



St John's

Evangelical Lutheran Church & School
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Third Sunday in Lent

12 March 2023 9:00 A.M.

Welcome! Even if no one else here knows you, our Savior Jesus knows you by name. In His name we welcome you. May you find God's peace and our friendship here.

We *love* to have **Children** with us in the pews for worship. Our children's activity bags in the entryway have activities that can help them. We love babies in worship too because our Savior said, "Let the little children come to me." When babies want to be loud, the **Parents' Room** (just outside our worship area) is a good place for them to talk or cry so the rest of the worshipers can focus on God's Word. Then come back so we can all worship together.

Generally, only members of St. John's participate in the **Lord's Supper** here. We wouldn't presume to ask you, our honored guests, to stand with us until you know what we stand for. We hope you appreciate the *sincere love* we are showing you by following this Scriptural practice. We consider it a good thing when someone wants to receive the Lord's Supper with us, and we'll gladly work with you so you may attend the Lord's Supper as soon as possible.

We invite you to fill out a **ministry card** so we can better care for you. You'll find one on the pew in front of you. God bless your week. Come hear God's Word with us again!

Pre-worship Pondering:

—Christopher Idle

1. *He stood before the court on trial instead of us;
He met its pow'r to hurt, condemned to face the cross—
Our King, accused of treachery; our God, abused for blasphemy!*
2. *These are the crimes that tell the tale of human guilt;
Our sins, our death, our hell— on these the case is built.
To this world's pow'rs the Lord stays dumb. The guilt is ours; no answers come.*
3. *The sentence must be passed, the unknown Pris'ner killed;
The price is paid at last, the law of God fulfilled.
He takes our blame, and from that day th'accuser's claim is wiped away.*
4. *Shall we be judged and tried? In Christ our trial is done.
We live, for He has died. Our condemnation's gone.
In Christ are we both dead and raised, alive and free—His name be praised!*

Divine Service I

Worship Theme

Jesus Overcomes All Blindness

Hymn

#343 (stanzas 1-2)

Invocation, Call to Worship, Confession and Absolution

Pastor: *In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.*

Congregation: *Amen. I will proclaim the name of the LORD.*

P: Oh, praise the greatness of our God!

C: *He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He. (Deuteronomy 32:3-4)*

P: From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised. (Psalm 113:3)

C: *O LORD, God of heaven, the great and awesome God, You keep Your covenant of love with those who love You and obey Your commands.*

P: Let Your ear be attentive to hear the prayer Your servants are praying before You.

C: I confess the sins I have committed against You. I have acted very wickedly toward You and toward many of my neighbors. I have not obeyed all the commands You gave to everyone in Your Word. (see Nehemiah 1:5-7)

P: Lord, forgive Your people, who have sinned against You;

C: forgive all the offenses we have committed against You. (see 1 Kings 8:50)

P: This is what the high and lofty One says: "I live in a high and holy place, but also with those who are contrite, to revive the spirit of the lowly. I will comfort them, creating praise on the lips of those who are sorry. Peace, peace, to those far and near," says the LORD. "And I will heal them." (see Isaiah 57:15-19, to be "contrite" is to feel godly sorrow over your sins)

C: Lord, we are Your servants and Your people, whom You redeemed by Your great strength and Your mighty hand. We delight in revering Your name (see Nehemiah 1:10-11). No one is like you, O Lord; You are great, and Your name is mighty in power (Jeremiah 10: 6). You have healed our souls from sin.

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Glory to God (sung by the congregation)

C Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on
earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer - cy on us. You are

seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re -

ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.

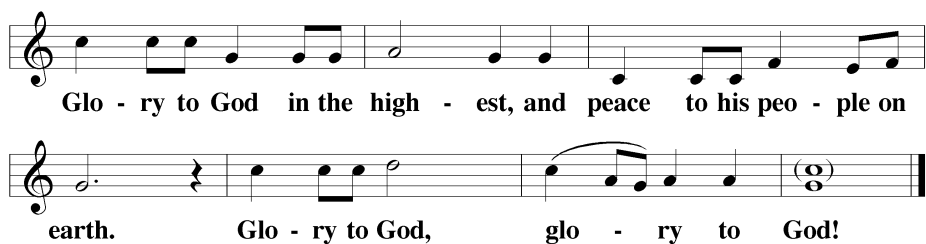
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on

earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the

Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the

Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



We Prepare to Hear God's Word

Prayer of the Day

P: Lord Jesus, as You graciously opened the eyes of the physically blind and caused them to see, so You have graciously opened our eyes—we who were born spiritually blind. Now we ask, open the eyes of our minds that we may see the meaning of Your Word clearly. Then open our mouths so that we may speak the truth to others, in order that You might overcome their blindness too,

C: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 42:14-21

¹⁴For a long time I have kept silent, I have been quiet and held myself back. But now, like a woman in childbirth, I cry out, I gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will lay waste the mountains and hills and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn rivers into islands and dry up the pools. ¹⁶I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them. ¹⁷But those who trust in idols, who say to images, “You are our gods,” will be turned back in utter shame. ¹⁸Hear, you deaf; look, you blind, and see! ¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, and deaf like the messenger I send? Who is blind like the one

committed to me, blind like the servant of the LORD? ²⁰You have seen many things, but have paid no attention; your ears are open, but you hear nothing. ²¹It pleased the LORD for the sake of his righteousness to make his law great and glorious.

P: You have heard the Word of the Lord.

C (speaks): Thanks be to God!

Verse of the Day

Ephesians 1:18

P: I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened

C: in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you.

Gospel

John 9:1-7,13-17,34-39

¹As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³“Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. ⁴As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. ⁷“Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. ¹⁴Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man’s eyes was a Sabbath.

¹⁵Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. “He put mud on my eyes,” the man replied, “and I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others asked, “How can a sinner do such miraculous signs?” So they were divided. ¹⁷Finally they turned again to the blind

man, “What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” The man replied, “He is a prophet.” ³⁴To this they replied, “You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!” And they threw him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶“Who is he, sir?” the man asked. “Tell me so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said, “You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.” ³⁸Then the man said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”

P: You have heard the Gospel of the Lord.

C (speaks): Praise be to Christ!

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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 of the Day

#122 (stanzas 1-3)

Sermon

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light consists in

all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: “Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Let the Son Shine

We Respond to the Word

Create in Me a Pure Heart

The musical score is written in treble clef with a common time signature (C). It consists of six staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Cre - ate in me a pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Do not cast me a - way from your pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it." The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and slurs.

C Cre - ate in me a pure heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me.
 Do not cast me a - way from your pres - ence or
 take your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
 store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
 hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Many of our members give to the Lord electronically or once a month. So we now gather our offering as we enter the worship area. It is also acceptable to place an offering into the plate on the way out of the worship area. Guests are always welcome here without obligation.

We Bring a Thank Offering

Hymn #113

5. Your cords of love, my Savior, bind me to You forever;
I am no longer mine. To You I gladly tender
all that my life can render and all I have to You resign.

Prayers of the Church

spoken by the pastor

Lord's Prayer

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.

A note about Holy Communion to all communicants: Members of our sister churches in the WELS & ELS are welcome to participate with members of St. John's. Follow the directions of the ushers to the communion rail. If you prefer an individual cup or a gluten-free wafer, pick these up from the tray as you come to the communion rail. You may kneel as directed or remain standing. Receive the bread in your hand. If you drink from the common cup, take hold of the bottom of the chalice (or the stem but not the rim) and guide the cup to your mouth. If you took an individual cup, please hold it until the pastor comes by with the common cup: then each communicant will hear the words of the Sacrament as s/he drinks. Baskets for the individual cups are on the short stands as you return to your place.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C (speaks): And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by His death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)

[C] Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -
ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -
ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. (8)

Words of Institution

spoken by the pastor

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread...

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God (*Agnus Dei*)

The musical score is written on seven staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature 'C'. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff starts with a square box containing the letter 'C'. The lyrics are: 'O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men. A - men.' The music consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

C O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O
Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O
Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace. A -
men. A - men.

Distribution

Distribution Hymns

#343 (stanzas 3-4),

#122 (stanzas 4-5), #313:1-4, LAPPY p. 141-142, #373

The Song of Simeon may also be sung during distribution if communicants are still being served.

Song of Simeon (*Nunc Dimittis*)

The musical score is written on five staves of a single treble clef. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C'. The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.' The score ends with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note.

C In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de -
part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal -
va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple, a
light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry, the
glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C: and His mercy endures forever.

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that You have refreshed us with Your Word and again with Your Holy Supper. Through these means of grace strengthen our faith in You and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and grant you His ✠ peace. C: Amen.

Acknowledgements

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Pre-Worship Pondering – “*He Stood Before the Court*” from CW115, text Christopher Idle, © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710356.

Thank offering hymn stanza – “*Upon the Cross Extended*” from CW #113, words by William Cowper, *alt.* In the public domain.

Memory Verse of the Month

1 Peter 1:18-19

You know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

SERVING THE LORD AND US

March 12, 2023

Minister: Pastor Nathan Cordes 651-448-3559 KnowJesusBetter@StJohnsLakeCity.com

Organist: Dianne Wolff

Audiovisual Tech: Chris Fischer

Communion/Flower Cte for March: Bonnie Dwelle, Judy Lortscher

March 12 Ushers: Bill & Bonnie Fuhrman

March 15 Ushers: 3:30pm- Vern & Mary Zimmermann

7:00pm-Rachel & Caden Fischer, Seth & Philip Harteneck

March 19 Ushers: Glenn Albers, Mark Nibbe

Teachers in our LES

Mr. David Zabel, Principal, Gr. 6-8 Mrs. Jamie Fischer, Gr. PK-4, Director

Miss Molly Ring, Gr. 3-5

Miss Allison Hofland, PK-3

Mrs. Katie Majerus, Gr. 1-2

Miss Michelle Yotter, Gr. K

Sunday School Teachers Dawn Balow, Jennifer Ellison, Kristi Gross,

Philip Harteneck, Seth Harteneck, Brittany Huneke, Marcus Huneke

Youth Bible Teachers Stephanie Knudsen, Jolayne Johnson

MEN OF TRUTH The 2023 Men of Truth Conference (Men Mentoring Men) meets on Saturday Mar 25 from 8 A.M. to 2:15 P.M. at Martin Luther College in New Ulm. Keynote: Pastor Jeremy Mattek. Info: menoftruth.org.

Opportunities for Learning, Serving and Spending Time Together
March 12, 2023 – March 19, 2023

Today—Daylight Saving began

8:55 AM Live-stream on YouTube
 9:00 AM Worship w/ Communion
 10:15 AM Bible studies for all ages
 10:35 AM Rebroadcast of 9 AM service on ch 18 or 13

Monday

6:00 PM School Board Meeting

Tuesday

6:00 PM Admin Board Meeting
 7:00 PM Rebroadcast of Sunday service on ch 18 or 13

Wednesday

8:40 AM Chapel—all welcome
 3:30 PM Catechism Bible Study
 3:30 PM Lenten service w/ LIVE broadcast on ch 18 / 13

Wednesday—cont.

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM Lenten Supper
 7:00 PM Lenten service
 7:50 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

9:30 AM G.R.O.W.
 7:00 PM Rebroadcast of our Wed service on ch 18 or 13

Friday & Saturday

Sunday

8:25 AM Usher unlocks doors
 8:55 AM Live-stream on YouTube
 9:00 AM Worship
 9:00 AM Adult Choir sings
 10:15 AM Bible studies for all ages
 10:35 AM Rebroadcast of 9 AM service on ch 18 or 13

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION The PTA planning group is looking for volunteers to help out with childcare during their March 20 meeting, starting with a pizza meal at 6:00pm. If you're available to help, please contact Erin Hinck (507-251-9656, hincke@stjohnslakecity.com).

LENTEN SUPPER On Wednesday, March 15, the Ladies Aid will be serving soup and sandwiches. All proceeds collected will be donated to our St. John's Video Fund so that our services can continue to be broadcast on cable ch 18/13.

LENTEN SUPPERS (cont.) We now have all the Lenten Suppers covered. Our Teens intend to serve spaghetti &

fixin's on Mar 22, and the participants in our two women's Bible studies plan to serve "hot off the grill" on Mar 29. We thank all five groups and ask God to bless them.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL The VBS planning team is getting geared up for another week of fun, and we need your help to make VBS a success! The Planning Team is looking for volunteers willing to take charge of **Snacks** (planning, shopping & distributing), **Decorations** (planning, creating, set-up/tear down), and **Volunteer Coordination**. VBS is scheduled for June 12–15 (four days). If you are interested in helping out in any of these ways, please contact Miss Hofland (507-990-3993 / hoflanda@stjohnslakecity.com).

DID YOU KNOW that VBS is one of our biggest outreach events all year? Here is an event for everyone who wants St. John's to continue into the future to participate in. In fact we could think of this as an "all hands on deck" situation. There are lots of little ways and big ways for St. John's members to be involved. Let's find just the right way that fits your schedule and skill set. Examples: praying for the students and teachers and craft leaders and aides, making snacks, making props for the teacher or devotion leader, registration and name tags for days one and two, doing any of the following for one to four days: serving as a teacher or craft leader or aide, cheerfully greeting at the door for a half-hour at the start-of-VBS or the end-of-VBS, serving snacks, leading music, monitoring the halls for safety, parking lot safety directors, first-aid responder, any other way you can think of to make this great event even better for everyone involved.

REBATE PROGRAM Our local grocery store has started a new rebate program for non-profit organizations such as St. John's. We are now collecting receipts from our local grocery store. St. John's will receive a 1% rebate of the total of the receipts. Our coordinator Pam Klenke has placed a container on the Info Counter by the doors into the church office to receive all receipts from our local grocery store.

CHOICE DOLLARS For those of you who know what "Choice Dollars" are, the company that makes choice dollars available is looking for you to designate by March 31 where you want your Choice Dollars to go. If you haven't told that company where to send your Choice Dollars, the company will direct them to a charity of their choice. Many of you direct your Choice Dollars toward our church or our school. Thank you.

THERE'S ALWAYS A WAY for each of us to be involved in the gospel ministry of our church. Our congregation's leaders are happy to help us match our time and abilities to an appropriate part of our ministry. Our church gets stronger and stronger in Christ the more individuals grab hold of the gospel ministry we are privileged to share. All believers know peace in Jesus. There is additional joy in serving the Lord and others. God grants a special kind of fulfillment when we grow from observer into participant.