



"For as the rain comes down,
and the snow from heaven,
And do not return there, but
water the earth, And make it
bring forth and bud, That it
may give seed to the sower
and bread to the eater, So
shall My word be that goes
forth from My mouth; It shall
not return to Me void, But it
shall accomplish what I
please."

Isaiah 55:10-11

SEXAGESIMA



11 February 2007

ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

WELCOME to all of you and a very special welcome to those of you who may be visiting us for the first time, and especially those who may be new among us. The Lord be with you and we hope that you will return soon!

✚ THIS DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH ✚



The Sower sows the Seed of His Word. (Lk 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 hundredfold.

✚ THIS SEASON IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH ✚

Pre-Lent is a transition, a prelude, between Epiphany and Lent. This short three week period is, so to say, the narthex in which we Christians pause for three Sundays before we begin our spiritual pilgrimage to Calvary in the great 40 days of Lent. Pre-Lent comprises Septuagesima (70), Sexagesima (60), and Quinquagesima (50). These number names do not designate exact periods of time until Easter but are rather to be considered only as general markers along the journey.

The Gospel readings of Pre-Lent accent the three “solos” of the Reformation, providing a short-course on what makes contrition and repentance a compelling time for Christians: Grace Alone! (Septuagesima), the Word Alone! (Sexagesima), and Christ Alone! (Quinquagesima).

The liturgical color is green and the Alleluias and the Gloria in Excelsis are sung in order to help distinguish Pre-Lent from Lent.

✚ PREPARING FOR WORSHIP ✚

Prepare to receive the Lord's Supper by reviewing “Christian Questions and their Answers” beginning on p.329 in the forepart of Lutheran Service Book.

Reflect on the words of Psalm 84, found in the forepart of Lutheran Service Book.

Ponder on the following words of today's Office Hymn, #823, “May God Bestow on Us His Grace.”

✚ ON RECEIVING THE LORD'S SUPPER ✚

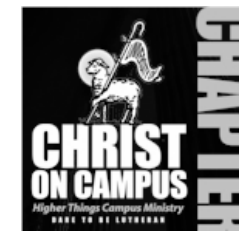


In addition to receiving Christ's gift of forgiveness and His true Body and Blood in the Sacrament of the Altar, all those who commune at our altar also make a confession of the faith as we believe and teach as a congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, thereby witnessing to our doctrinal unity in the Christian faith.

For this reason, and in the interest of faithful pastoral care for all in attendance, if you are not a member of this congregation, have not communed here previously, and have not yet spoken to our pastor, please refrain from coming forward to the altar. Speaking to our pastor prior to communing even if you are a member of another LCMS congregation, is greatly appreciated. Thank you for honoring our practice.

If you desire to learn more about these beliefs, or if you are interested in learning how to become a member of this church, we invite you to arrange for a time to visit with our pastor. Please also take a copy of the pamphlet "This is the Feast" which is found in the pew pad folios and in the narthex.

*A Congregation of the Wyoming District of
The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod
serving the students at the University of Wyoming
and the Wyoming Technical Institute*



SEXAGESIMA



Please insert this tab in the back of Lutheran Service Book. This will allow you to more easily follow the Divine Service this morning. The insert can then be used to mark your place in the liturgy.

Divine Service IV (p.203)

Hymn of Invocation	#908
Invocation (p.203)	
Confession & Absolution (p.203)	
Entrance Hymn	#655
Kyrie (p.204)	
Gloria in Excelsis (p.204)	
Salutation (p.205)	
Collect	
Old Testament	
Psalmody (insert)	
Epistle	
The Verse (insert)	
Holy Gospel	
Apostles' Creed (p.207)	
Hymn of the Day	#823
Sermon	
Prayer of the Church	
Offering	
<i>(Please sign attendance register & note our communion statement)</i>	
Preface and Sanctus (p.208)	
Prayer of Thanksgiving (p.209)	
Lord's Prayer (p.209)	
Words of Institution (p.209)	
Agnus Dei (p.210)	
Distribution	#627
Nunc Dimittis (p.211)	
Post-Communion Collect (p.212)	
Benedicamus/Benediction (p.212)	
Dismissal Hymn	#658