



# St Matthew In Action

**MARCH 2022**

**HAPPY  
Spring**

**ACTIVE  
CHRISTIANS**

**TOGETHER**

**IN**

**OUTREACH  
&**

**NURTURE**

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# Angels Watching over Me

*Psalm 91:11*



From the desk of Rev. Christopher LaBoube.

## **GOD'S WORD**

*For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways (Psalm 91:11)*

## **FOR SHARING**

1. The psalmist repeats an oft-forgotten truth; angels minister to us. Throughout Scripture we read about angels who serve God's people, fight Satan, protect individuals, guard, announce work from God, guide, translate (accompany God's elect to heaven), worship God, praise God (with voices and instruments), gather resurrected people, and assist Christ in judging the world.

With pen in hand underline the truths about angels of which you were unaware.

2. If each of us has guardian angels watching over us, why does harm sometimes come upon us?

3. How do the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus protect us from the greatest harm—death—the ultimate consequence of sin?

## **PRAYER**

Take a few moments to consider things to pray about

Almighty God,

We confess...

We praise You for...

And we ask for...

Be with us now. Give us wisdom and guidance in all that we do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SEASON	DATE	FESTIVAL	FIRST READING	PSALM	EPISTLE	GOSPEL
ASH WEDNESDAY	Mar. 2	Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:12-19	Psalm 51:1-13 (14-19)	2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10	Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21
LENT	Mar. 6	First S. in Lent	Deut. 26:1-11	Psalm 91:1-13	Rom. 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
	Mar. 13	Second S. in Lent	Jer. 26:8-15	Psalm 4	Phil. 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35
	Mar. 20	Third S. in Lent	Ezek. 33:7-20	Psalm 85	1 Cor. 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9
	Mar. 27	Fourth S. in Lent	Is. 12:1-6	Psalm 32	2 Cor. 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

**Black** is seen very seldom during the year. The calendar calls for its use only twice; on Good Friday and Ash Wednesday. There's no mistaking the message that this sober color gives. Black is the absence of light. Good Friday, or Black Friday in combination with Ash Wednesday, calls for sober reflection on the cost of our redemption. Without Christ's sacrifice on the day the sky turned dark and hid the light of the sun, there would be no bright Light of Christ to live in, nor new life in Christ to enjoy.

**Purple**, like black, is a penitential color, in contrast to a festive one. It is appropriately used during Lent and, still in many parishes, during the season of Advent. The forty days of Lent, including the six Sundays that fall during this season, use this deep, rich color which has come to represent somberness and solemnity, penitence, and prayer.

Violet or purple was a very cherished and expensive color in the world Jesus lived. The dye used to make the color was painstakingly acquired by massaging the neck of a Mediterranean shell fish that secreted a special fluid. It was therefore afforded only by the rich and worn most exclusively by the royalty.

Jesus, the king of the Jews, wore a purple robe only once. As the soldiers mocked and tormented him, the Scriptures record they placed on him a “purple garment” in order to ridicule him and belittle the claim that he was a monarch.

Therefore, purple is used during this penitential season of Lent as a vivid reminder of the contempt and scorn he endured, and the subsequent sacrifice he made for our eternal salvation. Ecclesiastical purple should remind all Christians of their daily need to humbly give attention to leading a life of repentance.



The Lenten Season is March 2nd through April 16th

ASH WEDNESDAY

(2 March 2022)

Return to the Lord Your God with All Your Heart

On Ash Wednesday, we come down from the mountain with Jesus and set our face with Him toward the cross in Jerusalem. We make our pilgrimage with Him by the way of repentance, and thus return to the dying and rising of Holy Baptism. For Christ Jesus, “who knew no sin,” became our sin, so that by His death we are released from sin, and in His resurrection we “become the righteousness of God” (2 Cor. 5:21). Since God has thereby reconciled the world to Himself in Christ, “now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation” (2 Cor. 6:2). He summons you to return to Him with all your heart because He is “gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love” (Joel 2:13). Do so in faith and confidence before Him, and pray to Him as your Father. Give to the needy from a heart of love, and fast for the sake of repentance (Matt. 6:3–4, 6, 17–18).





Please continue to pray for our church leaders.  
*"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."*

**Romans 12:12**

**Pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17)**



**PRAYER WARRIORS**— The prayer warriors desire to hear from you as to how they can pray for you. We have 14 prayer warriors. We welcome more men and women to join us. if you need prayer call **Alice Miller** phone number 712-880-2380.

Members of St. Matthew with Special Needs and Concerns

Nazaria Kaderabek  
 Alan Bruhn

Carol Dose  
 Fred Fletcher

Myrna Gosch  
 Fern Jacobsen

Selma Schrader

**Those who serve in the military:**

**Triston Twedt** (great-grandson of Alice and the late Keith Miller) serving with the Army at Ft. Lewis, WA

**Ryan Trucke** (son of Beth & Ed Trucke, Grandson of Kay and Richard Johnson) serving with U.S. Air Force at FE Warren AFB in Wyoming (wife and child are here). Ryan is at this address: Prince Sultan AFB, Saudia Arabia 378ECF-CEOIU Unit 61362 APO, AE 09877 (here for only 6 months)  
*His birthday is Feb 3, send him a card!*

**Jackie Cardwell** (niece of Jeff & Karen Krusen) serving U.S. Airforce at 17728 Margo St Omaha, NE 68136

**Marcus Roupe** serving in Cuba (nephew of Marilyn & Duane Hamann) PSC201 Box 6997  
 APO AE 09522

*Please drop them a line or two, they love getting mail and they would love hearing from their church family.*



*Spread the  
 Fruits of the  
 Spirit: Love,  
 Joy, Peace,  
 Patience,  
 Gentleness,  
 Kindness,  
 Self-Control,  
 Goodness, and  
 Faithfulness.  
 You will be  
 rewarded!*

**Bonnie Banks** 87 yrs. Jun 2, 1934

Main Street Apartments  
 516 Main Street Apt 2  
 Mapleton, IA 51034

**Delores Boysen** 82 yrs. Mar. 5, 1939

31153 Juinter Ave.  
 Hinton, IA 51024

**Delbert Kroll** 88 yrs. Jun. 1, 1933

815 Ring Street  
 Mapleton IA 51034

**Phyllis Fick** 93 yrs. Jun 3, 1928

Willow Dale Care—Assisted Living  
 404 1st St.  
 Battle Creek, IA 51006

**George Koithan** 89 yrs. Sept. 2, 1932

Sunrise Ave.  
 Maple Heights Nursing Home 51034

**Carol Dose** 87 yrs. Jan. 22, 1934

Sunrise Ave.  
 Maple Heights Nursing Home 51034

**Myrna Gosch** 80 yrs. Jan 9, 1941

Pleasant View Care Center  
 200 Shannon Dr. Rm #108  
 Whiting, IA 51063

**Selma Schrader** 92 yrs. Nov. 12, 1929

21 Ohm Drive  
 Mapleton, IA 51034

**Nazaria Kaderabek**

310 S. 6th St.  
 Mapleton, IA 51034

**Fern Jacobsen** currently in **Horn Memorial**

Main Street Apartments  
 516 Main Street Apt 3

Mapleton, IA 51034

**Cecil, Fred Fletcher**

1225 B Ave.  
 Danbury, IA 51019

**Alan Bruhn**

14535 Walnut Ave  
 Mapleton, IA 51034

**Sharon Kuehl Henning**

312 Highcroft  
 Window MN 56101

**Beth Weber**

HOME

## **OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH**

### **OF HOW YOUR CHURCH HELPS YOU**

Worship Service with Holy Communion 9:30 am on the 1st and the 3rd Sunday of the Month

Worship Services every Sunday at 9:30 am

Bible Study led by Pastor LaBou9be on Sunday morning at 10:45 am in the church basement.

In The Word another Bible Study in the Church Basement on the 1st Thursday of the month at 1:30 pm led by Pastor LaBoube

Sunday School for the children at 10:45 am in the educational unit led by Marla Hogan.

Confirmation program on Wednesday starting at 6pm to 7:30 pm

Helping hands We will gather and work every Wednesday from 1pm to 4 pm Come for an hour or two or stay for the whole day. Something for everyone to do. Bring sack launch. There is a lot ready, waiting to be put together. Good fellowship and good service to others whoa re in need of a warm blanket

## **OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH**

### **OF HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHURCH**

- Support your Pastor
- Be a Lay Reader
- Help on Sunday morning with Screens
- Cleaning the church (take pride in your church (call Lin Scott or Janeal Holmes)
- Lead a Bible Study (Ask Pastor he will help you with material)
- Help with outside work
- Help with repairs inside
- Be on the Altar Guild (call Janeal Holmes)
- Be a prayer warrior
- Be Kind to one another and pray for one another
- Help a neighbor out
- Invite a neighbor to church or bring a member to church
- Offer a member a ride to a Dr. appt or give them a ride to get groceries.
- Offer to get a neighbor their groceries.
- Speak well of your church and Pastor

## **SERVE THE LORD BY SAVING**

1. Save Best Choice Award
2. Save old Portals of Prayer
3. Save pop tabs
4. Save eyeglasses
5. Campbell soup labels for school

Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness,

**Serve** the Lord with gladness!

*Psalms 100:1*



We had all the Board of Directors at this fun raiser with Sarah in place of Dawn. And Chelsey and friend, Christa filled in for Marla, Property Board, volunteer Church Secretary, Board of Stewardship and Nazaria, all Board of Disciples, all of Outreach Board with a total of 20 people working. What fun. Thank you all for a fun filled day and fellowship. Thank you Mark for saying prayer and helping with info for Press. Thank you Karen Krusen for helping with all posters, tickets and taking pictures as well as taking phone calls for orders. Thank you to all the help on Saturday cutting up veggies and breads. Thank you Ramona for the running and calls you did as well. A BIG thank you for all taking the orders, we had 110 orders with approximately \$800 to \$900 after expenses.

I prayed daily for alot of help and God always helps us. GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME.

Outreach Board Marilyn and Ramona Praise the Lord and I said a big thank you to God as well.

## Chunky Chicken Noodle Soup

1/2 cup finely chopped carrot  
 1/4 cup finely chopped celery  
 1.4 cup finely chopped onion  
 1 tsp butter  
 6 cups chicken broth  
 1 1/2 cubed cooked chicken  
 1 tsp salt  
 1/2 tsp dried marjoram  
 1/2 tsp dried Thyme  
 1/8 tsp pepper  
 1 1/4 cups uncooked medium egg  
 noodles  
 1 tablespoon minced fresh parsley

## MY FAVORITE MESSAGE

**Directions:** Sauté' the carrots celery and onion in butter in a Dutch oven until tender. Stir in the broth, chicken, and seasonings. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat, add noodles; cook for 10 minutes or until noodles are tender. Sprinkle with parsley Yield: 6 Servings

Janeal Holmes



## EASTER BREAKFAST

Come and enjoy a wonderful Easter Breakfast. Our Elders are serving the meal after church in the church basement. Free-will offering.

## CLEANING THE CHURCH

We cleaned church twice in Feb. On February 10th we had 6 workers cleaning the basement and disinfecting the table with set up before the sub sandwich sale. Plus all the bathroom and entry ways. On Feb. 18th we cleaned with four workers, putting the basement back as it should be and vacuuming the sanctuary. We work about 3 hrs. each time with some giggling and laughter and fun, but we still got a lot done. Come join us. Joan Chandler

## TRIVIA QUESTION: by Christine LaBoube



Q: What sign did God give us that he promised never to destroy the earth again with a flood?

A: Genesis 9:11-13

Answer: found on page 10

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Delores	Boysen	Mar 05, 1939
Kirk	Bridgeman	Mar 07, 1980
Alicia	Burns	Mar 07, 1980
Christopher	Creswell	Mar 30, 1989
Michael	Creswell	Mar 16, 1984
Jennifer	Engelke	Mar 02, 1975
Megan	Frehse	Mar 31, 1982
Randy	Gosch	Mar 18, 1961
Terrance	Gray	Mar 23, 1999
Kerensa	Hamann	Mar 10, 2014
Brandon	Jacobson	Mar 10, 1980
Brandon	Krusen	Mar 20, 2000
Rose	Laboube	Mar 30, 2020
Rita	Lafrentz	Mar 17, 1945
Ashton	Lichtenberg	Mar 22, 2001
Mark	Livermore	Mar 03, 1964
Amy	Meseck	Mar 28, 1973
Daniel	Miller	Mar 22, 1958
Dennis	Muckey	Mar 31, 1950
Steve	Oberg	Mar 09, 1961
Caleb	Rickert	Mar 26, 2009
Patty	Sanderson	Mar 15, 1969
Kathryn	Schiltz	Mar 28, 1967
Lin	Scott	Mar 27, 1946
Michael	Smith	Mar 16, 1984
Jolene	Uhl	Mar 27, 1959

*We are listing  
Baptismal  
birthdays to  
remember and  
celebrate the day  
we were  
adopted into the  
family of  
God  
through the  
washing of the  
Holy Spirit.*



## MARCH BAPTISMS

David	Bartels	Mar 27, 1949
Brayden	Brodersen	Mar 24, 2018
Montana	Brodersen	Mar 21, 2004
Adam	Chandler	Mar 30, 1980
Carol	Dose	Mar 20, 1948
Joan	Fick	Mar 27, 1945
Randy	Gosch	Mar 30, 1961
Bradley	Goslar	Mar 15, 1998
Curtis	Hesse	Mar 4, 1962
Roger	Ingram	Mar 18, 1960
Brandon	Jacobson	Mar 30, 1980
Dennis	Jahn	Mar 9, 1947
Pam	Kovarna	Mar 25, 1951
Sharon	Kruse	Mar 28, 1954
Susan	Kruse	Mar 24, 1957
Emily	Lamb	Mar 24, 1980
Barbara	Lyon	Mar 29, 1952
Mindi	Ohlmeier	Mar 24, 1985
Drake	Paulsen	Mar 14, 2015
Derek	Pithan	Mar 17, 2013
DeRae	Schauer	Mar 30, 1986
Stephanie	Schauer	Mar 6, 1985
Troy	Schmidt	Mar 1, 2009
Chelsea	Schrader	Mar 19, 1989
Ryan	Trucke	Mar 12, 1994
Robert	Wood	Mar 13, 1977
Shawn	Wood	Mar 13, 1977

## 80 + Birthday God's Blessings

Joan	Fick	Mar 27, 1935 <b>87</b>
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## God's Blessings on your Wedding Anniversary

Alan and Kris Dale	Mar 21, 1997 25 yrs.
Lester and Donna Goslar	Mar 21, 1970 52 yrs.
Bryan and Betsy Scheer	Mar 8, 2014 8 yrs.
Toni and Krista Elmquist	Mar 5, 1988 34 yrs.



### Please Give the office a call or the Pastor...

Before going to hospital
Private communion
Address or name changes
Death in the family
Birth of your baby
Making wedding plans

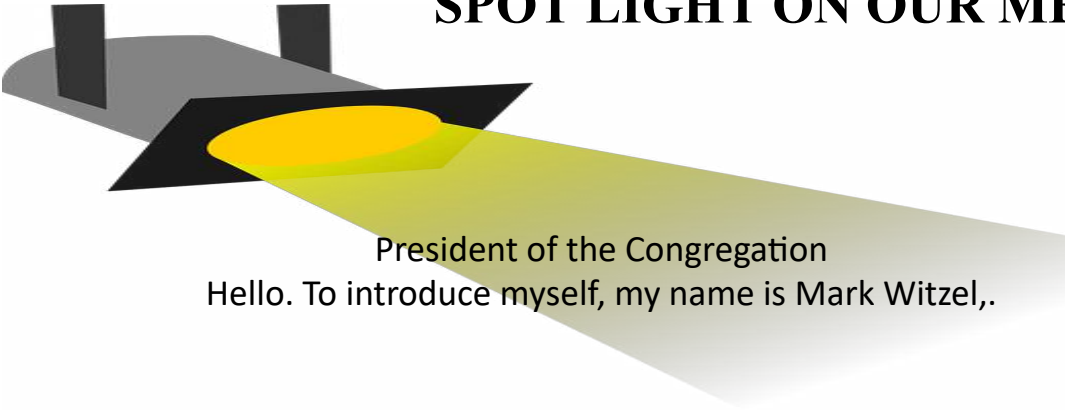
Email: [office@stmatthewmapleton.org](mailto:office@stmatthewmapleton.org)

Facebook page: [St. Matthew Lutheran-Mapleton](#)

Church Office: 881-2243  
Fax: 881-1163



# SPOT LIGHT ON OUR MEMBERS



President of the Congregation  
Hello. To introduce myself, my name is Mark Witzel,.



My parents were Hans and Lavone Witzel. While I am a native-born Iowan, and was baptized at birth here at St. Matthew, I am new here. I served in the United States Marine Corps for 24 years and as a contractor to the Department of Defense for an additional 16 years. I raised four sons during that time, all born and baptized into the Christian faith, we attended at Lutheran churches wherever we were stationed across America. I retired in 2018, and I relocated to Iowa from California in late 2019 (just in time for COVID-19...yea!). I immediately started attending St. Matthew with my parents; I joined the congregation early in 2020. That year, as well as others, was a difficult, tumultuous time for St. Matthew with divisiveness in the congregation and existing church officers stepping down and leaving suddenly. I answered the call to serve and was elected by the Congregation in the fall of 2020 as President. Several other brothers and sisters stepped up to serve as well. Our "patchwork" Board of Directors, and our Elders (I am also an Elder), working with the Pastor, persevered over the last 18 months to keep St. Matthew moving forward. I have always maintained that I will strive to "work with anyone", always keeping in mind Jesus Christ's guidance found in the Gospel of Matthew, to "love the Lord with all our heart, soul and mind", and to "love our neighbor as ourselves", and "to make disciples in all nations in the name of the Lord"

As President, I understand that I am to abide by the following:

The President of the congregation presides at all regularly scheduled quarterly Congregational Meetings, and any emergency meetings as well. The President shall enforce the Constitution and By-laws of the congregation and will carry out the expressed will of the congregation. The President presides over the meetings of the Board of Directors, and endeavors to coordinate the functions, plans, and activities of the congregation in all its parts. These duties and responsibilities, as well as others, are all done to the further glory to God the Father and to the growth of St. Matthew church.

## TEEN BIBLE STUDY

There are currently 8 teens that are attending the teen Bible study. They have finished the first study. The teens have asked if they can pick the topic to dig into deeper in the Bible, and wanting to keep encouraging them to attend and making it applicable to them, that is what we have been doing the past couple of weeks. The teens will give their topic to Melinda, then Melinda has two weeks to prepare for that topic and then they come together- look up Bible passages and have a discussion. The teens are really enjoying it, and have even started having conversations with parents about what their discussing. It's very encouraging. I am currently working on getting the Youth Spaghetti supper back up and going. When I had asked parents in February only two responded and we couldn't find a date that worked for all. We are currently looking into the end of March and are going to call it March Madness or Spring Fling. It will be held the same way, taking reservations and then the youth serving the evening with parents helping run the kitchen. When set dates are out I will let the congregation know. Sarah Schmidt





## Witnesses to Christ: People from His Passion

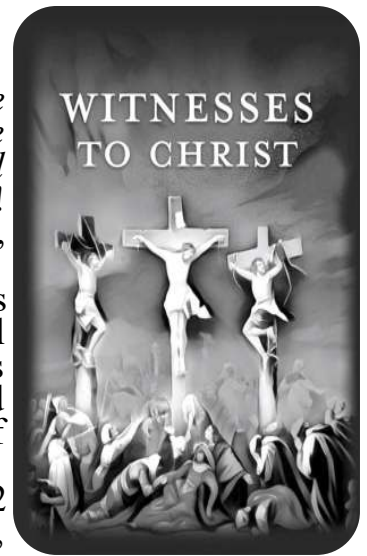
John tells us why he wrote his Gospel: *“Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name”* (John 20:30–31). Life! When we believe that Jesus is the Christ, God gives us life—abundant life, forgiven life, and eternal life.

This Lent, our life in Christ will be strengthened as we hear the witness of those in John’s Gospel who journeyed to the cross. Along the way, we’ll meet villains, such as Barabbas and Pontius Pilate, as well as sinners, such as Peter (who denied Jesus three times), Mary Magdalene (who was possessed by seven demons), and Judas Iscariot (who betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver).

The Lenten Season runs this year from Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022 through Holy Saturday, April 16, 2022. Resurrection Sunday is April 17, 2022 this year. Please join us for as many worship service opportunities as you are able. Time of worship on Wednesday evening is at 7pm, Hope to see you there.

### ASH WEDNESDAY

As we begin our Lenten journey, we focus our attention upon various witnesses to Christ in John’s Gospel. We begin with John the Baptist, a man on a mission. “There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as to witness concerning that light, so that through him all people might believe” (John 1:6–7). John the Baptist’s mission is “to witness concerning that light.” In fact, fourteen times in John’s Gospel, the word *witness* is connected with John the Baptist. “He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every person was coming into the world” (John 1:8–9). John points us to Jesus, who takes away our sin, our guilt, and our shame at the cross.



**PICK A HYMN:** If you have a favorite Lenten Hymn you would like to hear this Lenten season please contact the church. We will try to play your choice at four services that month.

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**In The Word** On February 3rd we met for Bible Study at 1:30 pm. We are studying Women of the Bible This week we read about a Shunamite woman who welcomed Elisha into their home, made a special room for him to stay whenever he came that way. She and her husband were getting old, didn’t have children— Elisha wanted to Bless them with something special to thank them for their hospitality. He told them “by this time next year, you will hold a baby in your arms” go to 2Kings 4:8-36 and read the “Rest of the Story” Join us March 3rd at 1:30 pm to learn about another interesting “Woman of the Bible”

P.S. no tests!

Florice Dose

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### Bible Class

The adult Bible Class meets each Sunday after church in the church basement. The leaders vary and on the roster now are Wayne Kafton, Mark Witzel and Alice Miller. Pastor would welcome more leaders for a month at a time. Give him a call and volunteer. We welcome you to our group to come join us in study and laughter. Our topics this month were : Forgiveness, The Holy Spirit and Patience and Self Control. See you there. Alice Miller.



St Matthew Lutheran Church  
504 Walnut Street  
Mapleton, IA 51034

In His Footsteps:

Meet each new day  
knowing that God is  
by your side and will  
lead you every step  
of the way.

TRIVIA QUESTION answer: rainbow

**LET'S STAY CONNECTED** OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO CONTINUE TO FILL UP WITH JESUS By READING AND LISTENING TO THE BIBLE **Mission Central...** [www.missioncentral.us](http://www.missioncentral.us) **Lutheran Family Service:** [www.lfsiowa.org](http://www.lfsiowa.org) **WEB SITES:** Iowa District West—[www.idwlcms.org](http://www.idwlcms.org) Camp Okoboji – [www.campokoboji.org](http://www.campokoboji.org) **“THY STRONG WORD”** is a daily devotion airing at 6:25 am Monday through Saturday on KDSN (104.9 FM) **“THE LUTHERAN HOUR”** can be heard every Sunday on radio station—KDSN-FM (104.9) at 6:30 am and 1530 at 10:30 am. It is available 24 hours a day on the internet in Real Audio. Visit [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org) and click on the Lutheran Hour on the left side of the page **“THE GOOD SHEPHEARD HOUR** airs on the following stations every Sunday: 8 am Fort Dodge-KVFD 1400 AM; 8 am Sioux City—KSCJ 1360 AM; 10:30 am Storm Lake—KAYL 101.5 FM **Lutheran Family Services:** [www.lfsiowa.org](http://www.lfsiowa.org) **MainStreet Living**— is a Television Program that is endorsed by the Iowa West District of the LCMS This program is broadcast on KCAU, the ABC network affiliate in Sioux City on Sunday morning, starting at 10:00 AM. The first 30 minutes are remastered episode of “This is the Life” The second half of the program is a modified Lutheran worship service that features a different Pastor each week, from the area.

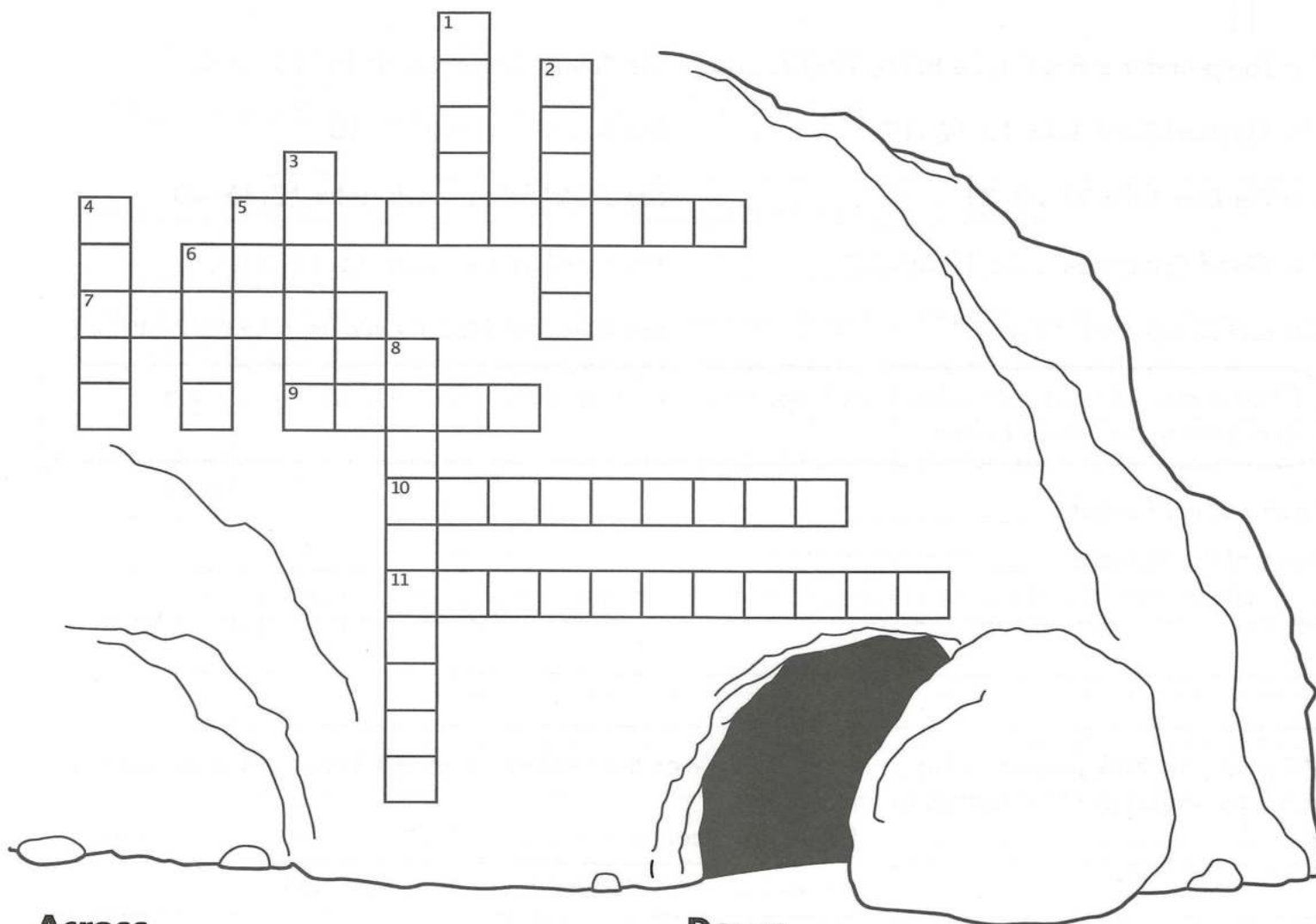


Dear Jesus, Help me to focus on You and your living Presence and surround me with Your peace. Please let me find eternal security in You, *for you are the same yesterday, today and forever, I know this will instill meaning into my days. Help me to begin each day alone with you, step by step holding your hand and being totally dependent on you, because I know Jesus you will smooth out the path before me. I love you Jesus, Amen*



## Resurrection Sunday

Read the story of Jesus' death and resurrection in Luke 22:47–24:12. Then, find the answers to the clues to complete the crossword puzzle below.



### Across

5. The stone had been \_\_\_\_\_. (24:2)
7. On the first day of the week, the women took \_\_\_\_\_. (24:1)
9. Pilate sent Jesus to \_\_\_\_\_. (23:7)
10. Two other men, both \_\_\_\_\_, were also crucified. (23:32)
11. The crowds mocked Jesus; soldiers crucified Him. Jesus said, "Father, \_\_\_\_\_." (23:34)

### Down

1. After Jesus' resurrection, He said to His disciples, "\_\_\_\_\_ be with you." (24:36)
2. Herod sent Jesus back to \_\_\_\_\_. (23:11)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ put Jesus' body in a new tomb. (23:50–53)
4. The angels said, "He is not here; He has \_\_\_\_\_." (24:6)
6. Judas betrayed Jesus with a \_\_\_\_\_. (22:48)
8. The crowds shouted, "\_\_\_\_\_!" (23:21)