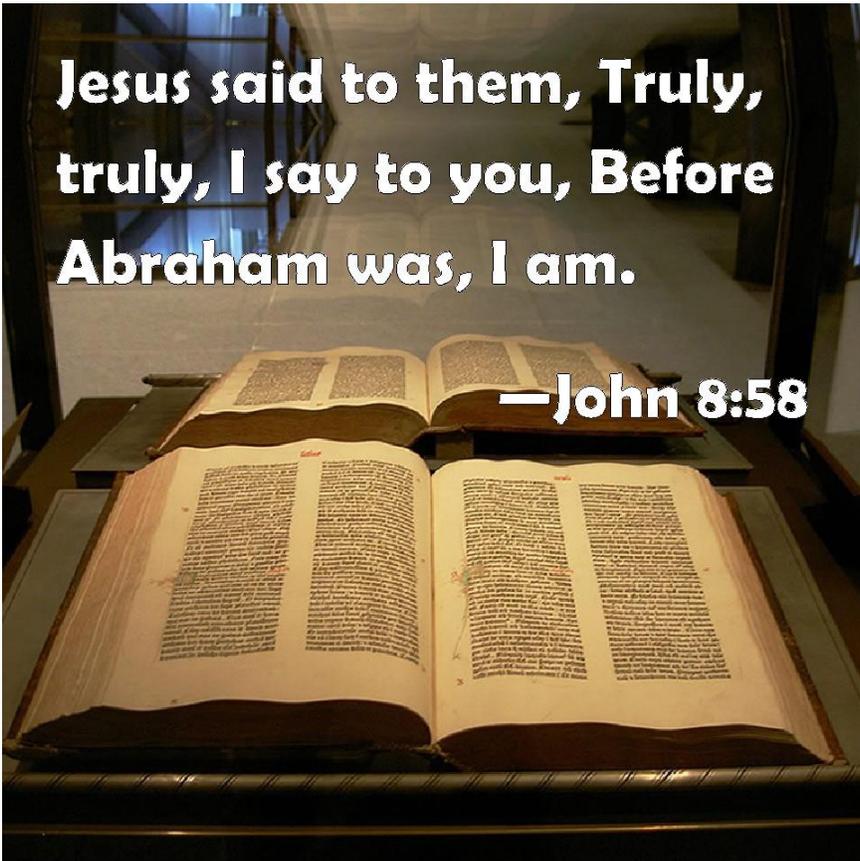


# ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
7979 Commerce Road  
West Bloomfield, MI 48324  
Phone: (248) 363-0741; Email: [info@stmarkwb.org](mailto:info@stmarkwb.org)  
Website: [www.stmarkwb.org](http://www.stmarkwb.org)



**Jesus said to them, Truly,  
truly, I say to you, Before  
Abraham was, I am.**

**—John 8:58**

## **The Fifth Sunday in Lent**

3 April A✠D 2022

*Divine Service, Setting I*

## ✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Fifth Sunday in Lent. On this day, we consider the true magnitude of the sacrifice by which God has redeemed us. Just as Abraham dearly loved his son Isaac, so also God the Father loved His own Son, begotten by Him from all eternity. And yet God was willing to sacrifice Jesus for us, giving Him even into death, that we might be saved. Today, we marvel at our Creator's amazing love and receive that redemption with joy.

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: 419 Savior, When in Dust to Thee



1 Sav - ior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the a -  
2 By Thy help - less in - fant years, By Thy life of  
3 By Thine hour of dire de - spair, By Thine ag - o -  
4 By Thy deep ex - pir - ing groan, By the sad se -



dor - ing knee; When, re - pen - tant, to the skies  
want and tears, By Thy days of deep dis - tress  
ny of prayer, By the cross, the nail, the thorn,  
pul - chral stone, By the vault whose dark a - bode



Scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes; O, by all Thy  
In the sav - age wil - der - ness, By the dread, mys -  
Pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn, By the gloom that  
Held in vain the ris - ing God, O, from earth to



pains and woe Suf - fered once for us be - low, Bend - ing  
te - rious hour Of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r, Turn, O  
veiled the skies O'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice, Lis - ten  
heav'n re - stored, Might-y, re - as - cend - ed Lord, Bend - ing



from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
turn a fa - v'ring eye; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
to our hum - ble sigh; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt.

Tune: Joseph Parry, 1841–1903

Text and tune: Public domain

# Service of the Word

## Introit (*spoken responsively*)

*Psalm 43:3–5; antiphon: vv. 1–2a*

- P** Vindicate me, O God,  
and defend my cause against an ungodly people,  
**C** **from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!**  
**For you are the God in whom I take refuge.**
- P** Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me;  
let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!  
**C** **Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy,**  
**and I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.**
- P** Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?  
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

**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** Vindicate me, O God,  
and defend my cause against an ungodly people,  
**C** **from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!**  
**For you are the God in whom I take refuge.**

## Kyrie

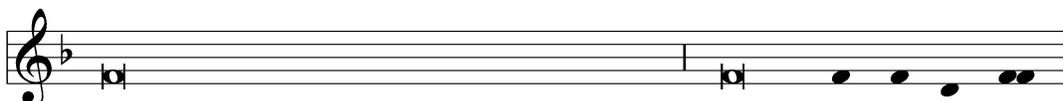
*Mark 10:47*



**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.



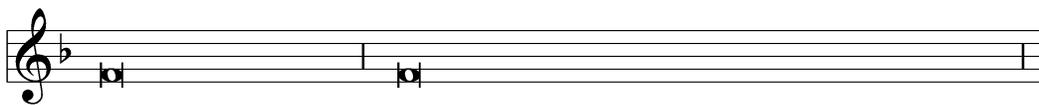
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



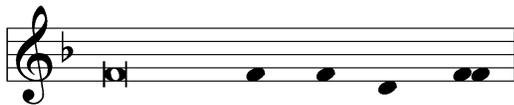
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



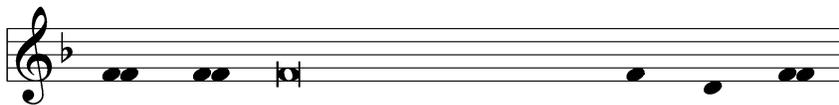
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



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.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Genesis 22:1–14*

<sup>1</sup>After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>2</sup>He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” <sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” <sup>8</sup>Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup>When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>12</sup>He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

*Psalm 143:9a, 10a; 18:48a, c*

- P** Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!  
Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!
- C** [You] delivered me from my enemies;  
you rescued me from the man of violence.

## Epistle

*Hebrews 9:11–15*

<sup>11</sup>When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) <sup>12</sup>he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup>For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, <sup>14</sup>how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

<sup>15</sup>Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

## Stand

### Tract

*Psalm 129:1–4*

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

- P** “Greatly have they afflicted me from my youth”—  
let Israel now say—
- C** “Greatly have they afflicted me from my youth,  
yet they have not prevailed against me.
- P** The plowers plowed upon my back;  
they made long their furrows.”
- C** The LORD is righteous;  
he has cut the cords of the wicked.

## Holy Gospel

*John 8:46–59*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.



- C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>46</sup>“Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? <sup>47</sup>Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”

<sup>48</sup>The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” <sup>49</sup>Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. <sup>50</sup>Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” <sup>52</sup>The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ <sup>53</sup>Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” <sup>54</sup>Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ <sup>55</sup>But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. <sup>56</sup>Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” <sup>57</sup>So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” <sup>58</sup>Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” <sup>59</sup>So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

**Children's Message**

## Hymn of the Day: 430 My Song Is Love Unknown



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to  
2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -  
3 Some - times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es  
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly  
stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would  
sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their  
spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake  
know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,  
King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,  
sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?  
Who at my need His life did spend!  
And for His death They thirst and cry.  
Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.

5 They rise and needs will have  
My dear Lord made away;  
A murderer they save,  
The Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful He  
To suff'ring goes  
That He His foes  
From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home  
My Lord on earth might have;  
In death no friendly tomb  
But what a stranger gave.

What may I say?  
Heav'n was His home  
But mine the tomb  
Wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,  
No story so divine!  
Never was love, dear King,  
Never was grief like Thine.  
This is my friend,  
In whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
Could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683

Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962

Text: Public domain

Tune: © John Ireland Trust. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002763

## 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** To the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whose blood we have been redeemed; that daily He would lead us by the truth of His Word and finally vindicate us in Christ before every enemy of the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** That the Lord, who provided at Mount Moriah a ram as substitute for Isaac and who provided at Mount Calvary His own Son as substitute for the world, would lead us by His Spirit to trust His Word of promise and continually set our hope in Christ, who is able to raise the dead and bless all nations of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For all fathers in the home and the Church, that our heavenly Father would give them wisdom and fortitude; that He would make them faithful in teaching His Word to their children; and that all little ones would come to know their heavenly Father and live as true children of God; and for all Lutheran Schools, especially Ziah Town Lutheran School in Liberia, that the Lord would work through them to raise up the next generation in faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For Joseph, our president; Gretchen, our governor; and all civil authorities, that our nation would be preserved in peace and that all Christians would be allowed to live quiet lives in godliness and honesty; and that God would bring an end to the war in Ukraine and establish His peace in all corners of the globe, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those in need, [*especially \_\_\_\_\_,*] that God would receive our prayers on their behalf through the intercession of Jesus Christ, our great High Priest; and that He would remember them in mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all those who commune, that God would prepare our hearts and give us faith in the Testimony of His Son; and that we would thus be worthy to eat His body and drink His blood, going in full confidence to the altar of God, to our exceeding joy, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word, that we may not be deceived by the devil, but might know Your truth and so come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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

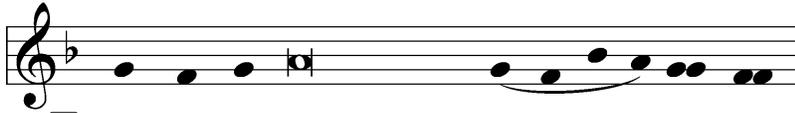
Preface

*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

*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: 431 Not All the Blood of Beasts



1 Not all the blood of beasts On Jew - ish al - tars slain  
2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, Takes all our sins a - way;  
3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,  
4 My soul looks back to see The bur - den Thou didst bear  
5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice To see the curse re - move;



Could give the guilt - y con - science peace Or wash a - way the stain.  
A sac - ri - fice of no - bler name And rich - er blood than they.  
While as a pen - i - tent I stand, And there con - fess my sin.  
When hang - ing on the curs - ed tree; I know my guilt was there.  
We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful voice And sing His bleed - ing love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.  
Tune: William Daman, c. 1540-1591  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Distribution Hymn: 718 Jesus, Lead Thou On



1 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And al - though the  
2 If the way be drear, If the foe be near, Let not faith - less  
3 When we seek re - lief From a long - felt grief, When temp - ta - tions  
4 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won. Heav'n - ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, We will fol - low calm and fear - less.  
fears o'er - take us; Let not faith and hope for - sake us;  
come al - lur - ing, Make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing.  
still di - rect us, Still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



Guide us by Thy hand To our fa - ther - land.  
For through man - y a woe To our home we go.  
Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.  
Till we safe - ly stand In our fa - ther - land.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700-60; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-97, alt.  
Tune: Adam Drese, 1620-1701  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*  
**Nunc Dimittis**

*Luke 2:29–32*



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



## THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

- Sun. 4/3**     **Fifth 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
  - **Deliver Easter Invitations** 11:30 a.m.
- Mon. 4/4**     **Pastor's Day Off**
- Tue. 4/5**     **Pastor's Winkel** 9:00 a.m. (offsite)  
**Board of Elders' Mtg.** 7:00 p.m.
- Wed. 4/6**     **Afternoon abbreviated Holy Communion Service** (wear masks) 4:30 p.m.  
**Midweek Lent Service** 7:00 p.m.
- Thu. 4/7**     **Quilting Bee** 10:00 a.m.  
**Pastor out of the office in the afternoon**
- Sat. 4/9**     **Men's Bible Study** 9:00 a.m.
- Sun. 4/10**    **Passion/Palm Sunday**
- **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

**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!

EASTER INVITATIONS DELIVERED TODAY – Right after the Divine Service and a brief Adult Bible Study **this morning**, 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. Many volunteers are needed for this, so if you are available, **please show up in the Fellowship Hall after Bible Study to participate**. We hope you will consider lending a hand!

FINAL WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON COMMUNION SERVICE - Our final midweek **Wednesday** abbreviated worship service with Holy Communion will take place **today at 4:30 p.m.** All who attend will be required to wear masks. The service will be brief (~15 minutes).

FINAL MIDWEEK EVENING LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE – Our final midweek Wednesday evening Lent service will take place this **Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.** At this service, we will continue 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.

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.

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! Yearly reading plans are available on the back table in the sanctuary.

**The readings for Week 14 (April 3-Apr. 9) are:**

Sun	3-Apr	2 Samuel 8-11
Mon	4-Apr	2 Samuel 12-13
Tue	5-Apr	2 Samuel 14-16
Wed	6-Apr	2 Samuel 17-19
Thu	7-Apr	2 Samuel 20-22
Fri	8-Apr	2 Samuel 23-24
Sat	9-Apr	1 Kings 1-2

DON’T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR COIN HOLDERS ON EASTER SUNDAY! This is just a reminder that if you are working to fill your Lenten coin holder with quarters (or any other type of monetary donation), we ask that you please place your filled folder into an offering plate on, or around, Easter Sunday. The funds will be used to help support the students at Ziah Town Lutheran Church in Liberia, Africa. Thank you!

EASTER BREAKFAST POTLUCK - St. Mark's 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 & breakfast meat(s), French toast bakes, etc.)
- Cookies
- Desserts
- Orange juice and/or 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 4:30 p.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.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR LOBBY IDEA COMMITTEE – The Board of Properties is seeking volunteers to be part of a temporary, short-term committee to investigate possible ideas for a welcoming theme for our lobby, and hopefully be able to provide cost information to pass on to our Church Council. If interested, please contact Jim O'Brien (248) 872-2922 or Trent Johnson (260) 452-8573 ASAP.

UPCOMING HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES – We hope you will join us in mid-April for the following Holy Week worship services: Passion/Palm Sunday on **April 10** at 9:30 a.m.; Maundy Thursday on **April 14** at 7:00 p.m.; Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers Service on **April 15** at 7:00 p.m.; the Resurrection of our Lord Divine Service on **April 17** at 9:30 a.m. Our Easter service will be followed by a free Easter Breakfast and then a Kids' Easter Egg Hunt. Hope to see you at these!

NEXT MEN'S BIBLE STUDY – Hey, men! We hope you'll join pastor this **Saturday, April 9** for Men's Bible Study in St. Mark's Fellowship Hall. Breakfast will be offered for those who wish to partake of it. Looking forward to seeing you there!

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT & FUN – All kids are invited to attend St. Mark's Community Easter Egg Hunt & Fun on **Saturday, April 16** from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. They will enjoy games, egg decorating, cookie making, holding/petting small animals from Turtle Creek Farm in Waterford, and of course, hunting for eggs! Make plans now to bring your kids/grandkids! Also, we need volunteers to help stuff eggs after church on Sunday, April 10. If you can help, please write your name on the sign-up sheet located on the back table in the sanctuary. We'll also need volunteers to help work the event on April 16. Again, a sign-up sheet is now located on the table in the back of the sanctuary for this.

NEXT YOUNG ADULT GROUP EVENT - Our next young adults group event will be held on **Tuesday, April 12** from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. While there, we will be doing a trivia night for the adults and for the kids we will have games and crafts. See Trent Johnson with any questions.

QUILTING BEE NEWS - The ladies' Quilting Bee group is at it again! They have already started making quilts for this fall's Lutheran World Relief quilt collection. And they could use more help! If you'd like to learn how to quilt, or if you already know how to quilt, please feel free to join them **each Thursday morning starting at 10:00 a.m.** to piece together cloth squares, attach backing, sew, etc. Many hands are needed as they have a lot of fabric to work with! Any questions regarding the Quilting Bee group can be directed to Jennie Kaufman or Lynn Thomas.

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!

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 ASAP.**

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.

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.**

KEITH ELEMENTARY “INVISIBLE DAD” LUNCH PROGRAM DONATIONS – Dr. Marci Augenstein, Principal at Keith Elementary, stopped by St. Mark’s for a visit last Monday in order to thank us, personally, for helping to support Keith’s Invisible Dad lunch program. She stated that she, and the office staff, were thrilled to receive our check for \$252, and she also said how much they appreciate knowing that a local church is willing to help supplement their student school lunch program. The Invisible Lunch Program was started a few years ago by a dad of one of the students so that if a child forgot to bring a lunch, or if their personal lunch fund balance was short, the school could offer them a full lunch at no cost instead of the free, state-sponsored “tiny lunch” that doesn’t contain enough food and isn’t the healthiest. St. Mark’s has placed our Invisible Dad Lunch donation jar back on the table in the back of the sanctuary so that we can receive any extra change you’d like to donate for next year’s lunch program at Keith. Thanks so much to everyone who donated this past year!

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.**

ST. PETER LUTHERAN, EASTPOINT, HOSTS MICHIGAN OHIO CHORALE – All are invited to attend a special spring concert by the Michigan Ohio Chorale at St. Peter Lutheran Church, 23000 Gratiot Ave., Eastpointe **on Sunday, April 24** at 4:00 p.m. The concert is called “Crown Him with Many Crowns” and will be under the direction of Erwin Aufdemberge with organ, brass quartet, and an instrumental ensemble. The concert will feature Easter Music and more: Cantata by Buxtehude and The Lord’s Prayer by Hammerschmidt. A free will offering will be received for the concert.



### SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Pastor Aaron Vergin

Altar Guild

Leslie Oehring

Elder on Duty

John Sidelinker

Greeter(s)

Mary Ann Lockwood

Offering Counters

Jennie & Karen Kaufman

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Usher

Matt Maier

Video Technician

Debbie Sidelinker