

All gifts will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletins. If you purchase a plant, please take one home anytime after the 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday services and before Monday, Apr. 16.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

I would like to order _____ Easter lily(s) and will pick it (them) up after the 10:30 a.m. Easter service.

In Honor of or In Memory of (Circle one): _____

In Honor of or In Memory of (Circle one): _____

In Honor of or In Memory of (Circle one): _____

Total amount due: \$ _____

The deadline to order is Monday, Mar. 26. Thank you!

First English Lutheran Church SCRIP Order Form

Benefitting FELC Youth Annual Trips

Order Date: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Check one: Pick up at DS Pick up at NS

General Information

Please return completed form to the Church Office or email to Heidi Schreiner at hschreiner@felc.com. Payment is required at time of order. Orders placed by **Noon on Monday, Mar. 12**, will be available for pick up on **Sunday, Mar. 18**.

Questions? Contact Heidi Schreiner at (920)733-2303 or hschreiner@felc.com.

(Turn this sheet over to select your gift cards.)

Totals

Total # Scrip Purchased: _____

Total Amount Due: _____

Circle Payment Option: (Make checks payable to FELC. Please put "Scrip" in the memo line.)

Check # _____ Cash

Retailer	\$ (Choose)	Credit	Qty	Total Cost
Amazon.com	\$25 \$100	2.5%		
Applebee's	\$25	8%		
Barnes & Noble	\$25	8%		
Bath and Body Works	\$25	13%		
Buffalo Wild Wings	\$25	8%		
CVS	\$25 \$100	6%		
Dick's Sporting Goods	\$25 \$100	8%		
Festival	\$50 \$100	3%		
Fleet Farm	\$25 \$100	3.5%		
Funset Boulevard	\$25	9%		
Gap	\$25 \$100	14%		
HomeGood's	\$25 \$100	7%		
Kohl's	\$25 \$100	4%		
Kwik Trip	\$25 \$50 \$100	4%		
Little Caesars	\$20	8%		
		TOTAL		

Retailer	\$ (Choose)	Credit	Qty	Total Cost
Menards	\$25 \$100 \$500	3%		
Motomart	\$50	5%		
Nike	\$25	12%		
Old Navy	\$25 \$100	14%		
Pick N Save	\$50 \$100	4%		
Piggly Wiggly	\$50 \$100	3%		
Sams Club	\$50 \$100 \$250	2.5%		
Starbucks	\$25	7%		
Target	\$25 \$50	2.5%		
TJ Maxx	\$25 \$100	7%		
Uno's Pizzeria	\$25	12%		
Walgreen's	\$25 \$100	5%		
Walmart	\$50 \$100 \$250	2.5%		
		TOTAL		

Turn this sheet over to provide your contact information.

FELC DS Engage Page: Lent 4, March 11, 2018

John 3:14-21 *And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."*

Sun, Mar. 11: Family Project: One of today's Bible passages is from Ephesians chapter 2. To help children understand grace, have them act out a scene that shows grace. Actor A steals a candy bar from actor B. Then B receives a gift of candy and invites A to come and share it. Think of other examples of a person receiving a gift that they don't deserve. Then talk about how God decided to raise us up to be with Him even when we were his enemies and dead in our sins. This is what grace is all about—getting a gift we don't deserve. Have "grace" be the word of the week, keeping track of how many times each person can use it correctly!

Mon, Mar. 12: Have you ever had a toddler walk up to you and give you something? It might be flowers, a special rock, or food, but that gift affirms the idea in Ephesians 2:10 that we are "*created in Christ Jesus for good works...that we should walk in them.*" There is nothing that gives us the glow of satisfaction like being able to truly help someone in need. Are you feeling inertia in your spiritual life? Perhaps you need to remember that you were created for good works.

Tues, Mar. 13: While the Star Wars movies may help fans understand that concept of the dark side, they do little to define what it means to come to the light. How do we "*do what is true*" so that we "*come to the light*"? From the end of this passage, we understand that acting in a truthful way points honor and acclaim away from oneself and to God. When we become increasingly concerned about our own comforts and rewards, we lose sight of the fact that all we have and all we are is a gift. May our lives give God honor

Wed., Mar 14, Jeremiah 31:31-34 Each of us has met with situations where we wonder what has happened to common sense. As society becomes increasingly polarized, there are fewer and fewer ideals and values that we hold in "common". Jeremiah describes a world where the opposite holds true. It is a world where God writes the law on people's hearts. Consequently they won't need to be taught about God and God's will—they know God intimately. It would be like someone trying to teach us the will of our parents. A lifetime of experiences give us knowledge of their desires—their will. Until that day when God's will is known by all, let us focus on knowing God to bring a bit of heaven on earth.

Thurs, Mar. 15, Psalm 51:1-12 Isn't the prevailing sentiment that if our good actions outweigh our bad, and if we do as well as most, then we shouldn't feel guilty about sin, because we're only human? And in our topsy-turvy world, we can justify actual sin while feeling guilt over things that we cannot control, such as missing an important call from friends or being unable to give our children lessons or gifts we can't afford. We can even convince ourselves that the degree of self reproach in these verses is unhealthy. But if we acknowledge that nothing brings more peace and joy than a right relationship with God, and from that relationship flows love and wellness to others, we are obliged to join with the psalmist in confessing our sins, asking God to wash us and create in us new hearts

Fri, Mar. 16, Hebrews 5:5-10 We read, "*Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of salvation for all who obey him.*" (v. 8-9) How do we need to approach our sufferings in order for them to teach us obedience? I would be more tempted to say I had learned compassion or patience, humility or even a greater sense of faith that God would use that struggle for good. Perhaps that is what obedience looks like—using all our experiences to be more Christ-like in our dealings with others, and trusting that through it all, Christ will be our source of salvation.

Sat, Mar. 17, John 12:20-33 What do you picture when you think of someone being glorified? I imagine some of the award shows or perhaps a ticker-tape parade in New York City. Whatever the image, the person being honored is praised by all those present. This stands in stark contrast to what Jesus was referring to when he said, "*The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.*" (v.23) Jesus was speaking of his death on the cross. As God's saving plan for humanity was revealed, it would be on the cross that the depth of Christ's love and sacrifice would be shown. As we wear crosses and carry them in our church services, may we always glorify our Lord who was willing to suffer for us.

*For an online discussion of these and other questions concerning the texts, go to our Facebook FELC Engage Page. <https://www.facebook.com/FELC-Downtown-Site-Engage-Page>

FELC NS Engage Page: Lent 3, March 11, 2018

John 2:13-22 *The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.*

Sun. Mar 11: Family Project: For Sunday School today our focus was on the "Law" and in particular the 10 Commandments. Since, the 10 Commandments are numbered differently depending on whether you are Jewish, Catholic/Lutheran, or from most other Protestant denominations, get out your Luther's Small Catechism or go online for a copy. Each day, focus on one or two commandments and talk about Luther's description. How can we support our neighbors, protect their property, or help them keep what is theirs? End each session with this song to help remember God's rules for getting along.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d61R1LBbhQA>

Mon. Mar 12: John's description of Jesus driving the money lenders and those selling animals for sacrifice out of the temple differs from the other gospels. Instead of focusing on the shady and underhanded dealings of those who were selling, John shows how this action by Jesus predicts the end of the system of sacrificing animals to gain salvation. Instead he locates salvation in his own body that will be destroyed and raised up to shower us with free forgiveness.

Tues. Mar 13: It is extraordinary to see the gulf between what different people consider wise. In our politically charged climate, there is little consensus about common sense approaches to almost any issue. But abdicating your place in glory, giving up the power of divinity and subjecting yourself to taunts of human beings, dying a criminal's death to catch ungrateful humans in your loving embrace—that is truly foolish. Praise God for the foolish and extravagant love of the cross.

Wed., Mar 14, Jeremiah 31:31-34 Each of us has met with situations where we wonder what has happened to common sense. As society becomes increasingly polarized, there are fewer and fewer ideals and values that we hold in "common". Jeremiah describes a world where the opposite holds true. It is a world where God writes the law on people's hearts. Consequently they won't need to be taught about God and God's will—they know God intimately. It would be like someone trying to teach us the will of our parents. A lifetime of experiences give us knowledge of their desires—their will. Until that day when God's will is known by all, let us focus on knowing God to bring a bit of heaven on earth.

Thurs. Mar. 15, Psalm 51:1-12 Isn't the prevailing sentiment that if our good actions outweigh our bad, and if we do as well as most, then we shouldn't feel guilty about sin, because we're only human? And in our topsy-turvy world, we can justify actual sin while feeling guilt over things that we cannot control, such as missing an important call from friends or being unable to give our children lessons or gifts we can't afford. We can even convince ourselves that the degree of self reproach in these verses is unhealthy. But if we acknowledge that nothing brings more peace and joy than a right relationship with God, and from that relationship flows love and wellness to others, we are obliged to join with the psalmist in confessing our sins, asking God to wash us and create in us new hearts

Fri. Mar. 16, Hebrews 5:5-10 We read, *"Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of salvation for all who obey him."* (v. 8-9) How do we need to approach our sufferings in order for them to teach us obedience? I would be more tempted to say I had learned compassion or patience, humility or even a greater sense of faith that God would use that struggle for good. Perhaps that is what obedience looks like—using all our experiences to be more Christ-like in our dealings with others, and trusting that through it all, Christ will be our source of salvation.

Sat. Mar. 17, John 12:20-33 What do you picture when you think of someone being glorified? I imagine some of the award shows or perhaps a ticker-tape parade in New York City. Whatever the image, the person being honored is praised by all those present. This stands in stark contrast to what Jesus was referring to when he said, *"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified."* (v.23) Jesus was speaking of his death on the cross. As God's saving plan for humanity was revealed, it would be on the cross that the depth of Christ's love and sacrifice would be shown. As we wear crosses and carry them in our church services, may we always glorify our Lord who was willing to suffer for us.

*For an online discussion of these and other questions concerning the texts, go to our Facebook FELC Engage Page. <https://www.facebook.com/FELC North Site Engage Page>