St. Andrew Lutheran Church Encounter

From Pastor Jenna Pulkowski Pastor's Pen

2They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3but when they went in, they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. ~Luke 24:2-3 CEB



Dear St. Andrew family of faith,

Although spring in the Midwest can be unpredictable and at times seemingly unattainable—I'm looking at you, March snow—I still feel hopeful and filled with a sense of renewal and anticipation as we step into April.

During Lent we spent time in reflection and repentance as God guided us through a journey of introspection and spiritual growth. Now, as we approach Easter, we are reminded of the beautifully transformative power of resurrection and our story as people of the Resurrection.

Each year, Easter reminds us that through God hope is reborn, love is triumphant, and the promise of redemption is fulfilled. The world saw the story ending in death, but we bear witness to God's power as Jesus conquers Death, transforms our despair into joy, and the destroys any power this world has over us. As we celebrate Jesus' triumphant resurrection, he invites us to reflect on the ways in which we, too, are called to experience renewal in our own lives.

Renewal begins with openness—to God's grace, to the possibilities of transformation, and to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. It requires courage—to let go of the old and embrace the new, to face our fears and doubts, and to go boldly into the unknown. It demands faith—to believe

Continued on page 4

Vacation Bible School

(VBS) June 17-21: I'm excited to share that we are partnering with Grace Lutheran Church in Libertyville to co-host our summer 2024 VBS! Our theme this year is Camp Firelight, A Summer Camp Adventure With God. The dates are June 17-21 from 1p-4p, and open to kids 4 years old through 5th grade (entering fall 2024). For our kids in 6th grade and up, we would love it if they are available to help with the week and serve as guides, assistants, and general support.

Next Pie with Pastor

Next Pie with Pastor is 4/3 at 6pm: Our first Pie with Pastor was absolutely lovely—I had a great time connecting with the group that met, sharing more about the work the Council is doing, and hearing your thoughts and ideas about St. Andrew.

The next Pie with Pastor will be Wednesday, April 3 at 6 pm. Either come for your deserts or come ruin your dinner, but either way I hope you'll join us! Two more dates and times are being finalized.

COOL Plant & Flower Sale

25th Annual COOL Plant & Flower Sale: Saturday, May 11, 2024 // 11:30 am – 2 pm (No early pickups). Bethel Lutheran Church, 5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee.

It's that time of year!! All paper orders and payments are due to Pastor Jenna or Anita, no later than Easter Sunday. Email plantsale@coolministries.org if you have any questions.

Flowers for the Altar

If you would like to continue our tradition of sponsoring flowers for the altar, please either email the date and information to Anita or sign up on the flower calendar outside of Pastor's office. The cost is \$20. Sponsors for the eternal candle are \$20 for the month. Let's continue to beautify and light our church with memories and remembrances and honors!!

Volunteers Needed for Worship Services

As St Andrew returns to a more normal schedule, one of the main questions is who will usher? read the lessons? be a worship assistant? run the sound system for 8:30 service? record worship service?

I want you to take out a calendar and look at the Sundays, now through April and May, and see what you can do to fill the needs for our worship services. Training is available.

Needed for each Sunday:

- 2 Ushers (minimum 4 is best)
- Lay Reader
- Assisting Minister
- Sound Technician

Please call or email Anita Pahlman to be put on the schedule anitapahlmanstandrew@gmail.com ph # 847-566-8081

Your Time and Talent is appreciated!

Gifts & Memorial Fund

The church gift/memorial fund is established for the purpose of receiving and holding money given to the church in memory or honor of someone or to honor a special occasion.

GIFTS CAN BE GIVEN IN MEMORY, IN HONOR, AND WITH THANKS TO, GOD FOR BLESSINGS RECEIVED.

Garden Upate

Dear St Andrews Church Members:

I spent 3 different days last week removing chickweed from the garden. Though I have more to pull out most of it has been loosened up!

I have started sweet and hot peppers and am starting most of the tomatoes, March 18,19 in Alabama. I return the end of March and will plant early crops and finish weeding, restaking the fence, adding compost and composing my rows. I have the garden slightly designed. We should be back after March 26-28. I also fertilized the Church garden on the 6th and will do the Flower Church area when I return.(ran out)

See you soon! Dale L Hamblin



Sweet and hot peppers and starting most of the tomatoes

Men's Breakfast

Our Men's Breakfast group meets for breakfast at Mauri's Restaurant 510 E.Hawley St., Mundelein, Every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. We start at: 9:00 AM and end at 10:00 AM All St. Andrew Men are welcome for faith, food and fellowship.



April 7 -- 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1--2:2 John 20:19-31

April 14 -- 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36b-48

April 21 --

4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12 Psalm 23 1 John 3:16-24 John 10:11-18

April 28 --5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8

TREASURER'S REPORT

February 2024

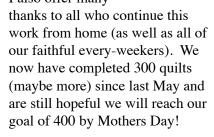
Total Income: ...\$24,164.25 Total Expense: ..\$27,699.93 Net:\$3,505.10

Quilters' Crossing

"...truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40

After the recent tornado in Mundelein on February 27, your Quilters were able to provide just a small bit of joy and comfort to some of the families who were displaced from their homes and who were temporarily housed at the Community Protestant Church by donating 18 of our quilts to them. I am told that when the folks saw the quilts draped on their cots, they were overwhelmed that someone thought of them in this way saying, "Are these ours to keep?"; some even instantly wrapped themselves in the quilts. We are so grateful that we could help even in this very small way. Thank you to Deb & Marty who had this idea and delivered them to the shelter for us!

We are continuing our work and recently had eleven more completed "quilt tops" brought back (thank you Jeannete) for our sewers and "tiers" to complete. I also offer many



Again thank you for your continued support of this ministry as we continue to "stitch forward"! Donations are still accepted for our Baby Care Kits as well as good, usable sheets that we can use as backs for the quilts. If you have questions, always feel free to call Judy Parriott (847)986-4465. If you want to "check us out", we continue to meet each Thursday from 9-12 in the church basement and the 4th Saturday of each month. You are always welcome!

We continue to be truly blessed!



Lyn H.for the Quilters

PARISH LIFE

Thank you to all who helped to make our Wednesday Lent Soup Suppers a success by sharing good food & fellowship. We had an average attendance of 20-25 each week.

We continue to share tasty treats on Sunday mornings between services - another opportunity for good fellowship and conversation with your fellow St. Andrew brothers and sisters. If you would like to share something, please look for the "sign up" on the treat table or call the church office or Lyn (847)566-2537.

We are still always open for suggestions of ways we CAN GET TOGETHER!

BLESSINGS!

Pastor's Pen - continued from page one

in the power of God to heal and restore, to trust in the goodness of God's plans, and to surrender ourselves fully to God's will.

As a community of faith, we are called to do this work together. To seek renewal in every aspect of our lives as we renew our commitments to prayer, worship, and service. To renew our relationships with God, one another, and with the world around us. Above all, to renew our hope that no matter how lost we are, no matter how painful the world around us is, that Christ's resurrection has already shown us the way to new and everlasting life.

I pray that this season of Easter is a time of renewal and rejoicing for each and every one of us. May we emerge from this season with hearts full of gratitude, minds renewed with wisdom, and spirits aflame with the love of Christ. And may we carry the message of resurrection wherever we go, shining as beacons of hope in a world that so desperately needs it.

Peace, Pr Jenna

Pictures are Worth 1000 Words

As we continue to update the new website, we are in need of more pictures of the church, and of programs at the church. Please email your pictures to Donn Hamm, - dehamm@comcast.net.

Who Cares Anyway?

St. Andrew Cares Fund

St. Andrew Cares is a special assistance fund used to help people in need.

Many times during a month individuals and families come to our church with real needs.

If you would like to make a contribution to this fund, you may give it to Anita, send it to the church office, or place it in the offering plate.

Thank you for your generosity!

Dear St. Andrew family of faith

I write to you with a heavy heart to share the passing of Polly Metts. God called her home on March 21.

Polly had a kind and generous heart that was often expressed in her care for others. She was an active member of the Caring in Action team at St. Andrew, and would share her kindness through visits, phone calls, and cards. We hold her family--especially her husband Neal and daughter Jessica--and all who knew her and loved her in our prayers.

Information about her memorial will be available soon.

Gracious God, we thank you for the long and full life of your beloved child, Polly, and for giving her to us to know and to love. We entrust her back to you, the One who lovingly made her and who now lovingly calls her home, and we look forward to the day of our reunion. We pray this in your name, Amen.

In God's Abundant Love, Pr Jenna

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JACQUELYN SCHMIDT

Gail Johnson

LOLITA BOLDT

Elaine Adamick
Mary Hanson
Steven & Dawn Tsarpalas
Frank & Barb Wermerskirchen
David & Debra Wagner
Julia Redwine

Thank you, Andrea Ammons

STEWARDSHIP -

STEWARDSHIP - We Continue to Share our GENEROSI-T (our Time, Talents and Treasures)

CHRIST IS RISEN -HE IS RISEN INDEED, HALLELUJAH!

During our Lenten journey to Easter with the help of Pastor Jenna's leadership & messages, our mid-week Lenten services, our Sunday morning Bible study ("Making Sense of the Cross"), and possibly your own personal devotions and prayer time, we have heard over and over again about the apostles & Jesus' own "humanity", worries, struggles and suffering but, ultimately, our Messiah/our Redeemer died and was resurrected to save us all and bring us eternal life even after death, as the sinful, human, imperfect beings that we may be.

God has called us & claimed us to be His children and to love those around us and to help spread the good news of the Gospel. Your Church Council has been hard at work to come up with ideas on how St. Andrew may be able to better fulfill our Mission Statement. Pastor Jenna will be holding more "Pie with Pastor" fellowship hours to share some of this news, to hear what you have to say about our church and your ideas as we move forward. Watch and listen for these and other opportunities. All of our hearts, minds and bodies are invited, each one of us is important and called for the work of our church.

I want to share another story from my daily devotions "Walking in Grace 2024" written by Edward Grinnan:

"A couple years ago, a team from little Saint Peter's University in Jersey City, New Jersey, nearly made it to the finals of the NCAA men's basketball tournament. Even casual fans like me pulled for them. What makes us root for the underdog? I mean who rooted for Goliath except his fellow Philistines - and I bet even a few of them were secretly pulling for David. I think what we see in the underdog is ourselves, up against forces that often feel overpowering. Wasn't Jesus himself an underdog? He wasn't the progeny of a revered rabbi. He wasn't born to royalty. He was the son of a humble Hebrew carpenter, brought into this world by a Jewish woman of even more

modest origins. He led a ragtag squad of unemployed laborers in a corner of the Middle East spreading a simple gospel of love and justice that would change the course of history.

If ever there were an underdog religion, it was early Christianity, whose adherents were persecuted and martyred, whose faith was outlawed by the Roman Empire. And yet Christianity prevailed, built upon a rock I can't help pointing out was named Saint Peter. Christianity is still an underdog religion. Practiced as Jesus commanded, we champion the poor. We defend the defenseless, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, house the homeless, love the unloved.

Many of us feel like underdogs faced with the problems of the world. And yet every time we do the

things our Christianity asks of us, we triumph. We overcome. We are David against Goliath."

Let us pray: Lord, our faith is our power. Your strength is ours when we follow Your teachings. Amen.

Lyn H and the Stewardship Team.



Worship with us

by viewing our service on line at:

Standrewmundelein.

PRAYER VENTURES April 2024

- 1 "We need to hear the gospel every day, because we forget it every day" (attributed to Martin Luther, 1483-1546). Pray that we might never grow weary of hearing the story of Easter or experiencing God's love and mercy for the world in the gift of Jesus Christ.
- Arab American Heritage Month Remember in prayer the diverse gifts, cultures, heritages, ethnic values and stories of our Arab and Middle Eastern neighbors and siblings in Christ. Ask God to bless and further the work, witness and advocacy of Arab and Middle Eastern congregations and ministries, of ELCA Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries, and of the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage.
- Ask God to help us see the presence and influence of Jesus in our daily lives, our relationships and our conversations with neighbors, co-workers and siblings in Christ.
- Pray for the people of Haiti, who have suffered multiple natural disasters in recent years and are now experiencing civil and political unrest and violence.
- Lift up praise and thanksgiving to God, celebrating God's promise of love, forgiveness and eternal life. "This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation" (Isaiah 25:9).
- Pray for the ministry of Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) and give thanks for its 80 years of work supporting and empowering immigrants, asylumseekers and refugees as they rebuild their lives in the United States.
- Thomas wasn't sure what to believe when the risen Jesus mysteriously appeared to him and the other disciples, but Jesus met his skepticism with love and understanding. Give thanks for God's patience with us when we grapple with the mysteries of our faith, and for the Spirit having revealed truth to us through Scripture, prayer, reflection and our siblings in Christ.

- Pray that the leaders of Russia and Ukraine and of Israel and Palestine will commit to their respective cease-fires and meet face-to-face to resolve their conflicts and create peaceful ways forward, ending the widespread human suffering and destruction that have impacted generations of their people.
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian (1906-1945)
 Remember and give thanks to God for people throughout history, such as Bonhoeffer, who are driven by their faith and convictions to stand against injustice, evil and violence toward others, even in the face of personal threats and death. Ask God for the courage and boldness to act when our neighbors are threatened or treated unjustly.
- "Everything they owned was held in common ... and it was distributed to each as any had need" (Acts 4:32-35). Ask the Spirit to stir our generosity and nurture our unwavering concern for the well-being of our neighbor so that we might share our assets with those in need and foster concerned communities.
- Ask the Spirit to guide and inspire the leaders of our church gathered for the ELCA Church Council in Chicago, that they will work together to guide, strengthen and grow the church; respond to new challenges; affirm God's call for us to serve our neighbors; and encourage people of all ages to bear the gospel into the world.
- Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel, including volunteers, longtime staff, Young Adults in Global Mission, and seminary students serving as Horizon International interns. Give thanks for their faithful service and the gifts and talents they bring to their work alongside our global companions.
- We live in a world that pits different groups of people against each other, causing inequity and anguish. Ask the Spirit to transform our fear and prejudice into compassion, kindness, empathy and respect qualities that strengthen our relationships with each other and affirm the goodness of God's creation. "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1).

- Thank God for the Scripture, sacraments, hymns and liturgical art that reveal our redemption and freedom through Jesus Christ.
- and truth" (1 John 3:18). Praise God for ELCA World Hunger's 50 years of action to end hunger, bring relief to those who suffer, develop sustainable solutions to hunger and raise awareness of the needs of our neighbors here and around the world. Pray that we might exercise generosity, wisdom and perseverance to meet the challenges of ending hunger.
- Ask God for the openness to reflect on our nation's history of injustice and inequality and for the courage and humility to overcome racial, religious and gender bias.
- Give thanks that we can live in the joy of being God's children and that, though we may not understand completely what that means, it will be fully revealed to us someday.
- 18 Praise God for the lengthening daylight of spring, which stirs new life and reminds us of the light God brings into the world through the gift of Jesus Christ.
- Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana and Western Iowa synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.
- 20 Remember in prayer our ministry in Africa through ELCA Global Mission, which works alongside Lutheran churches and agencies in 24 African countries and supports the work of the Lutheran World Federation's Department for World Service.
- 21 Jesus, our good and loving shepherd, laid down his life for us, his sheep. Give thanks and praise to God!
- Remember in prayer our neighbors and siblings in Christ whose vocations pull them away from their family, friends, congregation and community. Pray that the Holy Spirit will sustain their faith and spirit and that we will express our connection with them as they come and go.

- To whom do we turn when we are tired or unsure of our path in life? Praise God, who stays by our side through every twist and turn.
- Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Rocky Mountain Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.
- 25 Give thanks for the numerous volunteers from across the country who are training to help youth and their adult leaders at the ELCA Youth Gathering this summer in New Orleans.
- Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Alaska Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.
- Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northeastern Minnesota and Virginia synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.
- 28 "Those who say, 'I love God,' and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen" (1 John 4:20). Give thanks that God loved us first, so that we might know unconditional love and mercy and pass them along to all our neighbors.
- "To the servant of God ... every place is the right place, and every time is the right time" (Catherine of Siena, theologian, 1347-1380). Pray for the wisdom to see every moment of every day as an opportunity to honor God through loving, serving and honoring our neighbors in need.
- Thank God for the gift of baptism, which affirms our faith, washes us clean with God's love and forgiveness, welcomes us to the vast community of siblings in Christ and grants us a new life of service and sharing the gospel wherever we go.

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	AY Close 789 rd AA	n Mtg #198 AA	Apr		Sird A.	
8:30 Worship 10:45 Worship 11 Sunday School 3 Girl Scouts #45617	8 6:30 pm <i>Early Bird AA</i>	9 9 am Men's Breakfast (Mauri's) 6:30 pm <i>Cub Pk</i> #98 7 pm Council Mtg 7:00 pm <i>Troop</i> #198 7:30 pm <i>Mund.</i> AA	10 10 am Bible Study 6 pm Confirmation 7 Lucky Ducks 4-H	9 am Quilters 12:30 LHOUSE Co-Op	12 5:30 pm <i>Early Bird AA</i>	13
14 8:30 Worship 10:45 Worship 11 Sunday School	15 1:00 LHOUSE Co-Op 5:45 Daisies #47789 6:30 pm Early Bird AA 7 pm Kirk Players Reh	ENCOUNTER ARTICLES DUE 7:00 pm Troop #198 7:30 pm Mund. AA	17 10 am Bible Study 6 pm Confirmation 7 pm Kirk Players Reh	9 am Quilters - Brown Bag Lunch 7 pm <i>Kirk Players Reh</i>	19 5:30 pm <i>Early Bird AA</i> 6:30 Girl Scouts #47205	20
21 8:30 Worship 10:45 Worship 11 Sunday School 3 Girl Scouts #45617	6:30 pm Early Bird AA 7 pm Staff Support Mtg 7 pm Kirk Players Reh 7:30 Mundelein Coin Club	23 9 am Men's Breakfast (Mauri's) 4:30 Girl Scouts #45730 6:30 pm Cub Pk #98 7:00 pm Troop #198 7:30 pm Mund. AA	24 10 am Bible Study 6 pm Confirmation 7 pm Kirk Players Reh	9 am Quilters 7 pm Operations Umbrella Team Mtg 7 pm Kirk Players Reh	26 5:30 pm <i>Early Bird AA</i>	8:30 Woman's Breakfast Bible Study 9 am Quilters
28 8:30 Worship 10:45 Worship 11 Sunday School	29 1 pm <i>LHOUSE Co-Op</i> 6:30 pm <i>Early Bird AA</i> 7 pm <i>Kirk Players Reh</i>	30 7:00 pm <i>Troop #198</i> 7:30 pm <i>Mund. AA</i>				



Join the Celebration April 20th

Please help us give thanks for 80 years of ministry at Lutherdale!

1:00 Worship

2:00-4:00 Activity Stations

Crafts, Refreshments, Scavenger Hunt, BINGO Sing-a-long, Memory Sharing, Photo Slide Show Fun for all ages!

Please RSVP 262-742-2352 or email- info@lutherdale.org

Bring any photos or memories you have to share!



N7891 US HWY 12 Elkhorn, WI 53121 lutherdale.org



SUMMER CAMP

Lutherdale has been offering summer camp for 80 years! We believe that every camper deserves to be welcomed, accepted, known, celebrated, and loved as a child of God.

Our programs are designed to provide a variety of opportunities for growth and fun in a place of grace. From traditional outdoor activities like hiking, swimming, and canceina, to creative arts and crafts, and music, there is something for everyone. We also offer programs that focus on leadership development. spiritual growth, and service to others

Scan the QR Code to see more information about this summers

CAMP PROGRAM WITH AGE/GRADE COMPLETED JUNE 16-21 HIN-W, High School Week IS-15, LEAR 16 210 June 22-23 Camp 24 Family Weekend JUNE 23-28 Camp Odayin (specialty camp for kids with H **JULY 1-5** Team USA (Adult 18+ with Disabilities), On-Site Day Camp (K-5) JULY 7-12 Adventure Week (3-8), Young Ploneers (1-2) JULY 14-19 Night Owls (6-8), Fireflies (4-5), On-site Day Camp np Oasis (specialty camp for kids with Crohn's and Colitis dis JULY 21-26 JULY 28-AUG 2 Water Week (3-8), High School Week (9-1) AUG 4-7 Young Ploneers (1-2), Mini Mashup (3-8) AUG 14-17 Family Camp

more info at

DATES

WHAT IS THIS SUMMER'S THEME?

We are loved and accepted by God even before we enter this world prove ourselves to receive God's grace

learn to be supportive siblings in Christ. Sharing with and listening to

"Joy is prayer-Joy is strength-Joy is love-Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls....

A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love. Never let anything so fill you with sorrow as to make you forget the joy of the Christ risen."

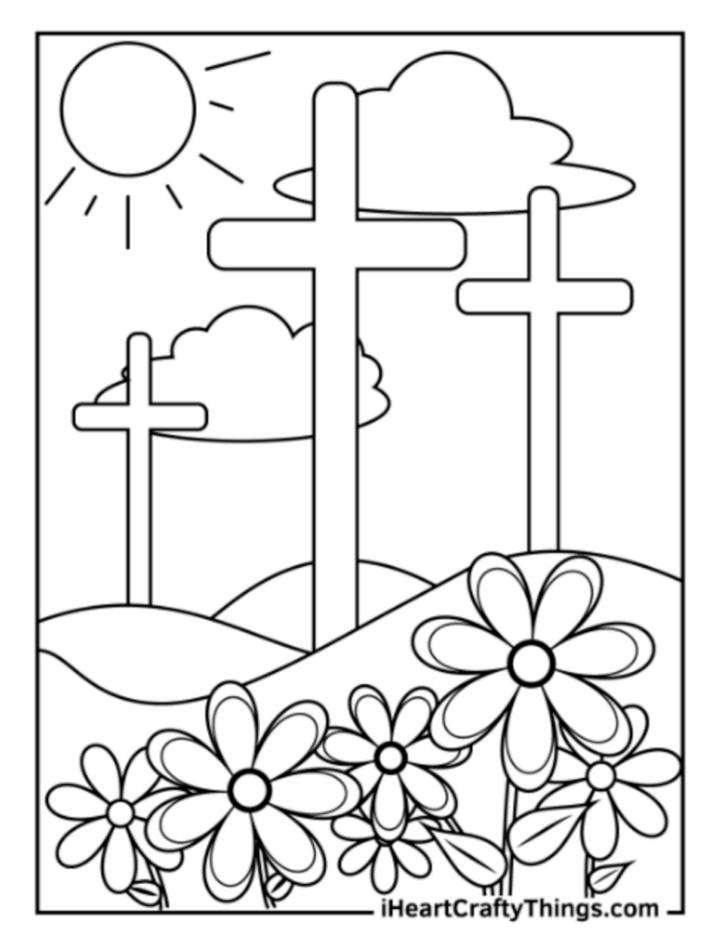
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"Sharing Christ" - In Faithful Worship

- Faithful Giving
- Ministry Participation
- Daily Living

www.standrewmundelein.com Telephone No.: 847-566-8081

Dated Material Do Not Delay

All are Welcome...

The Sunday Morning Worship Schedule is:

> **Traditional Service:** 8:30 a.m. **Contemporary Service:** 10:45 a.m.



St. Andrew Lutheran Church (ELCA)

10 South Lake Street Mundelein, IL 60060

www.standrewmundelein.com Telephone No.: 847-566-8081



Our Mission is to be a church where all people are welcomed, fed, and nourished in the name of Jesus Christ.