



“³⁴... How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!”

~Luke 13:34

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

2nd Sunday in Lent – March 17, 2019

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Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

*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? 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 if you are able when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION

2nd Sunday in Lent – March 17, 2019

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek the face of the Lord again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord"

Today we commemorate Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland, died 461. *A native of Britain, Patrick was kidnapped by pirates at age sixteen and sold into slavery in Ireland. After a few years, he escaped, returned home, and entered the ministry. Returning to Ireland, he successfully served as a bishop and missionary there.*

PRELUDE: *Prelude – Felix Borowski*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✠ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive 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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

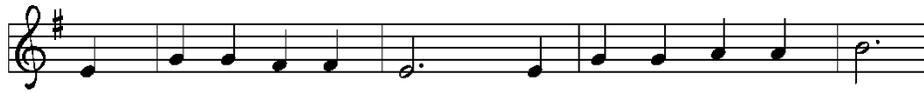
* **GATHERING SONG #321: *Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church***

***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**



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

Let us pray.

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

A reading from Genesis.

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a son, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27

Psalm to be read responsively.

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

²**When evildoers close in against me to de- | vour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- | ble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart | will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will | not be shaken.

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one | thing I seek;**

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God | in the temple.

⁵For in the day of trouble God will | give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- | on a rock.

⁶**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies | who surround me.**

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music | to the LORD.

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, | when I call;

have mercy on me and | answer me.

⁸**My heart speaks your message— | “Seek my face.”**

Your face, O LORD, | I will seek.

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- | vant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of | my salvation.

¹⁰**Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,
the LORD will | take me in.**

¹¹Teach me your | way, O LORD;

lead me on a level path, because of | my oppressors.

¹²**Subject me not to the will | of my foes,**

for they rise up against me, false witnesses | breathing violence.

¹³This I believe—that I will see the goodness | of the LORD

in the land | of the living!

¹⁴**Wait for the LORD| and be strong.**

Take heart and wait | for the LORD!

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17—4:1

A reading from Philippians.

Although Paul’s devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

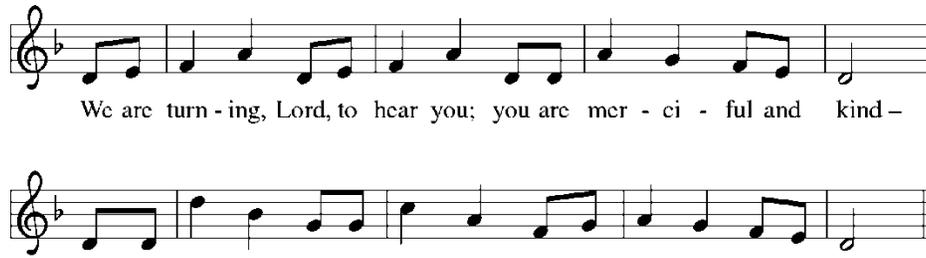
¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us.

¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -
slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: Luke 13: 31-35

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."
³²He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

* HYMN OF THE DAY #566: When Twilight Comes

*CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation.

Compassionate God, call your people to stand firm as citizens of heaven. As we are humbled by your wondrous love, nurture such mercy in our hearts and ministries. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Display your faithfulness to creation in the changing of the seasons. Orchestrate the great song of praise that comes from rivers, birds, mountains, livestock, and wind. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Drown out the terror in the world with acts of loving kindness and generosity. Release political leaders from pride and fear to act justly and to serve citizens. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Rush to answer those who cry out to you in time of trial, especially Ava, Jan, Nathan, Harry, Roy, Ruth, Pastor Storm, Frieda, Kim, Bill, Francis & Grace, David & Ellen; those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our heart. Give shelter to your vulnerable children, and cover them in the comfort of your mothering wings. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Grant solace to people who long to be parents, but have faced difficulty in bearing or adopting children. Build life-giving parent and child relationships for the sake of all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Build up your holy community of saints through the work of bishops and missionaries like Patrick, whom we commemorate today. Spread your word through your people for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM – *Lamb of God*

Your only son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side, to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God. O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God. Oh, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love, we crucified. We laughed and scorned him as he died. The humble King we name a fraud, and sacrificed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God. Oh, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

I was so lost, I should have died, but have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod and to be called a lamb of God. O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God. Oh, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

OFFERTORY HYMN – *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Please stand.

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 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.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.

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:

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.



LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, 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.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who thirst, all who hunger,
come and be filled with goodness of God.

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. Gluten free wafers are available.

COMMUNION

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

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 SONG #618: *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer***

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG #536: *God Be with You Till We Meet Again

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is your light.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Postlude* – Felix Borowski

8:00 am

Assisting Minister: Matt Claus
Communion Assistant:
Lector:
Usher: Todd Niklewicz

10:30 am

Assisting Minister: Keith Cardinal
Communion Assistant:
Lector:
Usher: Leikauf's
Collecting Offering: Eva Knauff & Rylee McDonald

Attendance Last Week: 46
Weekly Budgeted Expense: \$ 3,362.64
YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$ 33,626.38
YTD Actual Expense: \$ 32,955.39

Attendance Last Year: 59
Last Week's General Giving: \$ 4,786.50*
Last Week's Designated Giving: \$ 288.00**
2019 YTD General Giving: \$ 30,718.95
2019 YTD Designated Giving: \$ 3,694.61
2019 YTD Receipts: \$ 34,413.56

YTD Income & Expense – Gen. Acct.

January
Income \$10,199.86
Expense \$12,997.05
Variance (\$ 2,797.19)

February
Income \$12, 620.78
Expense \$13, 736.49
Variance (\$ 1,115.71)

Special Items included in above totals:

*Rent \$ 500.00
*Thrivent Choice Dollars \$ 30.00
*Initial Offering for Envelopes \$ 5.00
*Tree Removal \$ 105.00
*Holiday Program Grant \$ 1,000.00
**Benevolence \$ 193.50
**Food Bank \$ 74.50
**Mission Emphasis \$ 5.00
**Sunday School \$ 15.00

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