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*“And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.”*

*~Mark: 1: 12-13*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**First Sunday in Lent – February 22, 2015**

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Rev. Robert Newpher, Interim Pastor

Jacob Gordon, Director of Music

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an \*, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **First Sunday in Lent – February 22, 2015**

*On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.*

**PRELUDE:** *Thy Holy Wings* – David Cherwien

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the help of your people,  
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.  
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit  
that we may confess our sin,  
receive your forgiveness,  
and grow into the fullness  
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have turned from you  
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

**We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,**

**things we have done  
and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you,  
and uphold us by your Spirit,  
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God,  
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for his sake God 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.  
**Amen.**

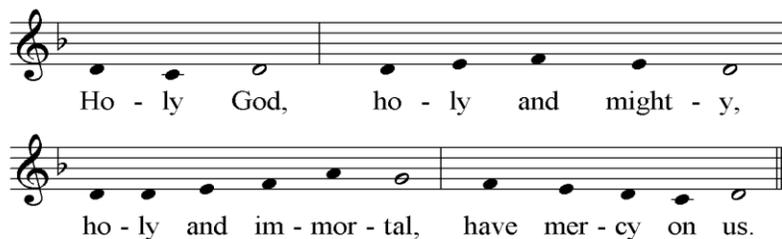
**\*GATHERING SONG #613: Thy Holy Wings**

**\*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.**

**\*TRISAGION**

*A cantor sings the Trisagion, and all repeat it twice.*



**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.  
**Holy God, heavenly Father,  
in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen,  
and in the wilderness of temptation  
you protected your Son from sin.  
Renew us in the gift of baptism.  
May your holy angels be with us,  
that the wicked foe may have no power over us,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: GENESIS 9: 8–17** (page 7 in Old Testament)

*Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, the Lord destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.*

<sup>8</sup>Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." <sup>12</sup>God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth."

<sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 25: 1-10**

*The congregation sings the **bold** verses; all sing the refrain together.*



Your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithful-ness.

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your ways, O LORD,  
and teach me your paths. R**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way. R**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies. R**

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3: 18–22** (page 234 in New Testament)

*As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.*

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Glo - ry to you, O Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ.



One does not live by bread a - lone, but by every word  
that comes from the mouth of God.

**\*GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:9 –15** (page 34 in New Testament)

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.*

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

<sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #319: O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days**

**\*NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Led by Christ in our journey of repentance and moved by his compassion, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Holy God, in baptism you wash us clean from sin and refresh us with your promise of belonging. Unite your church in proclaiming that in your family all are welcome, all are beloved, all are made whole. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The earth thirsts for your life-giving water. We pray for desert places where there is no rain and for restoration of polluted rivers and oceans. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Flood our world with a desire for peace. Where people are oppressed, bring justice. Where there is terror, bring safety. Stir up compassion among leaders and citizens so that every person is treated with dignity, kindness, and love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your heart aches with those who are in pain. Tend to those who are hungry, lonely, lost, and those in any need especially Nan, Jim, John, Robert, Frieda, Joe, Bill & Kathy, Jim, Raymond, Wanda Jean, Helen, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless ministers, musicians, teachers, visionaries, council members, committees, and all those who strive to lead this congregation faithfully into the future; guide our bishop and call committee as they seek a new pastor for this congregation. Ground their work in scripture and prayer and fuel it with your great imagination. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Remember your covenant with us, and keep us faithful to you until we join with all the saints and angels around your heavenly throne. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

### **\*PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

### OFFERING HYMN #733: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

(All stand for the final stanza as the gifts are brought forward)

#### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God our provider,  
you have not fed us with bread alone,  
but with words of grace and life.

Bless us and these your gifts,  
which we receive from your bounty,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

#### **\*DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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 duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

#### **\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.  
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.  
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.  
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness  
to the land of milk and honey.  
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.  
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.  
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.  
Grace our table with your presence.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.  
Breathe new life into us.  
Send us forth,  
burning with justice, peace, and love.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,  
with the earth and all its creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

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**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**  
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

*In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The area of cups bordered by green tape has grape juice.*

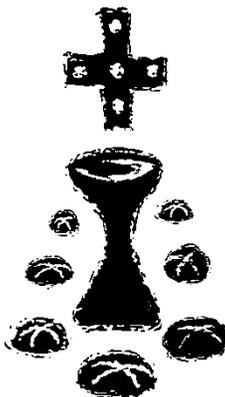
**COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God***



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.



**COMMUNION HYMN: *Jesus, Remember Me***

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Jesus, Remember Me'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.' The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.

**Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Compassionate God,

you have fed us with the bread of heaven.

Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage:

may our fasting be hunger for justice;

our alms, a making of peace;

and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement

grant you to live in harmony with one another,

in accordance with Christ Jesus.

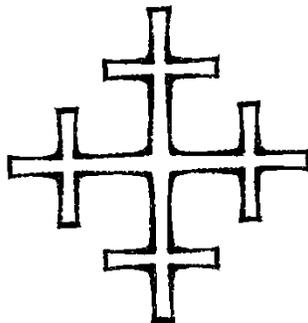
**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**



**\*SENDING SONG: A Mighty Fortress is Our God**

A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing;  
 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing;  
 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un - do us,  
 That word a - bove all earth - ly pow'rs, no thanks to them a - bid - eth;

our help - er he a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.  
 were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choos - ing.  
 we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to tri - umph through us,  
 the Spir - it and the gifts are ours through him who with us sid - eth;

For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and pow'r are great,  
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is he, Lord Sab - a - oth his name,  
 The prince of dark - ness grim, we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,  
 Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may kill,

and armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.  
 from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.  
 for lo! his doom is sure, one lit - tle word shall fell him.  
 God's truth a - bid - eth still, his king - dom is for - ev - er.

Text: Martin Luther, trans. Frederick H. Hedge  
 Music: Martin Luther

EIN' FESTE BURG  
 8 7 8 7 6 6 6 7

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God – Jan Zwart**

## Liturgical Notes

The Sundays in Lent bring with them two noticeable changes to our liturgy, in addition to our usual change of musical settings with a new season of the Church Year.

First, the *Trisagion* (Greek for “thrice holy”) takes the place of the *Kyrie* (no song of praise is sung during Lent). The *Trisagion* is a hymn from the Divine Liturgy of the Eastern Orthodox Church; tradition dates it to the early 5<sup>th</sup> century, but it may be even older, perhaps dating to the apostolic era. The hymn is called “thrice holy” because it describes God as holy in three different qualities: God as God, God as mighty, and God as immortal. As is the tradition in the Eastern Church, we sing the hymn three times, reflecting the triune nature of God.

Second, for each of the Sundays in Lent, we will be singing the Taizé song *Jesus, Remember Me* after the *Lamb of God* during Communion. The Community of Taizé is an ecumenical monastery in France with a mission to young people. The worship of the community is intentionally ecumenical (easily learned and frequently sung in multiple languages at once), and is designed to point beyond the words and music to God; the community calls this singing “to infinity”: the idea that the song itself becomes the prayer. As we sing *Jesus, Remember Me* during the distribution of Communion, let it become your prayer and draw you closer to God in Christ Jesus, at whose table we gather.

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### 8:00 am

**Assisting Minister:** Matt Claus  
**Communion Assistant:**  
**Acolyte:**  
**Lector:**  
**Usher:** Bob Davidson  
**Attendance Last Week:** 59  
**Weekly Budgeted Need:** \$ 2,755.44  
**YTD Budgeted Expenses:** \$ 19,288.10  
**YTD Actual Expense:** \$ 15,199.25

### 10:30 am

**Assisting Minister:** Missy Kramer  
**Communion Assistant:** Sally Foster  
**Acolyte:**  
**Lector:**  
**Usher:**  
**Attendance last year:** 65  
**Last Week’s Giving:** \$ 1,807.25  
**Year to Date Receipts:** \$ 16,656.25

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