



**Special points of interest:**

Sunday Worship  
 8:00 AM Traditional  
 10:00 AM Praise Worship  
 with Children's Church  
 10:00 AM YouTube Live

Church Office Hours  
 Mon.—Thurs.  
 8:30 AM—4:30 PM  
 (@ Lunch 12:30—1:30 PM)

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Monday, March 9, 2026

Volume 53, Issue 5

*From the Pastor's desk:*

It is March! WOW! Time is such an interesting thing. Sometimes it feels like the days are dragging on and others it feels like we blink and time is gone! Do you feel this way? Do you struggle with feeling like there is not enough time to get your 'to do' list done while recognizing that the day's end is here before we know it? I often need to remind myself to slow down, be present, and be easier on myself when I feel like time has run out. I invite you to do the same. Breathe. Take a break. Be kind and gentle to yourselves. Tomorrow is going to come, whether we think we are ready or not.

We are in the wilderness of this Lenten Season. We are invited to turn ourselves back to God in mind, body, and spirit. What does this look like for you during this season of intentionality? How can we be more intentional about turning our hearts back to God? I know that at the end of this season Jesus will be raised from the dead. I know that at the end of this season waits forgiveness, grace, mercy, and endless unconditional love. There are good things coming, yet we journey through the wilderness of temptation and division. There is unconditional and radical love, yet we trudge through isolation and loneliness. There is forgiveness and absolution of sin, yet we push past judgement and blame. We are invited to sit in the discomfort of the wilderness and put our trust and hope back in God. We journey to the cross together, as an intentional and beloved community as the Body of Christ. Amen.

March is a busy month! The 22nd is my installation and we will have one service at 10am. The 29th is Palm Sunday and a fifth Sunday, meaning that will also be one service at 10am. If you have any prayer requests please reach out to me or Lynn and we will share them with the congregation.

As always, thank you for all that you do! I am grateful to serve alongside you as your Pastor.

Peace be with you all,  
 Pastor Rachel

**BY THE NUMBERS**

	<b>2/18/26</b>	23 + 23	46		
<b>2/22/26</b>	20 + 34	54	<b>3/1/26 One Service</b>	72	
Online Views		16	Online Views	21	
Required total receipts weekly.....\$8,680.60					
Gen Fund 2/22/26	\$2,216.01		Gen Fund 3/1/26	\$28,701.00	
Forward in Faith	\$1,210.00		Forward in Faith	\$1,695.00	
Surplus/Deficit	-\$4,419.59		Surplus/Deficit	+\$21,885.40	
Festival .....	\$761	53/54.....	\$74	Unexpected Blessings.....	\$30



**Pray for Alpine members:**

Wendy Barton, Tim & DiAnne Beynon, Diane Billert, Mike Bukowski, Beverly Clayton, Kathy Cordonier, Rolly Greenland, Pam Hodges, Glen McDonald, Valerie Miller, Kathy Mund, Ramijio Rivera, JR Stropes, and Pat Turmo.

**Pray for our friends and family of Alpine:**

Sally Atkinson, Brynn Ballard, Kim Braun, Blake Dummer, Daniel Hendrickson, Sandy Jackson, Darlene Johnson, Bill LeGault, Rosalind Lykken, Serenity Messenger, Danny Moorhouse, Michael Moorhouse, Peggy Moorhouse, Rev. Willard Olson, Bob Schult, Bob Swenson, Don Tennant, Ali Younglove, and all those in the middle of various conflicts of war.

**All in the Family**

Birthday thanks came in from **Lynn Valentine** and **Marlene Bukowski**. **Karl Okeson** sends his thanks for the altar flowers and get-well wishes following his knee surgery. **Lynn Valentine** wishes to thank everyone for the sympathies sent following her sister, **Dionne Dundas'** death. For those who knew her, a memorial service will be Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 11 AM at Alpine .

**Worship Schedule :**

- **Sunday Worship:**  
8:00 AM Traditional Worship  
10:00 AM Praise Worship & Children's Church/  
YouTube-Facebook Live
- **Children's Church** will meet at the 10 AM worship during the service, seasonal Grab & Go packets will continue to be available for pick-up.
- **Adult Forums** will be on various Sundays. Please watch your Summit for announcements of dates.
- **Rejoicing Spirits: Every 1<sup>st</sup> (in person) & 3<sup>rd</sup> (Zoom) Thursday, 6:00 PM** This service is for those with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and others.
- **Tuesday Bible Breakfast: 8:00 AM** Tuesdays, Sunrise Restaurant



**Pastoral Needs:** Pastor Rachel will be off on Mondays and in the office Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. She will also be available by appointment on Fridays. All other times, please contact the office, 815-399-5013.



**Praying weekly for Alpine's membership** has had a very positive effect on our church! We have had many positive and thankful responses from those we have been praying for. The benefits are so great that we have decided to make this an on-going part of Alpine's church life. Some comments we've received are "power of prayer - it works!", "just what we needed", and loads of thanks! Even though we are praying for a few families each week, please call the office whenever the need arises for extra prayers you may have.

**Together we worship, together we pray,  
together we love.**

**Mar. 15<sup>th</sup>** — Craig & Louise Skolrood; Jessica, Arayah, Joslyn, & Remijio Rivera; and Lisa Robinson.

**Mar. 22<sup>nd</sup>** — Randy Teske; Pat Zuroske; and Deb Williams.

**Sunday, March 1, 2026—ONE SERVICE**

**Annual Meeting Sunday**

Ushers: Karl Okeson, John Gustafson  
Ambassadors: Deb Okeson  
Lector: Dick Nelson  
Lay Assistant: Dick Nelson  
Praise Singer: Bob McVinnie

**Sunday, March 8, 2026**

Ushers: (8) Bob Fanello, Randy Teske (10) DiAnne Beynon, Volunteer  
Ambassadors: (8) Jack & Carla Phillips (10) Mike Schultz  
Lector: (8) Randy Teske (10) Jari Sproule  
Lay Assistant: (8) Deb Okeson (10) Chuck Valentine  
Praise Singers: Jasime Doubek



We have a couple **“One Service” Sundays** coming up. On **Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>**, Pastor Josh Ebener from the No. IL Synod will be here to install Pastor Rachel. We will join together with her and her family at One Service, 10 AM, and then have a celebration in Fellowship Hall following the service. Then on the following **Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**, it is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. It is also Palm Sunday so it will be nice to have a full sanctuary as we worship together!



Our **Soup Suppers continue every Wednesday in Lent**. Join us each week as we join in fellowship for a meal and worship. In preparation, the Soup Supper sign-up poster is in the narthex. Please consider helping with bringing a soup, bread or dessert. Committees help with setup and clean-up. This evening of is always an Alpine favorite.

For our **Lenten worship services** this year, we will meet in Fellowship Hall following the Soup Supper. Join us as we delve into the series written by the Northern IL Synod entitled *“Going Deeper: Conversations with Jesus”*.

Our **Lenten devotionals** for this year are entitled *“Love Out-poured”*, a collection of devotions written by several pastors and bishops from the ELCA. They have been ordered and will be available in the Memorial Lounge soon. Please start with one per family.

The newest edition of *“Living Lutheran”* is here. In this edition’s cover story, we learn how pastors are using the game, *“Dungeon & Dragons”* to minister to people who may not otherwise see themselves in the church community. Copies are available on the Cares and Concerns counter in the narthex. Take one home and then pass it on to a friend.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars** are funds that eligible members of Thrivent are offered to direct to enrolled nonprofit organizations, including Alpine. Choice Dollars designated during 2026 can be directed until March 31<sup>st</sup>. Members can direct Choice Dollars online at [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or by calling 800-847-4836.



The **Altar Guild** has begun taking orders for our **2026 Easter Glory Garden flowers**. We will have our traditional lilies and tulips. Order envelopes are available on the kiosk in the narthex. The cost is \$13 per plant. Orders will be taken through Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. (Laurel McVinnie)

**\*The Council has voted to keep our outside doors locked during the week days. Please ring the RING doorbell and someone will be with you as soon as possible.**

We are currently looking for **someone to clean** the church twice a week. This paid position involves cleaning bathrooms, vacuuming, emptying trash, dusting and various other cleaning duties. If you know of someone, please have them call the office.

**2026 Altar Flower and Eternal Candle** charts are up and ready for your dedications. Remember loved ones passed or celebrate a special event. Each sponsorship helps to defray the cost of our flowers every year and we thank everyone for contributing to this ministry. (Altar Guild)

**Fellowship is a very important part of every congregation.** We all enjoy conversing after church especially with coffee and a treat. We need people to provide those treats. You do not need to be a master baker. Purchased treats are just as good. We also need juice to be served along with the coffee. Then all you need to do is man the table. It is very simple. (Help with clean-up is also appreciated.) A sign-up sheet is available by the coffee.

**Children’s Church**



**Join us for Children’s Church!** The children leave the 10 AM service at the beginning of the worship service after the opening song to allow for more time for learning. Seasonal grab bags will be available for pick-up.



**Alpine Lutheran Church**  
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Non-profit org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Rockford, IL  
Permit #2653

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Sun. Worship Times**  
**8:00 & 10:00 AM**

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See what Alpine has to  
offer you on the Web!  
[alpinelutheran.com](http://alpinelutheran.com)

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**Called by Christ, our mission is to share God's love.**



rockford rescue mission  
rescue + recover + restore

### **Community Highlight: Rockford Rescue Mission**

The Mission's funding comes from individuals, churches, businesses and various organizations along with an occasional grant for specific programs. They help to provide shelter, food and programs to better the lives of individuals who may have fallen on hard times. Rockford Rescue Mission shares hope and help in Jesus' name to move people from homelessness and despair toward personal and spiritual wholeness.

Our services are designed to serve physical, emotional, spiritual and relational needs by empowering people to move from despair and hopelessness to whole-person life change. These services are made possible by God's continuing grace... and generous supporters in our community!

To donate please visit [rockfordrescuemission.org](http://rockfordrescuemission.org).