



## St. John Lutheran Church

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9:00 - Traditional



**March 10, 2024**

# Welcome

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Traditional Worship 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*

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***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'*

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

***Divine Service One*** (pp 151ff)

**A Time of Preparation**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Sharing of the Peace**

**Opening Song**    **“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”** *LSB 849*

Praise the One who breaks the darkness  
    With a liberating light;

Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,  
    Turning blindness into sight.

Praise the One who preached the Gospel,  
    Healing ev'ry dread disease,  
Calming storms, and feeding thousands  
    With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children  
    With a strong, yet gentle, word;

Praise the One who drove out demons  
    With the piercing, two-edged sword.

Praise the One who brings cool water  
    To the desert's burning sand;  
From this Well comes living water,  
    Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate,  
Christ, who suffered in our place.

Jesus died and rose victorious  
That we may know God by grace.

Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
Seeing what our God has done;

Let us praise the true Redeemer,  
Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

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## Invocation

LSB 151

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- G** Amen.

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

## Confession and Forgiveness

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- G** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination*

- P** Most merciful God,
- G** **we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- G** Amen.

## Service of the Word

- P** The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
- G** **The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**
- P** Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
- G** **though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.**
- P** One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:
- G** **that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.**
- P** For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

- C** he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.
- C** **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.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy** *(Sung)*

*LSB 152*

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray together...
- C** **Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **First Reading**

Numbers 21:4-9

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they

bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup> And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." <sup>9</sup> So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

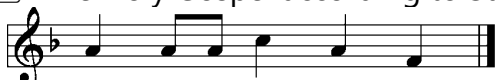
**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Reading

John 3:14-21

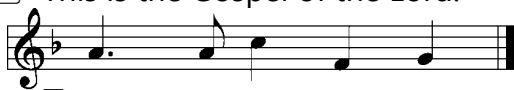
**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Children's Message

### Message Song

### "He Leadeth Me" *(not in Hymnal)*

He leadeth me! O blessed thought!  
O words with heav'n-ly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,  
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me. **Refrain**

**Ref:** He leadeth me, He leadeth me;  
By His own hand He leadeth me:  
His faithful foll'wer I would be,  
For by His hand He Leadeth me.

Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine,  
Nor ever murmur nor repine,  
Content, whatever Lot I see,  
Since 'tis Thy hand that leadeth me. **Refrain**

And when my task on earth is done,  
When, by Thy grace, the vict'ry's won,  
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee,  
Since God thro' Jordan leadeth me. **Refrain**

### Message

### "I Need a Lift"

### Offering

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



### Offering Song - Sung

*LSB 159*

- ☑ What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

## Apostles' Creed

**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.

## Prayer of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

*LSB 162*

**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.**

### Blessing

*LSB 166*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



**C** A - men.

### Closing Song

**“Just as I Am, without One Plea”** *LSB 570 vs 1, 4-6*

Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd’st me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; Thy love unknown  
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871 Text: Public domain

#### **Acknowledgments**

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