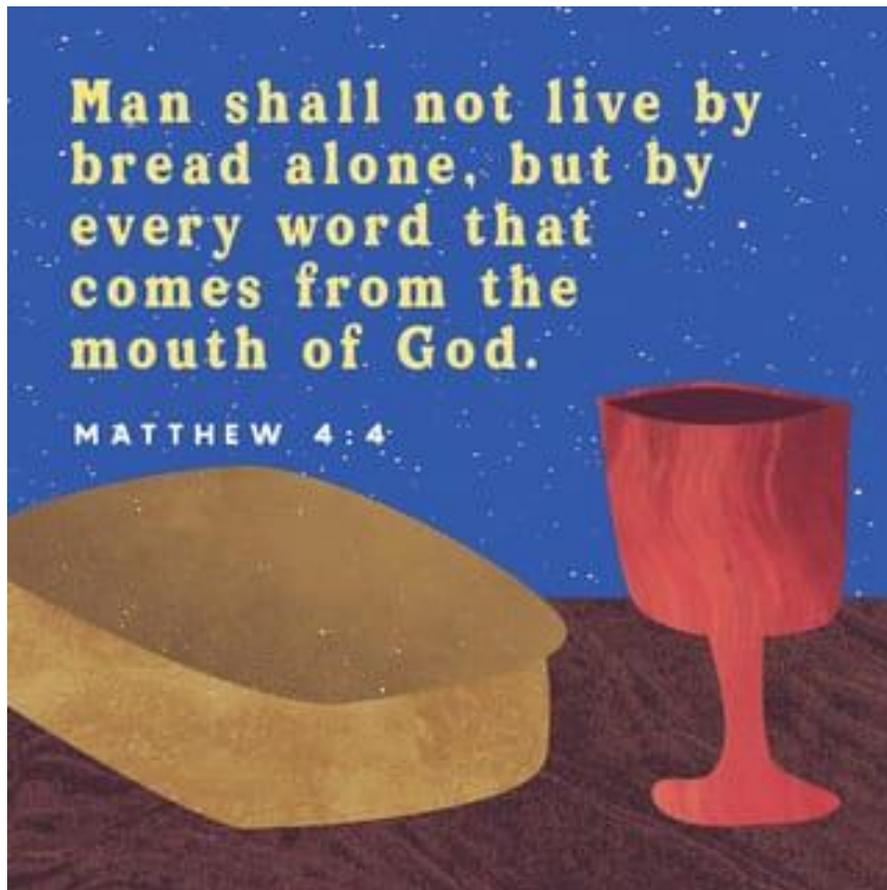


ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The First Sunday in Lent

6 March A✠D 2022

Divine Service, Setting I

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the First Sunday in Lent. On this day, we focus on Jesus' mission to defeat the devil, our ancient foe, and to win for us eternal victory. Shortly after the world was made, the devil began his wicked attack on mankind and through his temptation we were overthrown and condemned. However, at the perfect time, Jesus came to do for us what we could not: By His cross, He conquered the devil that we might be free.

If you are a VISITOR here, we'd like to offer you our warmest welcome! We pray that your experience among us is blessed, and that you depart filled with God's peace and life.

Also, toward the end of our service today we will be celebrating Holy Communion, in which we will eat and drink Jesus' body and blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26:26-28). Therefore, we ask that you would please see the statement titled "On the Sacrament of Holy Communion," printed below, which describes our beliefs and practices regarding this sacred gift.

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter,
as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth,
I humbly pray that You would open my heart
to the preaching of Your Word so that I may
repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my
only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness.
Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

ON THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: We believe that when we receive Holy Communion together, we are publicly declaring both our unity in Christ and our agreement in doctrine (1 Cor. 10:16-17; 1 Cor. 1:10). We also believe that if we receive this sacrament in unbelief, we risk God's judgment (1 Cor. 11:27-30).

Therefore, communion at this altar is reserved for those who believe and confess the teachings of our church body, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Those who have not been formally instructed in our teachings should wait to commune until completing a course of instruction with us.

If you are a VISITOR and would like to commune with us today, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you will not be communing, you are welcome to kneel at the altar with your arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing, or you may simply remain in your pew.

Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Hymn of Invocation: 424 O Christ, You Walked the Road



1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.
2 No bread of earth a - lone Can fill our hun - g'ring hearts.
3 No blind - ing sign we ask, No won - der from a - bove.
4 When lures of eas - y gain With prom - ise bright - ly shine,
5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp - ta - tion's pow'r And fought our an - cient foe.
Lord, help us seek Your liv - ing Word, The food Your grace im - parts.
Lord, help us place our trust a - lone In Your un - swerv - ing love.
Lord, help us seek Your king - dom first; Our wills with Yours a - lign.
Stay with us through temp - ta - tion's hour To fight our an - cient foe.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591

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Tune: Public domain

Service of the Word

Introit (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 91:1–2, 9–10, 13; antiphon: vv. 15a, c, 16

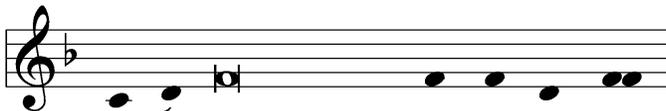
- P** When he calls to me, I will answer him;
I will rescue him and honor him.
- C** **With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation.**
- P** He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
- C** **I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust.”**
- P** Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—
the Most High, who is my refuge—
- C** **no evil shall be allowed to befall you,
no plague come near your tent.**
- P** You will tread on the lion and the adder;
the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

- P** When he calls to me, I will answer him;
I will rescue him and honor him.
- C** **With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation.**

Kyrie

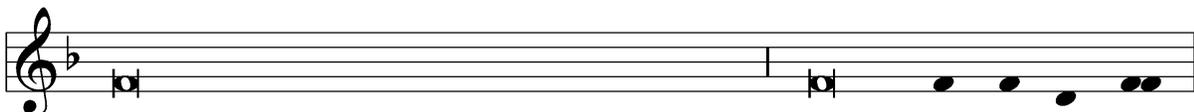
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



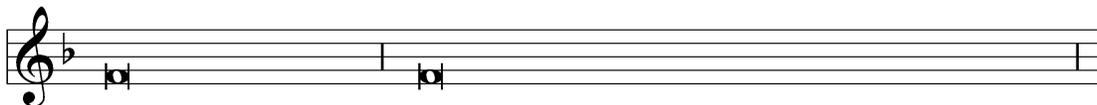
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



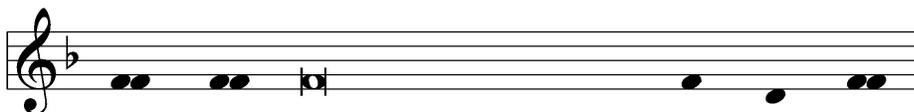
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

During Advent and Lent (including the "Gesima" Sundays), the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 3:1–21

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,
“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”

¹⁶To the woman he said,
“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷And to Adam he said,
“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.
¹⁹By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

²¹And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 91:11–12

P He will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.

C On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.

Epistle

2 Corinthians 6:1–10

¹Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“In a favorable time I listened to you,
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Tract

Psalm 91:1, 4a, 15a, 16

(During Lent and the “Gesima” Sundays, the Alleluia is omitted and the Tract is used instead.)

P He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

C He will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge.

P When he calls to me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble.

C With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,”
and

“On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.”

¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
 Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
 All ea - ger to de - vour us,
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
 But for us fights the val - iant One,
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
 He's by our side up - on the plain



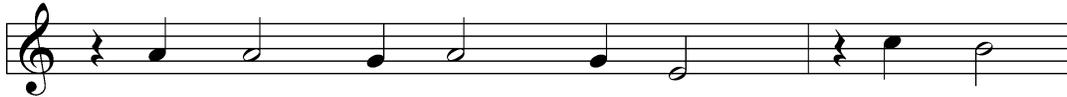
That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main - eth.

Text: tr. Composite; Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

(The Apostles' Creed is used during Lent.)

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

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For deliverance from every evil, that the Lord Most High would be our refuge and our strength, and that by the work of His Spirit we might rejoice in His salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For faith to follow our Lord and resist temptation, that we would be led safely through this fallen world to dwell with Him forever, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all pastors, that God would command His angels concerning them, guard them in all their ways and to bear them up as they proclaim the One who trampled the serpent underfoot, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For parents, that God would bless them with all wisdom as they teach their children His ways, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the governing authorities, that God would protect them from every temptation of the devil and equip them to curb what is evil and promote what is good; and for the people of Ukraine, that they would be protected and delivered by God's almighty power, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those in need of healing and restoration, [*especially _____,*] that God would answer their prayers, be with them in trouble and rescue them according to His gracious will, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For a right reception of the Lord's Supper, that God would unite His people in a right confession of His Word and bring them with penitent hearts to receive the great riches of His Son's body and blood for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Almighty God, Your Son was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to suffer temptation for our sake, as part of our redemption. Strengthen us when we are tempted and teach us to rely upon Your Word as our defense against the evil one; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Blessing of School Supplies for Ziah Town Lutheran School in Liberia

P O Lord God, our Father in heaven, we thank You for the work of Lutheran Schools, where children around the world are raised up in faith and love, to know You in truth and to be productive members of society. Bless every Lutheran School, most especially Ziah Town Lutheran School in Liberia. Grant wisdom and dedication to the teachers and administrators there, and grant diligence and growth to the students. Protect the laborers as they continue to construct the new school buildings and as they dig the well. And may these school supplies, which we are now sending to them, be a blessing. May they help the students in their learning, and may they manifest to all the love of Christ, our Savior. Through the same, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering

During the Offering, we ask that you please sign a black attendance book located in your pew.

Stand
Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

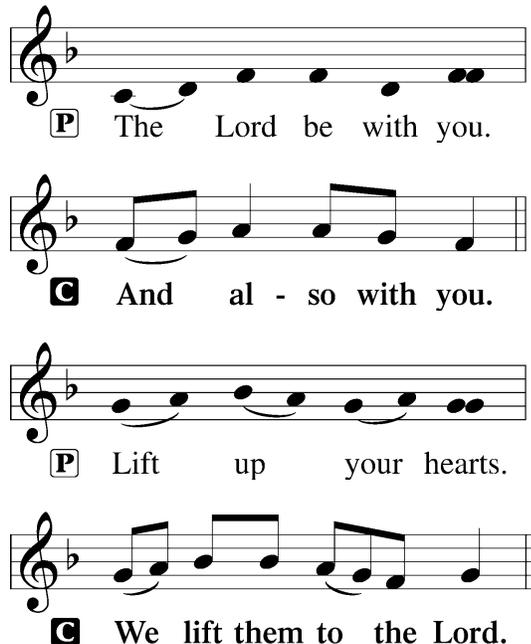


C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

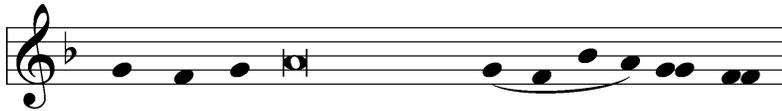
Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer (*spoken together*)

Matthew 6:9–13

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to 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.

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Distribution Hymn: 429 We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died



1 We sing the praise of Him who died, Of Him who
2 In - scribed up - on the cross we see In shin - ing
3 The cross! It takes our guilt a - way; It holds the
4 It makes the cow - ard spir - it brave And nerves the



died up - on the cross. The sin - ner's hope let
let - ters, "God is love." He bears our sins up -
faint - ing spir - it up; It cheers with hope the
fee - ble arm for fight; It takes the ter - ror



all de - ride; For this we count the world but loss.
on the tree; He brings us mer - cy from a - bove.
gloom - y day And sweet - ens ev - 'ry bit - ter cup.
from the grave And gilds the bed of death with light;

5 The balm of life, the cure of woe,
The measure and the pledge of love,
The sinner's refuge here below,
The angels' theme in heav'n above.

6 To Christ, who won for sinners grace
By bitter grief and anguish sore,
Be praise from all the ransomed race
Forever and forevermore.

Text (sts. 1-5): Thomas Kelly, 1769-1855; (st. 6): Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861

Tune: attr. Daniel Read, 1757-1836

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 562 All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall



1 All man - kind fell in Ad - am's fall; One com - mon
 2 Through all our pow'rs cor - rup - tion creeps And us in
 3 From hearts de - praved, to e - vil prone, Flow thoughts and
 4 But Christ, the sec - ond Ad - am, came To bear our



sin in - fects us all. From one to all the
 dread - ful bond - age keeps; In guilt we draw our
 deeds of sin a - lone; God's im - age lost, the
 sin and woe and shame, To be our life, our



curse de - scends, And o - ver all God's wrath im - pends.
 in - fant breath And reap its fruits of woe and death.
 dark - ened soul Seeks not nor finds its heav'n - ly goal.
 light, our way, Our on - ly hope, our on - ly stay.

5 As by one man all mankind fell
 And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,
 So by one Man, who took our place,
 We all were justified by grace.

6 We thank You, Christ; new life is ours,
 New light, new hope, new strength, new pow'rs.
 This grace our ev'ry way attend
 Until we reach our journey's end.

Text: Lazarus Spengler, 1479–1534; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.

Tune: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510–61

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand
Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32



P Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

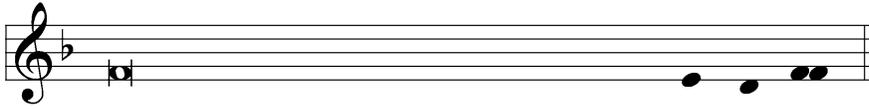
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn: 561 The Tree of Life



1 The tree of life with ev - 'ry good In E - den's
 2 The still - ness of that sa - cred grove Was bro - ken,
 3 What mer - cy God showed to our race, A plan of
 4 Now from that tree of Je - sus' shame Flows life e -



ho - ly or - chard stood, And of its fruit so pure and
 as the ser - pent strove With tempt - ing voice Eve to be -
 res - cue by His grace: In send - ing One from wom - an's
 ter - nal in His name; For all who trust and will be -



sweet God let the man and wom - an eat. Yet in this
 guile And Ad - am too by sin de - file. O day of
 seed, The One to fill our great - est need— For on a
 lieve, Sal - va - tion's liv - ing fruit re - ceive. And of this



gar - den al - so grew An - oth - er tree, of which they
 sad - ness when the breath Of fear and dark - ness, doubt and
 tree up - lift - ed high His on - ly Son for sin would
 fruit so pure and sweet The Lord in - vites the world to



knew; Its love - ly limbs with fruit a -
 death, Its aw - ful poi - son first dis -
 die, Would drink the cup of scorn and
 eat, To find with - in this cross of



dorned A - gainst whose eat - ing God had warned.
 played With - in the world so new - ly made.
 dread To crush the an - cient ser - pent's head!
 wood The tree of life with ev - 'ry good.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Bruce W. Becker, 1952

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

- Sun. 3/6** **First Sunday in Lent**
- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
 - **Adult Bible Class** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall
 - **Sunday School for Kids** 10:45 a.m., Upstairs Youth Room
- Mon. 3/7** **Pastor's Day Off**
Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m.
Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.
- Tue. 3/8** **Pastor's Winkel (off site)** at 9:00 a.m.
- Wed. 3/9** **Afternoon abbreviated Holy Communion Service** (wear masks) 4:30 p.m.
Midweek Lent Service 7:00 p.m.
- Thu. 3/10** **Pastor out of the office in the afternoon**
- Sun. 3/13** **Second Sunday in Lent**
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS
- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
 - **Adult Bible Class** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall
 - **Sunday School for Kids** 10:45 a.m., Upstairs Youth Room

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR EFFORTS TO HELP MITIGATE CORONAVIRUS – Here's what you can expect for our Sunday morning Divine Services:

1. Hand sanitizer and face masks will be available on the table in the entryway if you decide to use them.
2. Those who wish may request a squirt of hand sanitizer from the usher before Holy Communion, and sanitizer will also be sitting on small tables in the side altar rooms for your use following Communion.
3. The "Sharing of the Peace" has been temporarily suspended.

Pastor's sermons will still be posted on St. Mark's Facebook page a day or two after each service. Thank you for your gracious cooperation and your flexibility!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY TODAY – Please join Pastor and others in the basement fellowship hall **after church today** for Adult Bible class. Pastor will continue teaching on the book of Genesis. This is a great opportunity to fill your week with God's Word and to grow in knowledge and faith! Adult Bible Class meets on **Sundays at 10:45 a.m.**, after our Divine Service.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY – Preschool through Elementary-age school kids are welcome to join Mrs. Kaufman in the upstairs youth room (behind the choir loft) right after the Divine Service for Sunday School **today from 10:45 – 11:45 a.m.** Kids will hear a different Bible story each week; what a great way for them to learn about Jesus! And kids are certainly welcome to bring friends and/or family with them also!

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON COMMUNION SERVICES - We continue to offer midweek **Wednesday** abbreviated worship services with Holy Communion **at 4:30 p.m.** for those who are still uncomfortable attending the Divine Service with the entire congregation on Sunday mornings. All who attend the midweek 4:30 service will be required to wear masks. The service will be brief (~15 minutes). These services will continue throughout the season of Lent.

MIDWEEK LENT WORSHIP SERVICES – All are welcome to attend our Midweek Lent Worship Services that will be held on **Wednesday evenings during Lent** (March 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6) **at 7:00 p.m.** They are a great way to fill your Lenten preparations with the Word of God! At these services, we will be following a series titled “Holy Habits.” Here, we will be looking at different habits of the Christian life, that we might repent of our sins and rededicate ourselves to living out the life of faith by the power of Christ’s redemption. Furthermore, we will be doing these services “round-robin” style, with pastors from our circuit rotating to different congregations. We hope you will join us for these services, and enjoy the Word of God proclaimed to you by a number of His faithful servants!

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR GAIL HARDY – The memorial service for our church member, Gail Hardy (went to be with Jesus on Jan. 8, 2022) will take place here on **Wednesday, March 23** at 10 a.m. There will not be a luncheon afterward.

SEEKING ADDITIONAL GREETERS FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS – We are currently seeking some additional greeters for Sunday mornings to help welcome those who attend our Divine Service prior to their entering the sanctuary. Being a greeter is easy! You just arrive at church 15-20 early, stand outside the sanctuary doors, and welcome each person with a hand shake and/or or a smile while saying, “Good morning!” Greeters only greet once every 6 to 8 Sundays, so it isn’t a huge time commitment. **If interested, please let Debbie LoCascio** know.

HOLY WEEK MUSIC PRACTICE SCHEDULE – Choir rehearsals will take place on Monday evenings at 6:15 p.m. starting **March 7**. Handbell rehearsals will take place on Mondays also at 7:00 p.m. starting **March 7**. If you’d like to participate in the choir, or ring with the handbell choir, please let Debbie LoCascio know ASAP.

A NEW YOUNG ADULT GROUP IS STARTING UP! St. Mark’s will be having its first young adults’ event on **Tuesday, March 22** from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. The event is for all young adults (married or single) and their families. Our first event will be a game night with some arts and crafts for the young children. Please bring your family and friends to this event. We are looking forward to seeing you! Any questions regarding the Young Adult Group can be directed to Trent Johnson.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH - As a Christian congregation, God calls us to be reaching out to our community with the Gospel of Christ, that His Word might be spread abroad and that His kingdom might grow. Therefore, in the weeks leading up to Easter, we will be engaged in some special outreach efforts in our neighborhood. First of all, on **Sunday, March 27**, we will be going out into our neighborhood to do a “prayer walk.” Here, we will be walking around our neighborhood as a group, praying for the people there as we pass by their homes, that God would bless them in body and soul. This prayer walk will take place after the Divine Service, following an abbreviated Bible Study. Second, on **Sunday, April 3**, we will again be going out into our neighborhood to deliver invitations to our Easter service. Here, we will be going door to door in small groups to personally deliver the invitations. We hope you will consider joining us for these outreach efforts, especially as we look toward Easter—a day which brings good news for the entire world!

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN 2022! The Board of Elders is leading a reading program in which we will be going through the entire Bible in the year 2022. We hope you will participate! There's nothing more important for us than the Word of Christ, for His Word is "Spirit and Life" (John 6:63)! Yearly reading plans are available on the back table in the sanctuary.

The readings for Week 10 (Mar. 6-Mar. 12) are:

Sun	6-Mar	Joshua 5-7
Mon	7-Mar	Joshua 8-10
Tue	8-Mar	Joshua 11-13
Wed	9-Mar	Joshua 14-17
Thu	10-Mar	Joshua 18-20
Fri	11-Mar	Joshua 21-22
Sat	12-Mar	Joshua 23-24

EASTER BREAKFAST POTLUCK - St. Mark’s Church Council has decided that our congregation will be having an Easter Breakfast Potluck this year on **Sunday, April 17** following the Divine Service on Easter morning. It will be followed by an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids. Since this is a potluck, we are asking attendees to bring a breakfast item, if possible. The items needed include:

- Breakfast dishes (quiches, casseroles with eggs & sausage, French toast bakes, etc.)
- Cookies
- Desserts
- Orange juice and other juices
- Anything breakfast-related would be good

A sign-up sheet for breakfast items has been posted in the lobby. Set up for the meal will take place on **Saturday, April 16** at 10:00 a.m. and we will need help with this also. Any questions regarding the Easter Breakfast Potluck can be directed to Karen Kaufman or Tom LoCascio.

NOW ACCEPTING ORDERS FOR EASTER PLANTS – You can help beautify St. Mark’s sanctuary on Easter morning by purchasing spring flowering plants that will be placed around the altar area that day. After the Easter worship service, you can take your plant(s) home and transplant them into your garden. Plants may be ordered in honor, or in memory, of a loved one or just to help beautify the sanctuary. For prices and ordering information, **see today’s pink bulletin insert.**

LENTEN COIN FOLDERS – The season of Lent officially begins with Ash Wednesday, which falls on March 2 this year. Once again, during Lent, we will be receiving donations via our Lenten Coin Folders that **are now located on the table in the entryway.** Since St. Mark’s is working hard to raise funds for school supplies and catechisms for the kids attending the Ziah Town Lutheran School in Liberia, this year’s Lenten Coin Folder donations will also go toward the purchase of these items. How do the coin folders work? Just place one quarter each day during Lent in the corresponding slot (excluding Sundays, which are celebrated as “mini Easters” and are IN Lent, but not OF Lent), and by Easter Sunday, your holder will be full and equal \$10! Then you can just place the full folders into any offering plate on Easter Sunday or before! It’s an easy and fun activity to do, especially for kids!

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE - As you prepare for the season of Lent, we hope you will grab a copy of the Lenten Devotional Booklets provided by Lutheran Hour Ministries that are now located on the table in the back of the sanctuary. These booklets offer scripture readings and devotions for each day during Lent. They make for excellent reading and study during this penitential season! We thank Lutheran Hour Ministries for making the booklets available to us free of charge, and hope they will enhance your Lenten studies.

SEEKING A VOLUNTEER TO BE LWML PRESIDENT AT ST. MARK’S - St. Mark’s Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) board is seeking someone to fill the role of president. Our long-time member, Gail Hardy, had served as president for many years until she went to be with Jesus a few months ago. We now need a woman from St. Mark’s to fill this position. The LWML is the leading group for Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod’s women where each woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness. As Lutheran Women in Mission, these ladies joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. Some of the duties St. Mark’s LWML president would perform include being the liaison between the LWML office in St. Louis, Missouri and St. Mark’s LWML board, attending a few LWML Zone Rallies in our local area, overseeing some small mission fundraising events here in order to help support the work of missionaries, and assist with St. Mark’s Quilting Group. Jennie Kaufman is the current treasurer of St. Mark’s LWML board. If you have any questions about the LWML, or the duties of the LWML president, feel free to talk to Jennie for more information. We’d love to find our new LWML president as soon as possible, so **if you’d be interested, please let Pastor Vergin know quickly.**

WE CONTINUE TO COLLECT used postage stamps for Wycliffe Bible Translation Ministries, and used eyeglasses for MOST Ministries in the two plastic bins on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs. Wycliffe sells the stamps to stamp collectors and then uses the proceeds to fund Bible translation projects throughout the world. MOST Ministries repairs/refurbishes used eyeglasses and distributes them via eyeglass clinics to the needy around the world. If you donate postage stamps, please be sure to leave ¼” of the envelope paper around the stamp.

KEITH ELEMENTARY “INVISIBLE DAD” LUNCH DONATION TOTAL – Thanks so very much to everyone who donated their spare change to our Keith Elementary “Invisible Dad” Lunch Program over the past 12 months! The donations were counted this week and totaled \$252.10! That was way over what was given last year (\$145). A check for \$252.10 will now be given to the principal at Keith for use for their Invisible Dad lunch program so that no child will have to be without a lunch if they forget to bring one, or if their personal lunch fund balance runs short.

TOILETRY/HYGIENE DONATIONS FOR THE OPEN DOOR OUTREACH CENTER – We continue to receive hygiene & toiletry products year around for the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford. There are two bins located on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs where you can place product donations. The Open Door is a non-profit organization that assists needy families in the Lakes Area. They are ALWAYS in need of toiletry and hygiene items, so **if you can provide any of these throughout the year, it would be appreciated.**

IF YOU SHOP AT A KROGER STORE, please consider participating in their Community Rewards program and **link your shopper’s bonus card to St. Mark’s** so that our congregation will receive free cash each quarter! There is no cost to you! Kroger will send a percentage of what you spend to our congregation as a way of supporting the community. If interested (and we hope you will be!), please click on this URL below to see how you can link your Shopper’s Bonus Card to our congregation: <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>. In order to locate St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, search for business # 82449. Thanks so much!



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Pastor Aaron Vergin

Acolyte

TBD

Altar Guild

Cathy Fitzgerald

Elder on Duty

Darryl Swainson

Greeter(s)

Carolynn Taylor

Offering Counters

Barbara Jewell & Lori Whitehead

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Percussionist

David Drake

Usher

Matt Maier

Video Technician

Charlie Powell