

St. John-St. James

Ev. Lutheran Church & School



Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022



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WELCOME

CRUSHED—Against the rock of grace, condemnation is crushed

Opening Hymn:

Drawn to the Cross

Christian Worship, Hymn # 808

Verse 1 🎵 **Drawn to the cross, which you have blessed
With healing gifts for souls distressed,
To find in you my life, my rest,
Christ crucified, I come.**

Verse 2 🎵 **How well you know my griefs and fears,
Your grace abused, my misspent years;
So now to you with contrite tears,
Christ crucified, I come.**

Verse 3 🎵 **Wash me and take away each stain;
Let nothing of my sin remain.
For cleansing through your cross and pain,
Christ crucified, I come.**

INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C **Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

M Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C **Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

DECLARATION OF GRACE

M God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

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 God on high, and on earth peace,
Good will toward men.
We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,
We glorify you, we give thanks to you,
For your great glory,
O Lord God, heav'nly King,
God the Father almighty.**

(Our Hymn Response continues on the next page)

**O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
You take away the sin of the world;
Receive our prayer.
You sit at the right hand of God the Father;
Have mercy on us.
For you only are holy; you only are the Lord.
You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
Are most high in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, you receive us as your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge your merciful goodness, give thanks for all your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Epistle Lesson

Romans 8:1-10

8 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ²because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. ⁹You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

M The Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**



Gospel Lesson

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

15 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

¹¹ Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

¹³ “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

(Gospel Lesson continues on the next page)

²⁵ “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

²⁸ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹ “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

M The Gospel of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of the Day:

Amazing Grace

Christian Worship, Hymn # 576

G Verse 1 **♩** **Amazing grace— How sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.**

G Verse 2 **♩** **The Lord has promised good to me;
His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.**

(Hymn continues on the next page.)

G Verse 3 **♪** **Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.**

G Verse 4 **♪** **When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining like the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Darin Aden

Isaiah 12:1-6

“Look at What HE Has Done!”

12 In that day you will say: “I will praise you, LORD. Although you were angry with me, your anger has turned away and you have comforted me.

² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.”

³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴ In that day you will say: “Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵ Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.”

☐ 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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M** Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin. We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.
- Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

- M** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- M** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them up to the Lord.
- M** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C** It is good and right so to do.

M It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree by overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

C Verse 1 **♩** **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of heavenly hosts:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he,
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M Our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

C Verse 1 **♩** **O Christ, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.**
**O Christ, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.**
**O Christ, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world;
Grant us your peace. A-men.**

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

A PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION

Lord, I am a sinner. I do not deserve to commune with you, my holy God. But because of your Son and through faith in him, you graciously invite me to not only pray to you but also to come to your Table. Use this sacrament to reassure me of your forgiveness and strengthen me to live a new life of thanksgiving and joy. In Jesus' name. Amen.

(After all those communing have received Lord's Supper, we conclude our celebration)

M Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the one true faith unto life everlasting. Be assured, your sins are forgiven.

C Amen.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

M Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C His mercy endures forever.

M Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

M O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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:

Just as I Am, without One Plea


Christian Worship, Hymn # 814

Verse 1 


**Just as I am, without one plea
But that thy blood was shed for me
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

Verse 3 

**Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

Verse 5 

**Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

Verse 6 

**Just as I am; thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down.
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS

Today	Preacher, Pastor Darin Aden Music Today—Kristen Hillmann Sunday School, Adult Bible Class & No CREW at 9:15am Call Meeting in the Commons at 9:00 am
Wed. 3/30	Wednesday Lenten Worship Services at 3:15pm & 6:30pm Lenten Meal 4:30-6:00pm *NO* Public School Confirmation Class at 3:30pm
Thurs. 3/31	Praise Choir Practice at 5:30pm
Sat. 3/26	Public School Confirmation Class 9am—3pm

Sunday, March 27, 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—**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.

SERVING YOU NEXT WEEK—WEDNESDAY—3:15 pm—Volunteers ■ **6:30 pm Ushers—**Jeff & Jellane Schneider, Arlie Olp ■ **SUNDAY—8:00 am Ushers—**Dan Duchow, Jeff Herzog ■ **10:15 am Ushers—**Paul Kiekhaefer, John Brodtke, Jeremy Foytik, Delton & Nathan Kasten ■ **Church Cleaners—**Terry/Karen Prochnow, Dale Barnard, Rod Bubolz ■ **Flower Committee—**Joann Fischer & Sharie Mack(March) Terry & Karen Prochnow(April)

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 all committees for serving our Lenten meal on past Lenten Wednesdays! **This coming Wednesday, March 30th, will be served by the Praise Choir and they will be serving Chili.**

CALL MEETING—SJSJ will be holding a Call Meeting to call a 2nd Pastor & part-time teacher for grades 6-8. The call meeting will be **today, 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.

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT—Join us here at SJSJ on April 10, 2022 at 8am/10:15am for the Palm Sunday Service. At 11:15 am there will be doughnuts in the Commons with an 11:30 am egg hunt! Come have fun with us!

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 31st at 5:30pm.

ATTENTION 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!

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES—Lenten Worship Services will be held at 3:15pm & 6:30 pm every Wednesday through April 6th. This coming Wednesday, March 30th, is our very own Pastor Darin Aden preaching on A Part of the Whole? and Luke 23:13-16.

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.

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 **today, 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.

BAPTISM—We celebrated the baptism of Navy Katherine Kiesow, daughter of Kurt and Morgan Kiesow on Sunday, March 20. Navy was born on February 4, 2022 and her Sponsors are Kristie Kiesow, Alyssa Schmelter and Dan Kiesow. Welcome to our church family Navy!

MEMORIALS GIVEN—Gene & Charmaine Wagner gave a gift to the Building Fund in memory of Joan Dietrich. Dorothy Zenke gave a gift to the Building Fund in memory of Darlene Oakley. Thank you so much!

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.

KOINE`S FOOTSTEP TO THE CROSS—Fox Valley Lutheran High School will be hosting a free presentation of Koiné's Footsteps to the Cross on April 9 at 5pm. Footsteps to the Cross is a passion play weaving together Lenten Hymns, Scripture, and video to tell the story of Jesus from the Mount of Transfiguration to Mount Calvary. Please go here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/j7flfyupj7mtf36/AAB2WhAFZ2lCWfFhCxjJWwOXa?dl=0> for a bit more information below as well as a link to PDF printable posters and JPG digital slides for presentation software, emails, social media, or in whatever fashion people would want to use them.

St. John – St. James Church Council Meeting Highlights

March 14, 2022

Jeff Doemel reported on income for the month of February was \$66,741.00 and expenses were \$55,818.00. Total debt balance at the end of January is \$4,610.00.

The Charities balance at the end of February was \$30,591.33. Total monies in the Building Project Fund are \$28,228.86.

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—95, 10:15 am Service—106 Total: 201 ■ Wednesday(3/16): 3:15 pm—114, 6:30 pm—37, Total: 151 ■ **3/16 Lenten**

Wednesday Offerings—General Fund—\$ 1,487.00

3/20 Sunday Offerings—General Fund: \$ 12,800.50*, Synod: \$ 538.50*, MLHS: \$ 215.50*—Total \$ 13,554.50* ■ **Special Offerings**—Building Fund: \$ 1,775.00* (needed each week \$2,312) ■ **Ministry Reserve Fund**—\$ 325.00* ■ **Debt Retirement**—\$ 50.00