

St. John-St. James

Ev. Lutheran Church & School



Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022



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Evangelical Lutheran Church & School
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WELCOME *CRUSHED—Against the rock of faithful presence, false security is crushed.*

Opening Hymn:

Christian Worship, Hymn # 916

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

Verse 1 **Today your mercy calls us
To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass,
Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy
Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us
And make us clean today.**

Verse 4 **O all-embracing Mercy,
O ever-open Door,
What should we do without you
When heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us,
To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open,
One ear will hear our prayer.**

INVOCATION

M In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C **If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

M Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C **Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with a holy life and innocent death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

ABSOLUTION

M Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY--*Kyrie*

M In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

M For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

M 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.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

M For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

M Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

C Verse 1  **Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the life-blood
From his sacred veins.**

C Verse 2  **Grace and life eternal
In that blood I find;
Blest be his compassion,
Infinitely kind.** *(CW #402)*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

M Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

BE SEATED

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15

3 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. ³So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”

⁴When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!”

And Moses said, “Here I am.”

⁵“Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” ⁶Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

(Our lesson continues on the next page.)

⁷ The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. ⁸ So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. ⁹ And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰ So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

¹² And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

¹³ Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

¹⁴ God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

¹⁵ God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’ “This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.

 The Word of the Lord.

 **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Lesson

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

10 For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. ² They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. ³ They all ate the same spiritual food ⁴ and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: “The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.” ⁸ We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. ⁹ We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. ¹⁰ And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.

¹¹ These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. ¹² So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall! ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

M The Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson

Luke 13:1-9

13 Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. ² Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? ³ I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. ⁴ Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”

⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. ⁷ So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’

⁸ “‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’”

M The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of the Day:

Delay Not! Delay Not!

Christian Worship, Hymn # 712

C Verse 1  **Delay not! Delay not! O sinner, draw near!
The waters of life are now flowing for you.
No price is demanded; the Savior is here.
Redemption is purchased; God’s promise is true.**

(Our Hymn continues on the next page.)

C Verse 2 **Delay not! Delay not, O sinner, to come,
For mercy still lingers and calls you today.
Its voice is not heard in the vale of the tomb;
Its message, unheeded, will soon pass away.**

C Verse 4 **Delay not! Delay not! Why longer abuse
The love and compassion of Jesus, your God?
A fountain is opened-how can you refuse?
Come, wash and be cleansed in his pardoning blood.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Louis Sievert

Exodus 3:1-15

Against the LORD, the Great “I AM,” False Security is Crushed

¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

¹² And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

¹³ Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

¹⁴ God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

¹⁵ God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’ “This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M Loving God and lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

C **Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.**

M Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

C **Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.**

(Our prayer concludes on the next page.)

M Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. *(Special intercessions may be offered here.)* Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

C **Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.**

M Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.
(Silent prayer.)

M Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

C **Hear us for Jesus' sake, in whose name we also pray:**

C **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.**

BLESSING

M The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn:

What Wondrous Love Is This

Christian Worship, Hymn # 526

C Verse 1

♪ **What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!**

C Verse 3

♪ **To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, Who is the great I Am,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.**

BE SEATED

Lancer Link:

Update from our High School

GUEST PREACHER

Our sincere thanks to Pastor Sievert for leading us in worship today and sharing God's Word.

Thanks to organist for our services today—Mrs. Judy Mangin.

OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS

Today	Preacher, Pastor Louis Sievert, Retired Pastor Music Today—Judy Mangin Sunday School, CREW & Adult Bible Class at 9:15am
Wed. 3/23	Wednesday Lenten Worship Services at 3:15pm & 6:30pm *No* Lenten Meal 4:30-6:00pm Public School Confirmation Class at 3:30pm
Thurs. 3/24	Praise Choir Practice at 5:30pm
Sat. 3/26	Public School Confirmation Class 9am—3pm

Sunday, March 20, 2022

SERVING YOU TODAY—8:00 am Ushers—Dan/Jacob Bubolz, Gene Wagner, Eugene/Nathan Rosera, Jeff Doemel ■ **10:15 am Ushers**—Glen Behnke, Roger Bubolz, Dan Bratz, Jim Bubolz, Alex Bubolz, James Kenneke ■ **Church Cleaners**—Shawn/Melissa Behnke, Sheri Lau ■ **Flower Committee**—Joann Fischer & Sharie Mack.

SERVING YOU NEXT WEEK—WEDNESDAY—3:15 pm—Volunteers ■ **6:30 pm Ushers**—Scott Bubolz, Brian Bubolz, Bill Voeltz ■ **SUNDAY—8:00 am Ushers**—Dan/Jacob Bubolz, Gene Wagner, Eugene/Nathan Rosera, Jeff Doemel ■ **10:15 am Ushers**—Glen Behnke, Roger Bubolz, Dan Bratz, Jim Bubolz, Alex Bubolz, James Kenneke ■ **Church Cleaners**—Terry/Karen Prochnow, Dale Barnard, Rod Bubolz ■ **Flower Committee**—Joann Fischer & Sharie Mack ■ **Sunday Communion Set-Up/Take-Down**—Karla Aden, Chantel Bastian, Joan Sheahan.

MINISTRY RESERVE FUND—We have started a fund for our Second Pastor to help defray costs involved in adding another Pastor. If you wish to give to the Ministry Reserve Fund please place your offering in an envelope and clearly mark it as **Ministry Reserve Fund or 2nd Pastor Fund** and place it in the offering plate. A letter and commitment form has been sent to all members, please put your commitment form in the offering plate or in the “Church” in the West Church office.

LENTEN MEALS—Thank you to the LYA for serving our Lenten meal this past Wednesday! **This coming Wednesday, March 23rd, there will be no Lenten meal served.** If you have a committee or group of church members who would like to serve a Lenten meal, please sign up on the sheet in the West Office in the back of church.

CALL MEETING—SJSJ will hold our next Call Meeting to call for a 2nd Pastor & part-time teacher for grades 6-8 on Sunday, March 27th in between services.

EASTER BREAKFAST—Thank you to Gary Bernhardt for volunteering to serve as this year's Easter Breakfast Chairman. We are in need of volunteers to help setup, cook & serve for our Easter Breakfast. If interested in helping, please put your name on the list provided on the table in the West Church Office.

EASTER LILIES—Easter Lilies will be available again this year. The cost is \$10.00/plant. You're welcome to take your plants home after the 10:15 am Easter Worship service on Sunday, April 17, 2022. Please print clearly and place your order in the box provided on the table in the West church office. Orders due by March 27, 2022.

SJSJ SCRIP NEWS—The SCRIP Program is offering the following gift cards at a promotional rate for a limited time: Kwik Trip \$50 and \$100 at 10%!

PRAISE CHOIR PRACTICE—The Praise Choir will practice this Thursday, March 24th at 5:30pm.

BULLETIN USAGE—Due to the cost of supplies incurred for printing weekly bulletin announcements and worship folders, we have been tracking usage numbers needed each week. We are trying to come up with a consistent amount needed each week so we are not printing unnecessary copies. We are asking if you are a user of the worship screen to only take the printed announcement page when offered that way. We are hoping to arrive at an accurate number as well as to save paper in the process. Respectfully, Worship Committee.

USHERS/CHURCH CLEANING TEAMS—Doors into the front and the back of the church should be closed during and at the end of service times. This is to help on heating costs as well as control heat and humidity for the pipe organ. Thank you!

LADIES AID MEETING—There will be a Ladies Aid Meeting on Monday, March 21 at 4:00 pm. Thank you!

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES—Lenten Worship Services will be held at 3:15pm & 6:30 pm every Wednesday through April 6th. This coming Wednesday, March 23rd, we welcome Pastor Philip Janisch from Trinity in Brillion.

USHER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED—Usher volunteers are needed for our 3:15pm worship services. If you are willing to help, please sign up on the sheet in the West Office in the back of church.

2022-2023 SCHOOL REGISTRATION—Registration is now open for all students entering grades 3K-8 for the 2022-2023 school year. Please visit the “Our School” page of our website at stjohnstjames.com to register.

PASTOR RETREAT—Thank you to everyone who has contributed towards our Pastor Retreat Fund. \$2,103 has been collected so far which should cover the cost of the retreat. Anyone who still wishes to contribute is welcome to do so. Additional funds will be given to Pastor & Mrs. Aden to help cover other travel expenses & meals.

MEMORIALS GIVEN—Gene & Charmaine Wagner gave a gift to the Building Fund in memory of Wendy Schaefer. Thank you for your kind gift!

EASTER BREAKFAST DONATIONS—In the back of church and in the commons you will find a board filled with things we need for our Easter Breakfast. If you are interested in donating simply choose what is on the board and drop your item off on Good Friday, April 15 before/during the service at 3:15 pm or Saturday, April 16 before 9am.

DOOR DONATION—We will hold a door offering for the people in Ukraine on Sunday March 27th and Sunday April 3rd. We have a sister synod in Ukraine. The gifts will be given to Ukraine through the WELS World Missions.

FORWARD IN CHRIST MAGAZINE—If you would like a 1-year subscription to *Forward In Christ* magazine please give the office a call at 754-4568 or place your name and address on the list provided for you in the West church office. The subscription is \$13.44/year please make checks out to SJSJ and submit to the office or place it in the small box in the West church office by April 24th.

OUR SYMPATHIES—Marcella “Marcy” (Olp) Spatchek, age 91, formerly of Reedsville, entered eternal life on Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at Brillion West Haven Assisted Living Center. Our most sincere condolences to Grandson, Jeremy (Michelle) Foytik and all other family members and close friends. The family will greet relatives and friends at St. John – St. James Ev. Lutheran Church, Reedsville, from 10:00 a.m. Saturday, March 19, 2022 until 11:15 a.m. Funeral Services will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 19, 2022 at St. John – St. James Ev. Lutheran Church, Reedsville. We pray for peace in your hearts!

MLC/ MLHS Tuition Assistance

We've all heard about the shortage of Pastors and Teachers in our Synod. Presently we have about 130 Pastor vacancies and approximately 135 Teacher

vacancies. Right now the Baby Boomer generation is retiring. We don't have enough graduates to take the place of all these people.

Maya Aden, Josh Aden, Lynsey Marohn and Michaela Bubolz are attending MLC. They plan on becoming Called Workers in our Synod. This is a great blessing from our Gracious God.

As we all know, the cost of education keeps going up every year. For the 2022-2023 school year, the cost for attending MLC will be \$29,400.00. The cost over four years is almost \$118,000. Approximately 75% of MLC students graduate with debt. This is a concern for our Synod.

MLC has a matching Scholarship fund. If the student's home congregation gives him or her between \$100 to \$1200, MLC will match it. Last year we received \$5600. We were able to give each student \$1400 for the match. We thank you for your generous contributions for the MLC and the MLHS Scholarship Funds.

We have some earnings from our Education Fund in the Endowment Fund but not enough to support this. The Church Council has recommended that we once again have a two month special offering for this.

We have some other good news. We will have about 11 students attending Manitowoc Lutheran High School. We're not sure on the exact number right now. Some of them don't receive any financial assistance. Tuition at MLHS is \$6000 for a year. We would also like to help them out with tuition costs. Last year we received \$3100.00 in this fund. Two students needed financial assistance. We gave each student \$1550.00. We're not sure how many of our MLHS students will need financial assistance at this time yet. It could be more than the 2 students this year. We'll know more around June 1st.

We have set a goal of \$5600 to provide our MLC students with tuition assistance. We will set a goal right now of \$4600 for the MLHS students. We will run this special offering from March 27th to June 5th. You can designate which fund you'd like to contribute to. If you wish to make a contribution, mark your envelope, either MLC Scholarship Fund or MLHS Scholarship Fund. If you don't designate which fund, the offering will be split between the two funds. Please make out checks to St. John-St. James. We cannot cash checks made out to

MLC or MLHS. If you have any questions, please call Dan Duchow at 920-754-4751 or email me at dduchow@stjohnstjames.com.

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

Church Attendance: Sunday—8:00 am Service—101, 10:15 am Service—93 Total:
194

Wednesday(3/16): 3:15 pm—134, 6:30 pm—52, Total: 186

3/9 Lenten Wednesday Offerings—General Fund—\$ 1,600.00, Building Fund—\$
25.00,

3/13 Sunday Offerings—General Fund: \$ 11,931.01, Synod: \$ 777.00, MLHS: \$ 707.00
—Total \$13,423.01 ■ Special Offerings—Building Fund: \$ 3,317.00 (needed each week
\$2,312) ■ Ministry Reserve Fund—\$ 90.00 ■ Pastor Retreat—\$ 50.00 ■ Debt
Retirement—\$ 500.00