

**St. John's Lutheran Church
First Sunday in Lent
March 6, 2022**



PRELUDE

WELCOME on this first Sunday of Lent. Our Lenten journey follows two tracks, one looking forward to Easter and the joy of the resurrection the other walking with the weight of the cross Christ carried - our sins and the sins of the world. On this first Sunday of March we sense Spring impatient to spring from the earth while armies are marching across borders, fields and villages. In these 40 days may we pray and practice the peace Christ intends for the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***HYMN ~ A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

LBW # 229

229 *v* / **A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat -'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who

to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom
 your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They
 fear it; For God him - self fights by our side With

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

Has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 In bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 Goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way,

He arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 They can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

***CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

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

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

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

C **And also with you.**

***HYMN of PRAISE**



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



B 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.



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.



For you a- lone are the Ho- ly One, you a- lone are the Lord,

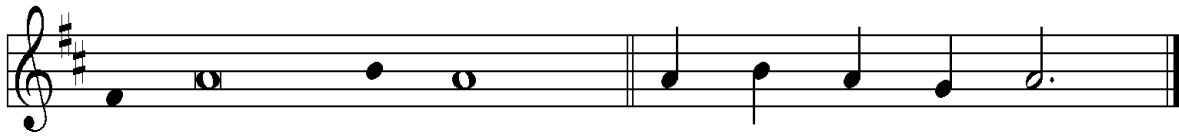


you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho- ly Spir- it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa- ther. A - men

***PRAYER of the DAY ~ (in unison)**



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Let us pray...

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LESSONS

*First Lesson ~ A reading from Deuteronomy 26:1-11

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 ~ *with response*

The psalm is announced, organ plays response 1x, cantor or pastor sings 1x, people join to sing response, then as psalm is read, congregation sings response at each R.

*Second Lesson ~ A reading from Romans 10:8-13

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

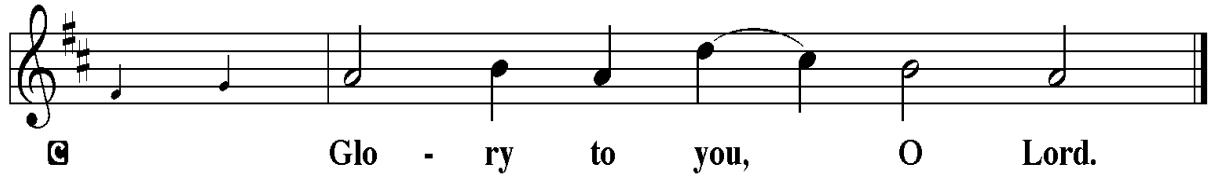


C Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



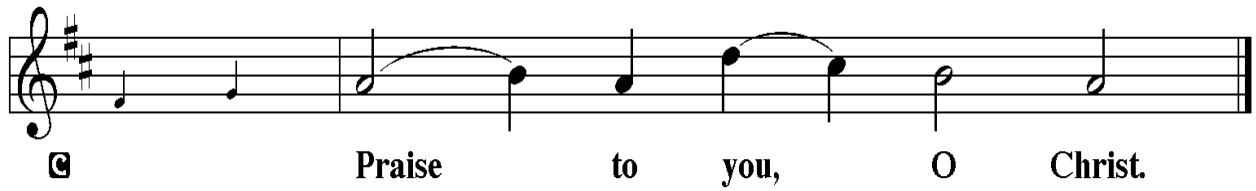
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Gospel Reading ~ P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 4th chapter.



The Gospel is read. After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord



MESSAGE

*HYMN ~ Were You There

LBW # 92

92

Were You There

The musical score is written in a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you
 3 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you
 4 Were you there when God raised him from the tomb? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh,
 there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh,
 there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh,
 there when God raised him from the tomb? Oh,

some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
 Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?

Chord progressions are indicated above the vocal line: Eb, Bb, Eb, Gm, Cm, Bb, Eb, Bb, Eb, Ab, Bb, Eb, Abdim, Cm, Ab, Eb, Ab, Bb, Ab, Eb, Cm7, Bb6, Bb7, Cm, Gm, Bb7, Eb.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

***PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ~ See Celebrate**

P Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The peace is shared

OFFERING ~ we are receiving a special offering today for Camp Mt. Luther – you may leave this as loose offering, notate on your envelope, or bring it to the church office before Wednesday, March 9 in order for it to qualify for matching funds . You may place your gifts in one of the offering plates at the end of the front and back pews on your way out.

***OFFERTORY**

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his ben - e - fits to me?
 I will of-fer the sac-ri- fice of thanks- giv - ing and will call on the
 name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal- va- tion and will
 call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the
 pres-ence of all his peo - ple, in the courts of the Lord's house,
 in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us--ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

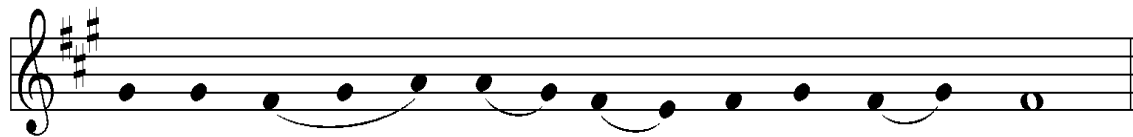
***GREAT THANKSGIVING**



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



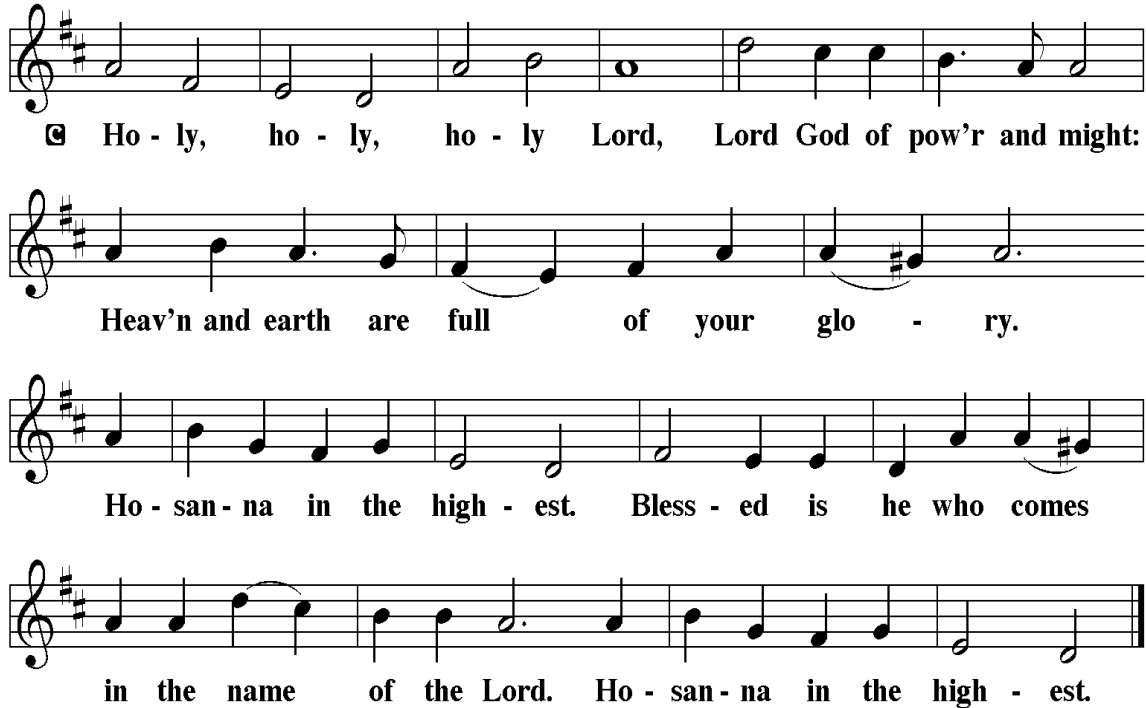
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*** PREFACE**

It is indeed right and salutary, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks to you O Lord, Holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of Grace that belongs to the children of God. And so with the church on Earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.



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

P 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. 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.

The Lord's Prayer

P Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

COMMUNION

Maintaining social distancing we will each come forward to take the bread and wine from the plates. Remaining standing you may pause for blessing and prayer before returning to your seats. A receptacle for the cups is at the end of the front pew.

COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion:

P Partake of the banquet, for all is now ready, taste and see that the Lord is good.

P The Bread of Life. The body of Christ, given for you;

C Amen.

P The Cup of the Covenant: the blood of Christ, shed for you.

C Amen.

(After all are seated)

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

***POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**



C Lord, now you let your ser-vant go in peace; your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo-ple: A light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo-ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it,



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,



and will be for - ev - er. A - men

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P Let us pray.

P We give you thanks, almighty God, that you refresh us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

***BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father, +Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
 C Amen

HYMN ~ *In the Quiet Consecration

LBW # 223

In the Quiet Consecration

223

1 In the quiet con - se - cra - tion Of this
 2 Christ, our liv - ing bread from heav - en, Lord, whose
 3 By your death for sin a - ton - ing, By your
 4 While a - far in sol - emn ra - dianc Shines the

glad com - mu - nion hour, Here we rest in you, Lord
 blood is drink in - deed: Here by faith and with thanks-
 res - ur - rec - tion life, Hold us fast in bless - ed
 feast that is to come Af - ter con - flict, toil, and

Je - sus, Taste your love, and touch your pow'r. feed.
 giv - ing In this feast on you we
 u - nion; Gird us, nerve us for the strife;
 test - ing— Your great feast of love and home.

***DISMISSAL**

P May the Lord bless you and keep you
 May the Lord's countenance shine upon you and give you peace.
 Go in Peace to Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Pastor: Reverend Ela J. Robertson Phone 740-338-7123

Organist: Seulki Susie Yoo

Church Office: 935-2032 **Email us at** secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org

St. John's Christian Day Care: 935-2959

Our Mission Statement

We, the members of St. John's congregation, promise to share the good news of Jesus Christ, to worship and to love one another in our homes, church, community and the world.

Our Vision Statement

To be people who are welcoming and encourage God's love in our community through our prayer, devotion, benevolence and deeds.

Today

Greeter: Deb French; **Lay Reader:** Deb French

Next Sunday, March 13

Greeters: Mike and Michele Harshbarger; **Lay Reader:** Mike Harshbarger

Please remember in prayer ~ Carolyn Malone, John and Sue Bodner, Calvin Baker (stage 4 pancreatic cancer), Don F. Smith, Camden Peachey, Susan Keller, Steve Rodgers, Stacey Spicher, Samantha Smith, our members ~ Joyce Stuck (formerly Ohesson, now Greenwood Village), Betty Harmon (formerly Elmcroft, now Celebration Villa), Pastor Kramm, Don Wolfe, Carol Yoder (VVH). Those going through diagnoses and treatments; those living with limitations and changes in their brain or body, and those experiencing the grief of lost loved ones.

FROM the PASTOR

Camp Mt. Luther Special Offering Today! Today and through March 9 donations to Camp Mt. Luther will be matched with generous funds from the Raise the Region fundraiser. You've heard Chad and Annie share the exceptional camp ministry developed over the years by the Camp's director and counselor corp. Please give generously with your special offering or by noting it on your tithing envelope.

Ukrainian Crisis Many of you may feel moved to reach out to Ukrainian refugees and families. Gifts to ELCA Hunger and Disaster Fund: "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daylight Saving Time begins next Sunday. Please remember to set your clocks ahead one hour!

Lent began this past Wednesday. The church is providing devotionals to help you on your *faith walk* through these 40 days ~ *A Season of Grace*, written by a senior for seniors, and *Drawn to the Cross*. They are available in the narthex.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help with Sunday morning duties. Still needed are: March ~ Greeters for March 20 and 27; April ~ Altar Care, Bulletin delivery and Flower Delivery (beginning Easter Sunday). If you are able to help, please sign-up in the narthex.

Reminder ~ we will once again refrain from placing flowers on the altar during Lent, until Easter Sunday, April 17.

Over the next several months, the Social Ministry committee would like to once again collect items for Liberia. During the month of March they are looking for donations of the following personal care items, which can be placed in one of the boxes located in the coatroom area and narthex.

Deodorant, Shampoo, Bar soap, Toilet paper
Toothpaste and toothbrushes for adults and children

Committee sign-up sheets are in the narthex. There are two new committees this year, Mission and Website. We have all been blessed with certain skills; talents and abilities...prayerfully consider using yours.

Under the stage, are several carts of old metal folding chairs. We have more than we will most likely ever use again, so council decided to first offer them to our members. If you are interested in any, please feel free to take some.

There is also half of a pew (broke off the middle support of one of the pews taken out of the sanctuary) on the stage. It is available to anyone who would like to take it. Please note ~ it is heavy, and help will be needed to load it.

January 1 thru March 2, 2022

Last Sunday Attendance ~ 31 Offering ~ \$ 1,875.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 34,685.55 Expense \$ 34,388.31

Net Income \$ 297.24

Daycare ~ Income \$ 78,893.62 Expense \$ 58,657.75

Net Income \$ 20,235.87

"As the church Camperson, I would love to talk to anyone about attending camp this summer. An exciting new program is our pick-a-day for family camp where campers can come for a full day of adventure during family camp and enjoy creation while fellowshiping with other families of all ages. Register for summer camp before April 15th for a discount!

Supporting an ELCA outdoor ministry like Camp Mount Luther, gives us an easy way to expand our opportunities for Christian education and growth on a year-round basis for kids and kids at heart. For more information contact me, Anne Harshbarger at 717-935-2453, the camp office at 570-922-1587, or visit www.campmountluther.org."



Help Camp Mount Luther During Raise the Region

Camp Mount Luther is participating in The First Community Foundation Partnership of PA's "Raise the Region" on March 9-10, 2022. It is a 30-hour fundraising event starting at 6:00 p.m. and ending the next day at 11:59 p.m. Money donated by the Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships will help stretch donations made to organizations that day. Additional monetary prizes and incentives will be awarded, too. Proceeds raised for Mount Luther these days to the camp's Annual Fund unless a donor gets in touch with the camp office to designate it for another camp cause. To be part of Raise the Region, visit www.raisetheregion.org during the event and make an online donation to camp. Running totals will be shown throughout the day at the Raise the Region website. Camp Mount Luther has participated in Raise the Region for nine years and has garnered about \$147,000 in donations during this event. The camp hopes you will help us to have another successful year!

