



St. James Lutheran Church

Reflecting the Light of Christ in Crystal

Gospel "E"

Weekly Email Newsletter

March 4, 2014

Weekly Devotion: 'You Are My Beloved'

Whenever you pray, go in to your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (Matthew 6:6)

In prayer we seek God's voice and allow God's word to penetrate our fear and resistance so that we can begin to hear what God wants us to know. And what God wants us to know is that before we think or do or accomplish anything, before we have much money or little money, the deepest truth of our human identity is this: "You are my beloved son. You are my beloved daughter. With you I am well pleased." When we can claim this truth as true for us, then we also see that it is true for all other people. God is well pleased with us, and so we are free to approach all people, the rich or the poor, in the freedom of God's love... As our prayer deepens into a constant awareness of God's goodness, the spirit of gratitude grows within us. Gratitude flows from the recognition that who we are and what we have are gifts to be received and shared.

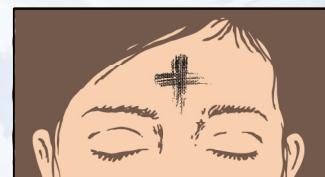
Dearest Lord, help me to grow in prayer and gratitude this Lenten season.

(By Henri J.M. Nouwen God's Abiding Love: Daily Lenten Meditations and Prayers, Ash Wednesday © 2014 Creative Communications for the Parish)

Ash Wednesday and Lenten Worship

Join us for worship as Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5) with the imposition of ashes at both the **12:30 p.m.** and **7:00 p.m.** worship services. Please note the daytime service time change.

Beginning the following week (March 12), all are invited to *bring your own lunch* and eat together in Wold Hall at 12:00 p.m. prior to the daytime worship service at 12:30 p.m.



Empty Bowl Fundraiser

You are invited to enjoy soup and bread at the annual Empty Bowls Fundraiser on Tuesday March 11 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Sandburg Learning Center. Monies donated will go to PRISM and NEAR. There will be free entertainment and ceramic bowls for purchase.

March Food Drive Underway

One in ten Minnesotans miss 10 meals per month. This affects children most since 40% of Minnesota children go hungry. You might want to look around and count to ten. That tenth person might be hungry. Our congregation can help by donating to the March Food Drive.

Last year members of St. James generously donated \$4,856. Every dollar you donated went for food. For every \$20 donated, a square foot box could be filled with food. The Bonfire congregations are trying to raise enough money/food to fill a trailer. Please write checks out to St. James with NEAR on the memo line. Be a Hero! Fight Hunger!

Mark your Calendar

- 3-5 *Ash Wednesday worship, 12:30 & 7:00 p.m.*
- 3-14 *Sr. High Lock-in*
- 3-21 *Family Movie Night, 6:30 p.m. (Frozen)*

Statements for Taxes

End of year giving statements are not mailed out, so if you would like it as you prepare your taxes please stop in to get it in the narthex.

Contact Us

6700 46th Place North
Crystal, MN 55428
763-537-3653
www.stjamesincrystal.org

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#)