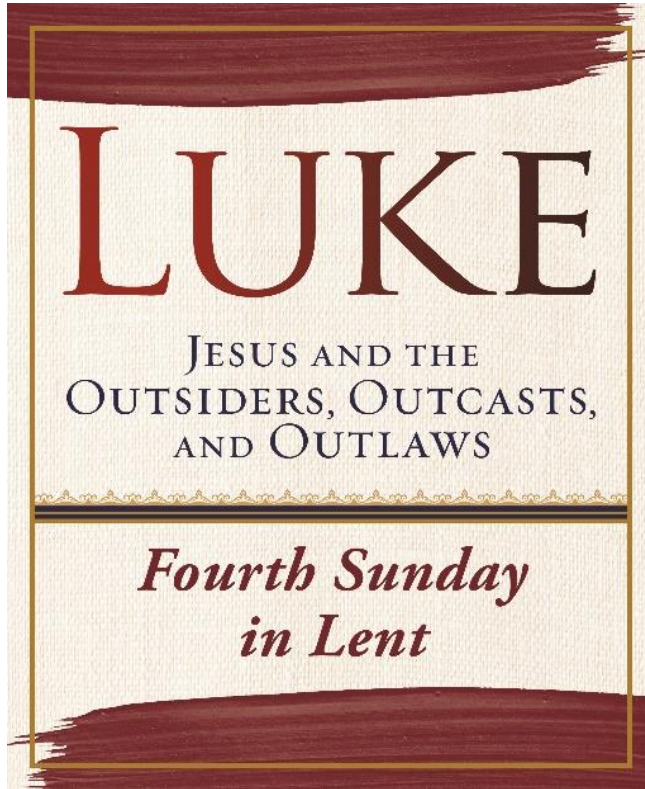


Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

10:45 a.m.



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

North Versailles, Pennsylvania

A Place for Everyone



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church in America

*A Reconciling in Christ congregation
of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*



The Rev. Dr. Kimberly Greway, Pastor



Welcome to St. John's Lutheran Church!

We are happy to have you with us today!

- You will find the entire worship service printed on the following pages.
- Words spoken or sung by the people are **in bold type**.
- Explanations of the structure and content of the service are *written like this*.
- When asked to stand, please do so only as you are able and comfortable.
- When you see this symbol in the liturgy **✝**, you are invited to cross yourself. The sign of the cross is a sign and remembrance of Baptism. It is also a remembrance of the death and resurrection of our Lord.
- At St. John's, we practice an open table for communion. All who seek God from any tradition or denomination are welcome to receive communion. Extend both hands to receive communion. If you would prefer to have a blessing instead of communion, come forward and cross your arms over your chest or ask the pastor for a blessing. Gluten free wafers are available. If you have an alcohol sensitivity, you may receive the bread alone. If you would like communion brought to your seat, please let an usher know.
- Children are always a welcome part of worship at St. John's and the "Sermon for Young Disciples" is especially for them. You are invited to send (or bring) children and youth to the front of the sanctuary at the appropriate time.
- Children's bulletins are available in the narthex providing activities based on today's scripture readings.
- If you need to step out of the sanctuary with your child(ren) during worship, please be aware that you will still be able to hear the service from the narthex (lobby). If you wish, you may also make use of the un-staffed nursery room, where you can also hear the service.
- Large print bulletins are available in the narthex.
- Hearing assistance devices are available from an usher to enhance your worship experience.



Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023 10:45 a.m.

Worship begins with a chance to prepare our hearts and minds to encounter God. Turn off your electronic devices and bring your conversations to an end.

We stand facing the baptismal font, remembering that we have been claimed as God's children.

We remember with thanksgiving the gifts and promises of our baptism into Christ: adoption, salvation, forgiveness and renewal!

During this season of Lent, on March 5, 12, 19 and Easter Sunday, we will be studying Jesus from the perspective of Luke based on a book by Adam Hamilton:
Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Quietly center your heart and mind for worship.*

All may make the sign of the cross ✠, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to praise and give thanks to God, glorifying God's name.

We gather to look for the coming of God's kingdom.

We gather to ask from God the bread we need for today. **We gather in confidence and assurance that whoever seeks, finds, and to everyone who knocks, the door is opened.**

We gather to ask and receive forgiveness for our wrongs and to forgive those who have wronged us. **We gather to follow Jesus, who will lead us in the way that leads to life.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, as we search our hearts through this season of Lent, we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from those in need. We have not lifted up the lowly. We have strayed from your will. We have failed to do the things you have called us to do. We have looked on others with judgment rather than compassion. Forgive us, we pray. Lift us out of our sin and fill our hearts with goodness and love. See us as we are. Show us mercy and remember us today. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Hear the good news. The Son of Man came to seek and save the lost, and there is joy in heaven when even one sinner repents. In the name of Jesus Christ ✠ you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

*We stand,
as able.*

Will You Come and Follow Me
The Summons

*We turn to face
the
processional
cross
continually
facing it on its
way to the front
of the church.*



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
your name? Will you care for cruel and
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
your name? Will you quell the fear in -
my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
kind and nev - er be the same?
free and nev - er be the same?
side and nev - er be the same?
you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
world a - round, through my sight and touch and
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
pray'r in you and you in me?"
mean in you and you in me?"
sound in you and you in me?"
grow in you and you in me.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.

With the faithful through the ages, we pray for God's mercy to bring peace, salvation and unity in ourselves, the church, and the world.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. God, open our hearts and minds to receive your word. Thank you for your faithful servants who have handed down to us sound instruction and a trustworthy witness to your Son Jesus Christ. As the scriptures are read and your word proclaimed, grow within our hearts a love for your Son and a willingness to follow him. Fill us with your Holy Spirit and give us confidence in what you teach us today. **Amen.**

*After the prayer,
we sit.*

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM

Variations on the Doxology
Arranged by Sondra K. Tucker

SERMON FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

This is Where Children Belong James Ritchie

This, this is where chil dren be-long, wel comed as part of the wor-ship-ing throng.
Wa-ter, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be - long.

COMMISSIONING OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

To the people before me who are willing to undertake the responsibility of being Eucharistic Ministers, I ask the following:

Are you resolved to undertake the ministry of giving the body and blood of Jesus to your brothers, sisters, and siblings, and so serve to build up the Church?

Response: I am.

Are you resolved to administer the holy Eucharist with the utmost care and reverence?

Response: I am.

Will you be diligent in your visitation and offer care, comfort, and prayer to those who are in need?

Response: I will.

Let us pray. Merciful God, who is truly present with us in the sacrament of the Eucharist, bless these your servants. May they faithfully give the bread of life, the cup of salvation, and healing visitation to your faithful people. Strengthened by this sacrament, may they come at last to the banquet of heaven. May the saving mysteries they distribute lead them to the joys of eternal life. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-5

A reading from Exodus.

¹The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” ²Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’” ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” ⁵He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from Ephesians.

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*We stand as if
to welcome
Jesus himself
into our midst
for the reading
of the gospel,
a message of
good news from
Jesus.*



GOSPEL: Luke 9:51-53; 17:11-17

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O LORD.

^{9:51}When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem.

^{7:11}On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean.

¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they?"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows.

We stand,
as able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 574

Here I Am, Lord



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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Throughout history, Christians have presented the basic beliefs of the church in documents called creeds.

We respond to the good news presented in the scriptures and sermon by reciting one of the church's creeds, proclaiming our faith in the God who creates us, saves us, and makes us to be holy people.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Adapted from Luke 1:46-55)

With all my heart I glorify the Lord!

In the depths of my soul I rejoice in God my savior.

God has looked with favor on those of low status.

The mighty one has done great things for us.

God shows mercy to everyone,

from one generation to the next.

God scatters those with arrogant thoughts and proud inclinations and welcomes sinners and outcasts.

God pulls the powerful down from their thrones and lifts up the lowly.

God fills the hungry with good things and sends the rich away empty-handed.

There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent, when those who are lost have been found.

For the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

We kneel as able, or sit. A brief silence.

Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire us by your love as together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest springtime bud. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray about what is happening in the world.

**Joseph,
Guardian of
Jesus**

Though the Bible tells us little about the husband of Jesus' mother Mary, we know that he was a carpenter or builder by trade. He is also shown as being devoted both to God and to Mary and Jesus. It is assumed that he died before Jesus became an adult.

Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials. Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; tend all who are sick and comfort those who grieve, especially those we name before you now... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God our host, you fill us at your table with more than we could ever ask. Feed us with hunger for justice. Equip the feeding ministries of this congregation and community. Nourish us so we can nourish our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of history, with thanksgiving we remember our ancestors in faith who cared for your people especially Joseph, Guardian of Jesus. We praise you for the ways they formed the faith of others and continue to inspire us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Preparing for receiving the bread and wine of Holy Communion, we make sure there are no disagreements or grudges within the gathered group.

PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you always.
And also with you.

We sit.

Peace

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Fellowship Pads and Offering

During the offering, we pass the fellowship pad to each person in the pew. Print your name and check the appropriate blocks, especially of communing. As the pad returns to its place by the center aisle, note the names of other worshippers, and greet them after the Service.

CHOIR ANTHEM: “In Heavenly Love”

OFFERING HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

We stand and sing a song of joy and hope as the congregation's gifts to God are brought forward including bread and wine that we will share in Holy Communion.

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

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **Amen.**

The pastor leads us in singing or speaking these joyful words.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

We stand as able.

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

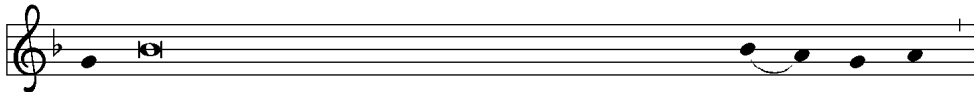
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE



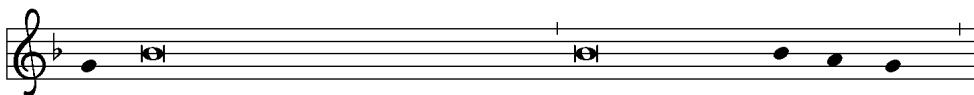
It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,



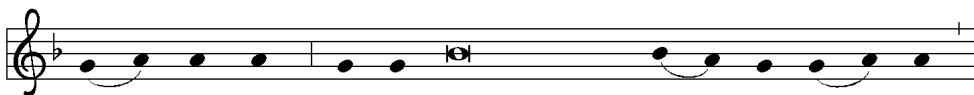
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,



al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.



You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the



pas - chal feast, that re - newed in the gift of bap - tism,



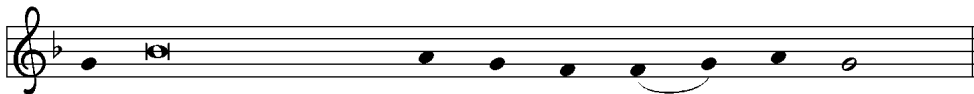
we may come to the full - ness of your grace.



And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,



with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,



we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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This song which combines words sung by angels in heaven and words sung about Jesus on earth, is based upon Isaiah 6: 3 and Matthew 21:

HOLY HOLY HOLY

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and uses a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, often connected by slurs. The lyrics are printed below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en 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.

Hosanna
in the highest!

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our living Water and our merciful Guide,
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs
we bless and magnify you.

*The pastor offers
thanks for the
many ways God
has blessed us
throughout
history.*

You led you people Israel through the desert,
and provided them water from the rock,

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,
who joined us in our desert,
pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
Our LORD Jesus took bread,
And gave thanks; broke it
And gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat;
this is my body, given for you.

*After describing
God at work
through history
we use words
spoken by Jesus
at the last
supper that he
had with his
disciples.*

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper,
He took the cup, gave thanks,
And gave it for all to drink,
Saying: This cup is
The new covenant in my blood,
Shed for you and for all people
For the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

*In the meantime
we are reminded
that we are
called to work
and make God's
will a reality in
our world.*

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this holy food
and on all the baptized gathered for this meal:
wash away our sin,
that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever. **Amen.**

*Jesus teaches
this prayer to his
disciples in
chapter six of
Matthew's
gospel.*

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

We sit.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Communion is distributed by intinction.

Come forward by the center aisle. Gluten free wafers are available.

After receiving the wafer, you may dip it partially into the wine before eating it.

You may eat just the wafer as Christ is fully present in each element.

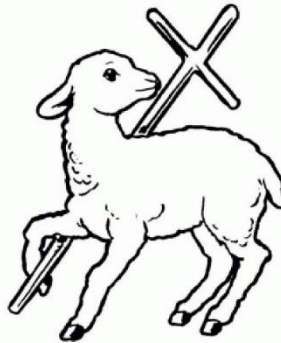
Let an usher know of your need for communion to be brought to you.

COMMUNION SONGS

During the distribution we sing "Lamb of God" and hymn **ELW 614**

The witness of John the Baptist in John 1:29 becomes our witness and prayer as we receive Jesus in the communion meal.

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



There Is a Balm in Gilead


Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged and think my work's in vain,
 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can-not pray like Paul,
 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
 and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

*We stand, as
able*

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Jesus came to heal, to serve, to reach the outsiders and outcast. Go forth in gratitude, giving thanks to God, for the mighty one has done great things for us.



Amen
amen
amen

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

*In preparation
for departure,
we turn as the
cross is carried
past us and face
the back of the
church.*



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.



Refrain

In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

OUR WORSHIP IS ENDED

OUR SERVICE BEGINS

*Join us for Coffee Fellowship in the narthex
to welcome guests and to visit with one another.*

It is with appreciation and gratitude that St. John's commissions and blesses our Eucharistic Ministers; Marlene Gumbert, John Hall, Bertie Palmieri, Judy Rogers, Chuck Schaller, Carla Schlegel, Ed Sites, and Matt Thomas. May God guide them as they do His work.

Foster Care Presentation today – Wesley Family Services will present information and answer questions for us after church today about the foster care system. This is the agency that Pastor Kimberly and Ken are using as recently approved foster parents. They will help us learn to be a safe and loving community for foster kids and will cover the history of foster care and do's and don't's. Come join us for the presentation and snacks!

Amazing Race, Palm Splitting and Lunch! The Christian Education/Youth ministry committee would like to invite all members and friends to a special event on April 1, 2023. From 10:00 a.m. until noon, we will be preparing the palms for Palm Sunday worship, learning about Holy Week and enjoying lunch together.

The Holy Week activity is designed around the format of the "Amazing Race" TV show.. Teams will be solving clues that will lead them to stations to learn about the experiences Jesus and the disciples had in the week before Easter. It is for all ages. Another way to participate is to be a guide at one of the individual stations and help the contestants complete their task there. If you are interested in helping or have questions, please see Sarah Lundie (412-638-2124). We hope to see you there!

Easter Candy Needed The Christian Ed/Youth committee would love donations of filled Easter plastic eggs (fill with wrapped candy or small prizes) or small, individually wrapped candy to use for the children's egg hunt Easter Sunday morning. They may be placed in the basket in the narthex or left in the church office.

Faith Wrestling Discussion Group Do you ever feel like having faith in God is like wrestling or complicated? If so, the good news is you're not alone! Join us for **Faith Wrestling**, a new discussion group led by John Hall, every other Wednesday, **March 29 and April 12 and 26 via Zoom only at 7:00 p.m.** Come ponder, explore, and wrestle together. Click the on the flyer on our homepage to join the Zoom meeting. Watch the bulletin for more dates.

The Lunch-Bunch Bible Study Experiment We live in unprecedented times. There is so much we cannot control, but we can control our choices of behavior. We receive 5 gifts of discipleship, and we ask God to help and guide us in daily renewing our baptism. How do we do this? Chuck Schaller, leader of the study group, in collaboration with Pr. Kimberly, selected a 5-week Lenten Bible study using Paul's Letter to the Philippians. Each week we'll look at a different section of that letter and take time to reflect and share. Bring your lunch and as we munch, we can enjoy a shared experience. We will meet at noon on **Thursdays - 23, 30 and April 6.** Join us in person or via Zoom -click on the flyer on St. John's homepage to join the Zoom meeting.

Lenten Mid-Week Services - Join us Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. in person or by Zoom for “Sing with All the Saints in Glory: Lenten Midweek Services.” We have a rich calendar of saints in the Lutheran tradition—Christians from every age who have pointed to Christ in their living and dying. In remembering these Christians who have gone before, we find inspiration for our Christian journey. This Lenten midweek series honors the commemorations that occur during the weeks in Lent in 2023. Commemorating these individuals is a starting point for a deeper engagement with our Christian faith. Join us in the sanctuary or by Zoom at this link or QR code:
<http://bit.ly/3xoJgsp>



Synod Service to Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. The Synod is offering a service of Holy Communion to celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr to which all are welcome. Bishops Abraham Allende and Kurt Kusserow are presiding, and Rev. Dr. Asa Lee is preaching. The service will be held on **March 26** at 4:00 p.m. at the Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church; 517 Sangree Rd., Pittsburgh, PA, 15237.

Lutherlyn Spring Work Day The Mission Outreach committee is looking for volunteers to assist at the Lutherlyn Spring Work Day, April 29, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Volunteers will help in many different ways - weeding gardens, cutting firewood, stick and leaf cleanup, as well as other jobs for volunteers of all ages and skill levels. All tools are provided as well as a lunch picnic. Joan and Bill Berresford will be attending, and can provide transportation to anyone interested. Please see Joan if you are interested in helping!

Free Community Dinner St John’s is planning a free community dinner for Saturday, April 22 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. We will be inviting people from our area to mingle with St John’s congregation and to enjoy a hearty, warm meal. The Mission Outreach committee along with the Fellowship committee have taken the lead for this event, but we need your assistance with help in the kitchen, serving, supplying desserts and cleanup crew. Please help St John’s help our neighbors by volunteering. The signup sheets are on the poster in the narthex. And of course, all are invited to this meal. St John’s received a grant from the Synod that will pay for this event – we just need to supply the volunteers!

MA’s Pantry Items: Pastas and Sauces The Mission Outreach committee is reminding you to include items for MA’s Pantry each time you do your own food shopping. The distribution dates for April are **4/1** and **4/15**, and the request for April is pasta and sauces. Please help fill our collection box to overflowing!

The Altar flowers are not sponsored this weekend.

In Worship Today:

Greeters: Matt & Heather Thomas
Worship Assistant: Brenda Neundorf
Acolyte: Jack Sacriponte
Head Usher: Ed Ward
Ushers: David Lundie; Brian Maderas
Young Disciples Leader: Pastor Kimberly

In Worship Next Week – 3/26/23

Greeters: Bonnie Cowan; Bev Motichak
Worship Assistant: Judy Sabolic
Acolyte: Rachel Motichak; Brenda Neundorf
Head Usher: Joe Yurechko
Ushers: John & Karan Cehlar
Young Disciples Leader: Pastor Kimberly

NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES

Please make note of our new email addresses and update your address books.

Pastor Kimberly

Debi Maurizi

kgreway@stjohnsnorthversailles.com

dmaurizi@stjohnsnorthversailles.com

OR

office@stjohnsnorthversailles.com

Email addressed to stjohsnvoffice@gmail.com will be forwarded to the new email address.

Worship Services During Holy Week

Maundy Thursday

April 6

Maundy Thursday Service with Stripping of the Altar

7:00 p.m. at **St. John's**

Good Friday

April 7

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

7:00 p.m. at **St. John's**

Easter Sunday

April 9

Easter Breakfast

9:00 a.m. in **Miller Hall**

Easter Festival Service

10:45 a.m.

Important Dates

This Week:

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|---|
| * Today, Mar. 19 | 9:30 AM | Sunday School |
| | 9:30 AM | Coffee and Conversation |
| | 10:45 AM | Traditional Worship |
| | After Worship | Foster Care Presentation |
| * Mon., Mar. 20 | 7:30 PM | Bell Choir |
| * Tues., Mar. 21 | 7:30 PM | Christian Ed via Zoom |
| * Wed., Mar. 22 | 11:00 AM | Mid-Week Lenten Service at St. John's |
| | 3:00 – 6:00 PM | St. Afterschool |
| | 7:00 PM | Youth Group – St. John's |
| | 7:00 PM | Women of the ELCA |
| * Thurs., Mar. 23 | Noon | Lunch Bunch Bible Study in person and
via Zoom |
| | 7:30 PM | Choir Rehearsal |

Coming Up:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---|
| * Sun., Mar. 26 | 9:30 AM | Sunday School |
| | 9:30 AM | Coffee and Conversation |
| | 10:45 AM | Traditional Worship |
| | After Worship | Mission Outreach |
| * Mon., Mar. 27 | 7:30 PM | Bell Choir |
| * Wed., Mar. 29 | 11:00 AM | Mid-Week Lenten Service at St. John's |
| | 3:00 – 6:00 PM | St. Afterschool |
| | 7:00 PM | Faith Wrestling Group via Zoom ONLY |
| * Thurs., Mar. 30 | Noon | Lunch Bunch Bible Study in person and
via Zoom |
| | 7:30 PM | Choir Rehearsal |
| * Sat., April 1 | 10:00 AM - Noon | Amazing Race, Palm Splitting and Lunch! |

**Please note NEW email address: kgreway@stjohnsnorthversailles.com
Please use only this email address.**

We Remember in Our Prayers

You are invited to use this page in your devotion and prayer time.

Names in bold are new or updated this week.

March is Women's History Month

We remember, celebrate, and give thanks for the contributions, achievements, leadership, wisdom and gifts of women and girls throughout history in the church, our communities, and the world.

We remember in prayer the people and communities recovering from the devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. We ask God to sustain their hope, ease their grief, and give them the resources they need for relief and rebuilding, especially in remote areas. Amen

Adapted from ELCA Prayer Ventures



Tammy Acklin, Heart surgery 3/16
Steve Grbach, Presbyterian Hospital
Jan Burkhart, health concerns
Nancy Cutler, health issues

Guy Delia, broken hip
(friend of Jerry & Sherry Baur)

Rev. Patrick Gahagan, lung transplant
patient with blood clots in lungs
(nephew of Betsy Stevick)

Tim Hess, recovering at home

Sue Lydon, health issues
(friend of Ruthie Smith)

Mala Marts, cancer – in hospice care
(daughter-in-law of Sally Kerchner)

Ron Nerger, recovering at home

Gary Swauger, hospitalized with Covid
(brother of Jerry Baur)

Lew Thompson, Alzheimer's & health issues

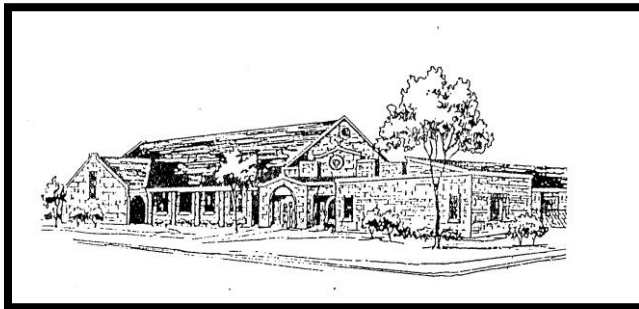
✝ **We pray for the family of Jerry Donahue, who died.**

✝ We pray that peace can be restored to the people of Ukraine and Russia.

✝ We pray for loved ones who are homebound, in care facilities, or in need of on-going prayer, including: Sarah Haag; Sally & Marty Kerchner; Ron Kramer; Dan McNamar; Ron Nerger; Ted Panczyk; Craig Peterson; Ruthie Smith; Ed Ward; Janice Winkles; Joy Young; Edith Zoric.

✝ We pray for ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; SWPA Synod Bishop Kurt Kusserow, and the synod staff.

To have friends or loved ones placed on the prayer list, contact the church office by email or phone; complete the blue prayer list form found on the table in the lobby; or complete the form on the website at stjohnsnorthversailles.com If appropriate, include a brief reason and relationship. This list is cleared and updated monthly.



**St. John's Lutheran Church exists
to nurture people of all ages
on the journey of faith in Jesus Christ,
to support those in need,
and to reach out into the community
with God's healing and love.**



The Rev. Dr. Kimberly Greway, Pastor

kgreway@stjohnsnorthversailles.com 412-267-7753 cell

Debra Maurizi – Church Secretary

Derek Schofield – Director of Music

Herb Willson – Director of Handbell Choir



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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(412) 824-0277

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For more information, please visit our website at stjohnsnorthversailles.com

Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/stjohnnorthversailles