



**St. John
Lutheran
Church**

2888 W Houghton
Lake Dr
Houghton Lake,
MI 48629
989-366-5164



February 28, 2024

Welcome

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Midweek Lenten Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us today and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

May God bless your worship with us today,
Paul Kruse, Pastor

E-mail: paul@stjohnhl.com

Mobile: 989-992-6030

*'Compelled by the Love of Christ to Live, Learn, Share,
and Serve'*

*'Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of Christian
faith in our community, to all generations, wherever they
may be'*

Pastor Adam Flanick – Our Savior Lutheran Church, Gladwin

AS WE GATHER

From earliest days the Christian Church employed the weeks before Easter—what came to be called the season of Lent—as the time of the year to prepare candidates for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, the catechumenate. Paul wrote, “We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4). Our midweek Lenten services prepare us to consider our identity and connection with the Passion of Christ as the baptized children of God. As He testified before Pilate that His kingdom is not of this world so are we, by our Baptism, “fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God” (Ephesians 2:19).

Prelude

Welcome and Sharing of the Peace

Opening Hymn **“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”** *LSB 341vs 1,2 &5*

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!

Behold, the King of glory waits.

The King of kings is drawing near;

The Savior of the world is here.

Life and salvation He doth bring;

Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.

To God the Father raise

Your joyful songs of praise.

A righteous Helper comes to thee;

His chariot is humility,

His kingly crown is holiness,

His scepter, pity in distress.

The end of all our woe He brings;

Therefore the earth is glad and sings.

To Christ the Savior raise

Your grateful hymns of praise.

Redeemer, come and open wide
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
O enter with Thy grace divine;
Thy face of mercy on me shine.
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on
Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame
We offer to Thy name.

Text: Georg Weisdel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

Invocation

LSB 184

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 118:24; 113:3; Joel 2:13; Matthew 16:24; Isaiah 53:5*

P This is the day which the Lord has made;

C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

P Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

C **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.**

P Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,

C **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.**

P Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

C **He was bruised for our iniquities.**

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

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.

First Reading

Ephesians 1:3-10, 15-22

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church,

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

John 18:28-40

²⁸ Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. ²⁹ So Pilate went outside to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰ They answered him, "If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you." ³¹ Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge

him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." ³² This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³³ So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" ³⁵ Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." ³⁷ Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸ Pilate said to him, "What is truth?" After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no guilt in him. ³⁹ But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" ⁴⁰ They cried out again, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

P Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

P We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

CATECHISM

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third**

day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” *LSB 709*

The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!
And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77 Text: Public domain

Message

“What Kind of King Is This?”

Sermon

Offering

Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.



Prayer for Lent

P In peace let us pray to the Lord

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

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

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Thy kingdom come. O Lord, rule our minds, hearts, and lives that we may know and believe Your Word of truth and that we may live our lives as forgiven sinners in true freedom serving others as You have served us. Hear us for the sake of Your love.

C **Amen.**

Collect For The Word

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

C **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

Blessing

P Let us bless the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you..

G **Amen.**

Closing Song

“Beautiful Savior”*LSB 537*

Beautiful Savior, King of creation,

Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love Thee,

Truly I'd serve Thee,

Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,

Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;

Jesus is fairer,

Jesus is purer,

He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,

Bright the sparkling stars on high;

Jesus shines brighter,

Jesus shines purer

Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,

Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor,

Praise, adoration

Now and forevermore be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904

Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Sermon Notes

