

ABOUT THE COVER

MARCH–APRIL–MAY — QUARTER 2 2026

March 1, 2026



Lent

About the Cover: Abraham trusted God’s promises and had faith in Him throughout his life. He followed the Lord into an unknown land, trusted that God would make his offspring great, and even offered up his own son, trusting that God can raise the dead. The source of Abraham’s faith was not in himself but in the Lord’s promises. Although we often falter throughout life, we live lives of faith built solely on the promises of God in Christ Jesus. The God of Abraham is our God. He has counted us as righteous by faith in His Son, Jesus, who sacrificed Himself on the cross for us.

March 8, 2026



Lent

About the Cover: The parched-desert complaints of the Israelites were coupled with their desire to strike Moses with stones. However, the Lord had Moses strike a rock to provide the Israelites with water during their journey. Jesus, the rock of our salvation, was struck on His way to die on the cross for us. It was through His death on the cross that He poured out the waters of eternal life and won forgiveness for us. His water quenches our thirsty souls with God’s abundant life and sustains us on this side of heaven and into eternal life.

March 15, 2026



Lent

About the Cover: Jesus brought mud, washing, and His Word together to give sight to a man who was born blind. Then Jesus used His Word to let the man know whom he was looking at. The gift of physical sight was only a preamble to the spiritual sight the man needed to see the Son of Man. Jesus is still granting us the eyes of faith to see His work. He unites His Word with water to wash away our sin. He brings His Word together with bread and wine to give us His very body and blood, given and shed for us. Jesus continues to open eyes by faith, helping people see Him at work and delivering them forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

March 22, 2026



Lent

About the Cover: Jesus delivered words of life to Martha in the midst of her brother’s death. By His Word, He then raised Lazarus from the dead. Jesus gives life in the midst of death because He is the resurrection and the life. Through His death on the cross, He has brought us life by atoning for all of our sins. Although death is still the reality on this side of Jesus’ return, our life by faith continues with Him after death, and we will be raised on the Last Day, just as He rose from the dead.

March 29, 2026



Palm Sunday

About the Cover: Christ came to us in humility, taking the form of an obedient servant. On Palm Sunday, He again came in humility, riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. Then, the ultimate sign of His humility was shown on Good Friday. Paradoxically, it was His being lifted up on the cross that was the greatest sign of His glory and exaltation. It is through His death on the cross that Christ has won for us the forgiveness of sins. This alone is the power of God for salvation for all who believe (see 1 Corinthians 1:18; Romans 1:16). We proclaim today, “Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:11).

April 5, 2026



Easter

About the Cover: Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Christ’s resurrection has changed everything. By faith, we have died to sin, have been buried with Him, and have been raised with Him. This changes the way we look at this life, turning our eyes upward toward the things of God. One day, Christ will return. On that day, what we now hold by faith will be delivered before our very eyes as we appear with Christ in His glory at the resurrection of our bodies. Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

April 12, 2026



Easter

About the Cover: Peter’s convicting words that were given to the leadership to bring about repentance are applied to us as well. For God exalted Christ to deliver the forgiveness of sins by faith in Him. All of us have been born into and contributed to the sin that put Christ to death. When we are convicted of our sin by the work of God’s Law on our hearts, it is always in order to bring about repentance and faith in Christ, our Savior, who has been raised for our justification.

April 19, 2026



Easter

About the Cover: When the two disciples encountered Christ on the road to Emmaus, their hopeful hearts had grown cold at their Lord's death three days earlier. However, their hearts burned within them as the risen Lord opened the Scriptures to them. The living, breathing, bread-breaking Lord who appeared to them sent them running in the night to confirm what they had seen and heard with the other disciples, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed!" (Luke 24:34).

April 26, 2026



Easter

About the Cover: Christ, the Good Shepherd, leads His sheep to eternal life. The Good Shepherd is intent on giving life as He searches for the lost, gives guidance for the wandering, provides protection for the helpless, and delivers food for the hungry. He gave us this abundant life by laying down His own for His sheep and taking it up again. Since Christ gave His life for us on the cross and rose from the dead, we can have confidence that the life He promises us is in His hand forever (see John 10:28).

May 3, 2026



Easter

About the Cover: Jesus' work on the cross and His resurrection was all done so that we may be with Him forever. There is no good apart from Jesus. Jesus is indeed with us this day by the promises of Baptism. We have the promise that He will never leave us. In His Word, He is with us by the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Lord's Supper, He is with us in His very body and blood to bring us forgiveness and strengthen our faith. When we die, we will be with Jesus. Finally, when we are raised on the Last Day, we and all believers will be in heaven with Him forever.

May 10, 2026



Easter

About the Cover: God's hand is always with us. In Christ, we have been adopted into the very family of God. Because we are members of this eternal family, Christ, our Brother, the Son of God raised from the dead, will never leave us as orphans. Through Christ's work on the cross and His resurrection, our Father in heaven sees us as His sons and daughters. Today, Jesus comes to us through His Word and Sacraments. One day, He will return to raise us and take us to be with Him as part of His eternal family forever.

May 17, 2026



Easter

About the Cover: When Jesus prayed, He interceded for us. His perfect and holy prayers were heard by our Father in heaven. Jesus—the crucified one, the risen one—ascended to the right hand of the Father, where He continues to intercede for us. He does so by the atoning blood He shed for us in His once-for-all sacrifice on the cross nearly two thousand years ago. There is no cessation to His intercession for us because He has been raised and will never die again (see Romans 6:9).

May 24, 2026



Pentecost

About the Cover: Belief in Jesus comes only by the power of the Holy Spirit. Before He ascended into heaven, Jesus spoke of what would happen on the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the apostles, enabling them to proclaim in many languages what Christ had accomplished. The Holy Spirit is still active in all who believe in Him. For the Spirit and the Word go hand in hand and work in us to open our hands to receive the benefits of forgiveness, life, and salvation from our crucified and risen Lord.

May 31, 2026



Trinity

About the Cover: The name of our triune God is majestic throughout the earth. It is above and beyond all things. For it is from our God that all things came into being and continue to hold together. Amazingly, He places His name upon us in Holy Baptism. The God of all the universe promises to be with us at all times. It is fitting that everything should be in His name, from the Invocation to the Benediction, from Baptism to the day of resurrection, and forevermore!