

# St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 3, 2024

*"Loving People to Christ"*

Welcome to God's Holy House!  
May this worship service be an uplifting and  
spiritual blessing for you and your family.

**PRAYER AS WE GATHER:** *"Savior, as we are in another Lenten season, give to us a full appreciation of what you went through during the last days of your life. It was my sin and my wickedness that made it necessary for you to go through so much. I am genuinely sorry for my transgressions. I hang my head in shame over what I have done. Without you, I have no hope. Yet Lent reminds me that there is hope for all who trust in you. You willingly took upon yourself my iniquities. You carried my sorrows. Your sacrifice wiped away all sin. Thank you, dearest Redeemer, for suffering in my place. Lord, hear me, a contrite sinner. Amen."*

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION:** Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ said *"Take and Eat, This is my Body, Take and Drink, This is my Blood given for you for the forgiveness of SINS"* (Matt. 26: 26-28).



We celebrate the Lord's Supper today, and believe that Jesus is truly present "in, and with and under" the bread and wine. All communicant members of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, are welcome to receive communion. Participation means that one is repentant of sin and believes the Sacrament increases faith, forgives sin, and is the true body and blood of Jesus Christ. If you are a visitor and wish to take communion, please see Pastor or an Elder before the service. Grape juice is offered for those who can not drink wine.

***DIVINE SERVICE FOUR***  
***with HOLY COMMUNION***  
***Lutheran Service Book p. 203***

**Confession and Absolution**

**Opening Hymn "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"**

**LBS 427**

**Invocation**



**LSB 203**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**Exhortation**

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sins**

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

### **Absolution**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

## Service of the Word



### Introit for Third Sunday in Lent

For zeal for your house has consumed  
me,

and the reproaches of those who reproach you have  
fallen on me.

**Deliver me from sinking in the mire;**

**let me be delivered from my enemies and from the  
deep waters.**

Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swallow  
me up,

or the pit close its mouth over me.

**Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is  
good;**

**according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

For zeal for your house has consumed me,

and the reproaches of those who reproach you have  
fallen on me.

Kyrie



LSB 204

**C Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

### **Collect for Third Sunday in Lent**

**P** O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### **First Reading**

**Exodus 20 1-17 NIV**

<sup>1</sup>And God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

<sup>3</sup>“You shall have no other gods before<sup>[a]</sup> me.

<sup>4</sup>“You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous

God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>“You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>10</sup> but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. <sup>11</sup> For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

<sup>12</sup>“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>“You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>“You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>“You shall not steal.

16 “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

17 “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 19 NIV**

1 The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

2 **Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they reveal knowledge.**

3 They have no speech, they use no words;  
no sound is heard from them.

4 **Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,  
their words to the ends of the world.**

**In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

5 It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,  
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

6 **It rises at one end of the heavens  
and makes its circuit to the other;  
nothing is deprived of its warmth.**

7 The law of the LORD is perfect,  
refreshing the soul.

The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,  
making wise the simple.

**8 The precepts of the LORD are right,  
giving joy to the heart.  
The commands of the LORD are radiant,  
giving light to the eyes.**

9 The fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever.  
The decrees of the LORD are firm,  
and all of them are righteous.

**10 They are more precious than gold,  
than much pure gold;  
they are sweeter than honey,  
than honey from the honeycomb.**

11 By them your servant is warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

**12 But who can discern their own errors?  
Forgive my hidden faults.**

13 Keep your servant also from willful sins;  
may they not rule over me.

Then I will be blameless,  
innocent of great transgression.

**14 May these words of my mouth and this meditation  
of my heart**

**be pleasing in your sight,  
LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**



## Second Reading

## 1 Corinthians 1: 18-31 NIV

<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written:

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;  
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

<sup>20</sup> Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup> God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things – and the things that are not – to

nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one may boast before him. <sup>30</sup> It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God – that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. <sup>31</sup> Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### The Holy Gospel

**John 2: 13-25 NIV**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. <sup>15</sup> So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup> To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!” <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it is written: “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

<sup>18</sup> The Jews then responded to him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?”

<sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.”

<sup>20</sup> They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” <sup>21</sup> But the temple he had spoken of was his body. <sup>22</sup> After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

<sup>23</sup> Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, many people saw the signs he was performing and believed in his name. <sup>24</sup> But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all people. <sup>25</sup> He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person.


P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

**The Nicene Creed**

**LSB 206**

**Sermon Hymn “May God Bestow on Us His Grace”  
LSB 824**

**Sermon**  *“Faith Machines”* taken from John 2: 13-25

**Offering** We ask all members and visitors to please sign our “Friendship Folder” located at the center aisle end of each pew in the red vinyl folder.

Prayer 

Let us pray for the whole Church of God  
in Christ Jesus and for all people.

*Brief silence*

P Lord, in Your mercy, C **Hear our prayer.**

**Service of the Sacrament**



**Preface**

**LSB 208**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and .... evermore praising  
You and singing...

**Sanctus** 

**LSB 208**

**Lord's Prayer**

**LSB 209**

**The Words of Institution**

**Pax Domini**

C **Amen.**

**Agnus Dei** 

**LSB 210**

## Distribution Hymns

**“Jesus, Lead Thou On”** LSB 718

**“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent”** LSB 621

**The Dismissal** LSB 210

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.

**C** Amen.

**“Nunc Dimittis”**   LSB 211

**Post-Communion Collect** LSB 212

**P** We give thanks to You, almighty God....one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Benediction** LSB 212

**C** Amen

**Closing Hymn**  **“God of Grace & God of Glory”**  
LSB 850

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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**ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING**

*Pastor: Pastor John Richy*  
*Elder: Gary Knight*  
*Communion Asst: Duane Schultz*  
*Lector: Jack Costenaro*  
*Ushers: Lori Costenaro and Tina Funchion*  
*Music Director: Sue Olson*  
*Organist: Kyle Castillo*

**LENTEN / HOLY WEEK / EASTER  
OBSERVANCES 2024**

*Wednesday night Lenten Suppers  
starting 5:30 pm*

*Wednesday evening 7:00 pm Lenten Services  
March 6, 13, 20*

*Palm Sunday March 24*

*Maundy Thursday March 28, 7:00 pm*

*Good Friday March 29, 7:00 pm*

*Easter Sunday March 31, 7:00 am and 10:00 am  
Breakfast after 7:00 service*

**CHURCH STATISTICS FROM FEBRUARY 21, 2024**

*Lent 1: \$245.00*  
*Church Attn: 25*

**CHURCH STATISTICS FROM LENT 1 FEBRUARY 25**

*Church Attn: 60      Bible Study: 20*  
*Offerings: \$2808.00      Memorials: \$150.00*  
*Total Income: \$2958.00*



**BAKERY ITEMS** are needed for the Auction/Dinner desserts. If you can bring a bakery item with you on the Auction day. Call Kari Nimon @ 773-344-7687 with what you plan on bringing and how many servings it will provide. These bakery goods will be part of the actual dinner, which comes from Stephen's Lounge. Thank you.

You may go on-line to [www.stjohnschurchlansing.org](http://www.stjohnschurchlansing.org) and purchase your tickets and sign up using our website

**SPRING DINNER AUCTION:** Forms are now available at either church entrance for 1) merchants who wish to place an ad in our Auction Catalog and 2) donation sheet to be returned with your donated item (one half is your copy and the other is attached to your donation (or call for pick-up) and (3) sign-up sheets (pink) If you have questions, contact Tina Funchion @ 708 789-2844

*2023 contribution statements are available on the table next to the chapel.*

**CHURCH BRICKS** If you wish to make an order, order forms ("Legacy Project") are available at either entrance. See Ray Nommensen for more info.

**PRAYERS FOR OUR ST. JOHN'S FAMILY (\*Homebound)**

*Andy Banas Jr.\* Irma Deichen\**

*Lynn Erke John Linn Sandra Luecke\**

*Myra Mayerak Shirley Odegaard\* Sandy Swanson*

*Norma Vierk\* Shirley Weiss\* Margaret Zoellick\**

**CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK**

*Jeremiah Mayerak, Mar 5*

*Lori Szymanski, Mar 5*

*Mary Wells, Mar 7*

*Elliott Kooi, Mar 9*

*Sandra Luecke, Mar 10*

**CELEBRATING A WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

*Brian and Sally Winters, Mar 5*

**Wed. Mar. 6**

**5:30 pm**

**Lenten Supper**

**7:00 pm**

**Lent 2 Service**

**Thurs. Mar. 7**

**6:00-7:30 pm Confirmation**

**6:00 pm**

**Chimes Practice**

**7:00 pm**

**Choir Practice**

**Sat. Mar. 9**

**4:00 pm**

**Dinner/Auction**

**Sun. Mar.10 Third Sunday in Lent**

**8:15 am**

**Adult Bible Study**

**9:30 am**

**Worship with Communion**

**The gym is reserved for two weeks (March 4-15) for Auction preparation**

## ***St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church***

*Rev. Dr. John Richy, Pastor*

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*Church Phone: 708 895-9240*

*Church E-mail: [stjohnslansing@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnslansing@comcast.net)*

*Website: <https://www.stjohnschurchlansing.org>*



**CHURCH OFFICE :** *The office hours are 9:00*

*am - 2:00 pm Tuesday through Friday,*

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