



March 3, 2024  
Third Sunday in Lent, Year B  
9:00 a.m.

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*St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA*

**Reverend Maggie Westaby**

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## **WELCOME**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Let us confess our sins, trusting in God's wisdom and strength rather than our own.

Merciful God,

**We sin against you without even knowing it. Forgive us, we pray. Let your commandments guide us, and keep us faithful. Teach us to honor all relationships. Help us speak words of blessing and kindness, rather than words that belittle or destroy. Turn us away from violence, falsehood, and selfishness. For you, O God, have made us, delivered us, and brought us into the community of faith. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

Siblings in Christ, hear the good news: in Jesus † Christ we are forgiven and set free to live in faithfulness with God and with one another.

**Thanks be to God.**

## O Day of Rest and Gladness

1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,  
 2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;  
 3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n - ly man - na falls;  
 4 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,

O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:  
 on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;  
 to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum - pet calls,  
 we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.

on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,  
 on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;  
 where gos - pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams  
 We sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;

sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," to the great God tri - une,  
 and thus on you, most glo - rious, a three - fold light was giv'n.  
 and liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh - ing streams,  
 the church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.  
 Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Münzner Gesangbuche*, 1833.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Good & Gracious God,

In Jesus Christ, you overturn all our usual ways of behaving and believing. You scatter our false notions of discipleship as easily as coins are spilled from a box. Raze to ruins what is distorted in us, and raise us to new life, so that we may be the body of Christ in and for the world.

**Amen.**

## **READING: Exodus 20:1-17**

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



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: John 2:13-22**

The holy gospel according to John.

#### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of The Lord.

#### **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **SERMON**

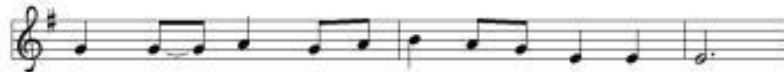
## Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



*Refrain*  
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat  
 Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional  
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## **RECOGNITION & GRATITUDE FOR 2023 CHURCH COUNCIL**

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

**Congregation: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need. Responding to "Hear us, O God," with "Your mercy is great."

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

Because the kingdom of God has come near in Jesus Christ, we are called to respond in tangible ways. By doing acts of justice and compassion, and by sharing our resources, we bear witness to the good news of the gospel.

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

### *Offering Song*

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,

Our treasures come only from you. It is only through your goodness, that we have received so much. We came into this life with nothing, and we leave the same way. Guide us, and inspire us, to share ourselves and the resources we have. May these offerings be used for the goodness of your creation.

**Amen.**



## GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

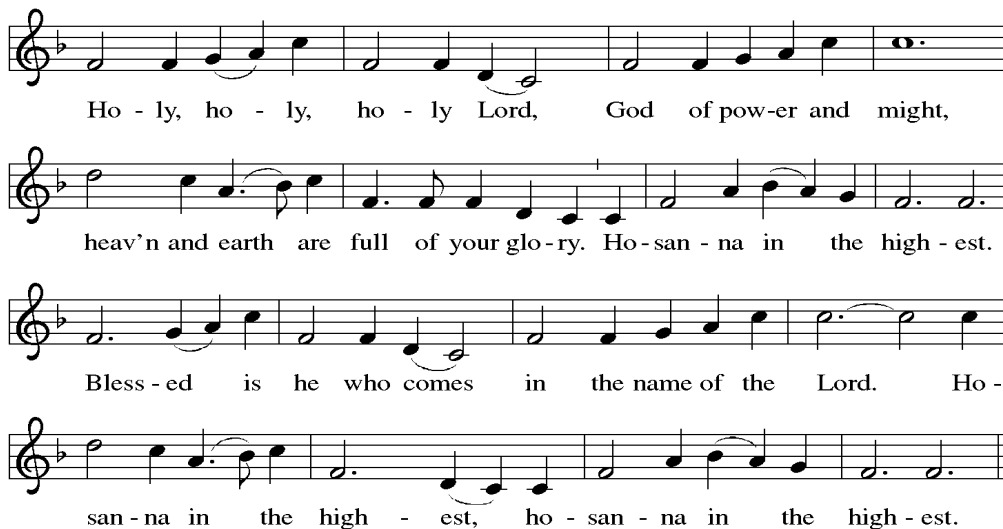
**We lift them to the Lord.**

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:



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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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

Come to Christ's table; here you will find bread for the journey. Come to the banquet, here you will find a feast for hungry hearts. Come to our Lord; who forgives, sustains, and restores. Amen.



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, grant us peace.

## Blest Be the Tie That Binds

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Blest Be the Tie That Binds'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains three lines. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with clear phrasing and a steady accompaniment.

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;  
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.  
Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773-1836, adapt.

## My Faith Looks Up to Thee

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,  
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's  
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -

guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.  
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887  
Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

May the majesty of the Creator, be the light by which you walk.

May the compassion of the Son, be the love by which you walk.

May the presence of the Spirit, be the power by which you walk.

And may the goodness of the Holy ✠ Trinity, be the source by which you walk.

**Amen.**

## Go, My Children, with My Blessing



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Welcome to all!** Welcome to worship as we continue in the season of Lent. May we listen for Jesus' voice, rest in his care and share his love with others.

Jesus, when you overturn my priorities like tables in the temple (John 2:13-16), help me see that your aim is to turn me back to our loving God.

Please remember to silence pagers and cell phones during services.

**To those who are visiting:** Welcome to St. John and thank you for joining us! You are welcome to sign our registry in the narthex.

**Reminder!** If you are in need of Pastoral care, please contact St. John (715) 675-6950

**Holy Communion** is celebrated every Sunday. All are welcome to Christ's Table.

**Food Basket.** Each week you are invited to bring non-perishable grocery items to be given to a local food pantry. Place your gift in the *Shopping Cart* next to the main entrance. **Reminder, food pantries cannot accept expired donations.**

**LENTEN DINNERS** Thank you to all who signed up to prepare and serve our Lenten Dinners! We are still in need of people to bring salads, desserts and milk, and to help with clean up. It's a pretty simple job, since we use paper products. The dinners will be served from 5-6 pm. with worship service at 6:30. Please join us for food and fellowship during this season of Lent. **The sign-up chart is in the narthex with the dates of the meals, beginning on Ash Wednesday.**



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Annual Easter Egg Hunt:** St. John's Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> following worship! All children are welcome! We will gather the kids after Fellowship to read the Easter story, make a craft, and end with a candy-filled Easter Egg Hunt!

**For Church Security.** The two side doors will be locked after the service starts, if you are running late, please use the front doors.

**St. John Quilting Wishlist.** Left over fabric or never used fabric, light weight denim, cotton or flannel sheets, pillow cases, cotton curtains (unlined), cotton shower curtains. If you are interested, come join us! You can also sew a quilt top from home. Size needed is 60 x 80. They do not need to be fancy. Thank you!

**Men's Breakfast.** Pastor Will from Trinity in Stettin and St. Peter's in Marathon has invited all men from St. John to meet the second Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. At LC Restaurant, in Marathon (Formerly the Village Inn).

**Sunday, March 3 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Bowling for all 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders at Days.** Come bowl and enjoy pizza, soda, and fun!

**Sunday, March 10 at 11:00 a.m.** Gospel of Mark Session 3 will discuss Mark chapter 11 through the end of the Gospel.

**Book Club Announcement.** We will not meet in March to give everyone extra time to read our April book, *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese. Date in April TBD.

**Live Streaming and Photography Notice.** When you enter a St. John Lutheran Church service or event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording or live streaming may occur. If you prefer not to be recognized on camera, the back row inside the church is not within viewing distance of a camera and communion will typically be only on a wide shot where it may be difficult to recognize congregants. Parents, please note our children's sermons are being recorded and live streamed. If you do not want your child to be recognized on camera, please refrain from having them participate.

**Coming This Week @ St. John March 3 – March 10**

**Today**

- 9:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:00 p.m. Bowling & Pizza, all 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders @ Day's Bowl-A-Dome

**March 5**

- 8:30 a.m. Quilting
- 9:00 a.m. Pr. Maggie @ Pr. Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Church Council

**March 6**

- 5:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

**March 10**

- 9:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Gospel of Mark, Session 3