

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
Website: www.stmarkwb.org



The Second Sunday in Lent

(Reminiscere)

16 March A✠D 2025

Lutheran Service Book - Divine Service, Setting I

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Second Sunday in Lent. On this day, we focus on God's call to trust in His love and salvation, even when He seems far away and unconcerned. Indeed, we will all be tempted at times to doubt God's love. However, God has revealed Himself in Christ as the God of love who saves us from sin and hears our prayers. In times of testing, we must learn to shut our eyes to all appearances and cling even more tightly to this truth.

If you are a VISITOR here, 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 receiving Holy Communion together is a sacred expression of Christian unity, which includes unity in doctrine (1 Cor. 10:16-17; 1 Cor. 1:10; Eph. 4:5). 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 with us 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.

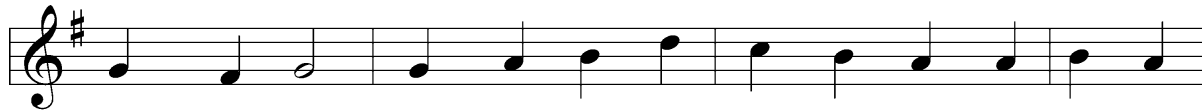
C Amen.

Stand

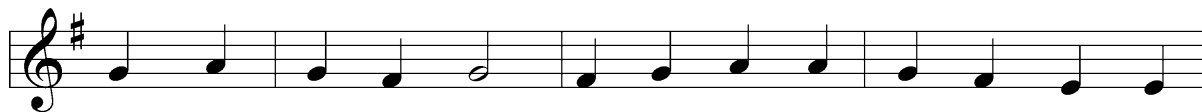
Hymn of Invocation: 423 Jesus, Refuge of the Weary



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



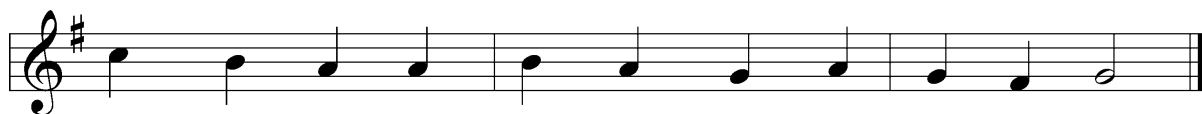
whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

Tune and text: Public domain

Service of the Word

Introit (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 25:1–2a, 7–8, 11; antiphon: vv. 6, 2b, 22

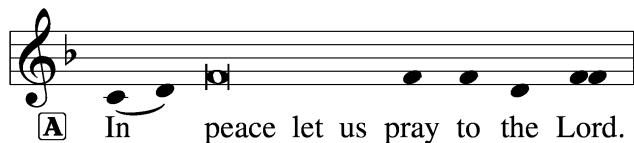
- P** Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
- C** **Let not my enemies exult over me.**
Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.
- P** To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame.
- C** **Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;**
according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!
- P** Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
- C** **For your name's sake, O LORD,**
pardon my guilt, for it is great.

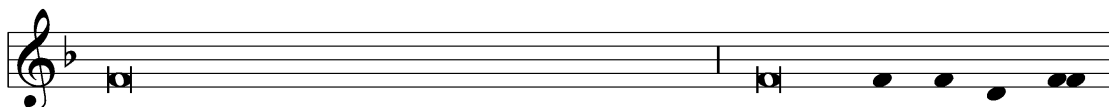
**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

- P** Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
- C** **Let not my enemies exult over me.**
Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47





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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



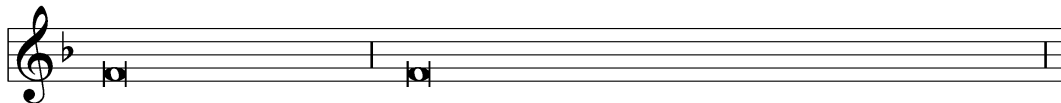
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



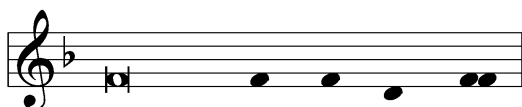
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



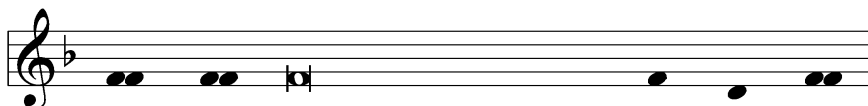
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



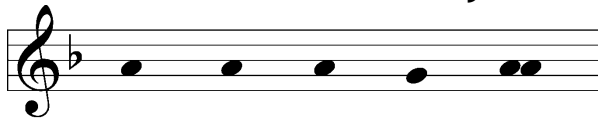
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

(During Lent, the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted here.)

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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 32:22–32

²²The same night [Jacob] arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." ²⁷And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip. ³²Therefore to this day the people of Israel do not eat the sinew of the thigh that is on the hip socket, because he touched the socket of Jacob's hip on the sinew of the thigh.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 25:17–18

- P** The troubles of my heart are enlarged;
bring me out of my distresses.
- C** Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 4:1–7

¹Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to live and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. ²For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. ³For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, ⁵not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; ⁶that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. ⁷For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness.

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

Stand

Tract

Psalm 106:1–4

(During Lent, the Alleluia is omitted and the Tract is used instead.)

- P** Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
- C** Who can utter the mighty deeds of the LORD,
or declare all his praise?
- P** Blessèd are they who observe justice,
who do righteousness at all times!
- C** Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your people;
help me when you save them.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 15:21–28

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²¹Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 713 From God Can Nothing Move Me



1 From God can noth - ing move me; He will not step a - side
 2 When those whom I re - gard - ed As trust - wor - thy and sure
 3 The Lord my life ar - rang - es; Who can His work de - stroy?
 4 Each day at His good plea - sure God's gra - cious will is done.



But gent - ly will re - prove me And be my con - stant guide.
 Have long from me de - part - ed, God's grace shall still en - dure.
 In His good time He chang - es All sor - row in - to joy.
 He sent His great - est trea - sure In Je - sus Christ, His Son.



He stretch - es out His hand In eve - ning and in morn - ing,
 He res - cues me from sin And breaks the chains that bind me.
 So let me then be still: My bod - y, soul, and spir - it
 He ev - 'ry gift im - parts. The bread of earth and heav - en



My life with grace a - dorn - ing Wher - ev - er I may stand.
 I leave death's fear be - hind me; His peace I have with - in.
 His ten - der care in - her - it Ac - cord - ing to His will.
 Are by His kind - ness giv - en. Praise Him with thank - ful hearts!

5 Praise God with acclamation
 And in His gifts rejoice.
 Each day finds its vocation
 Responding to His voice.

Soon years on earth are past;
 But time we spend expressing
 The love of God brings blessing
 That will forever last!

6 Yet even though I suffer
 The world's unpleasantness,
 And though the days grow
 rougher
 And bring me great distress,
 That day of bliss divine,
 Which knows no end or measure,
 And Christ, who is my pleasure,
 Forever shall be mine.

△7 For thus the Father willed it,
 Who fashioned us from clay;
 And His own Son fulfilled it
 And brought eternal day.
 The Spirit now has come,
 To us true faith has given;
 He leads us home to heaven.
 O praise the Three in One!

Text: Ludwig Helmbold, 1532–98; (sts. 1–2, 6): tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921–2001, alt.; (st. 3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5): tr. Gregory J. Wismar, 1946; (st. 7): tr. Joseph Herl, 1959

Tune: Recueil de plusieurs chansons, 1557, Lyons, alt.

Text (sts. 1–2, 6): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship; (sts. 3–5, 7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002763

Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

During the season of Lent, the Apostles' Creed is confessed.

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 our Shepherd of Israel and Master, whose tender mercies and loving kindness are of old, that He would not depart from us until He blesses us; and that as He once strove for Jacob, so God would strive now for us who trust in Him, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Church, knit together from all nations, that her unity may be manifest in the faith she confesses; and that the people of God may bear one another's burdens in prayer and in works of mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all catechumens and their teachers, all children and their parents, and every Christian home, that God would preserve them from the assaults of the evil one; and

that, as God has called all of us in holiness, He would sanctify us to walk as we ought and please Him through the Lord Jesus, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For Donald, our president; *Gretchen*, our governor; the Congress of these United States; the legislature of this state; and all who make, administer and judge our laws, that we would preserve our liberty and use its gift wisely in the pursuit of justice and for the welfare of all people, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who await the healing of the Lord, [*especially* _____,] that God would hear their cries and grant healing in His appointed season, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who commune, that God would receive us in His mercy and enable us to make the good confession, both of our sin and of Him, our only Savior; and that, though it is not right to give the children's bread to dogs, He would lead us to approach Him in faith to eat from our Master's table, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we implore You by Your Holy Spirit to strengthen our hearts and confirm our faith and hope in Your grace and mercy. Although we have reason to fear for the sake of our conscience, our sin and our unworthiness, let us nevertheless hold fast, like the woman of Canaan, to Your grace. In every trial and temptation, let us find You a present help and refuge; 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

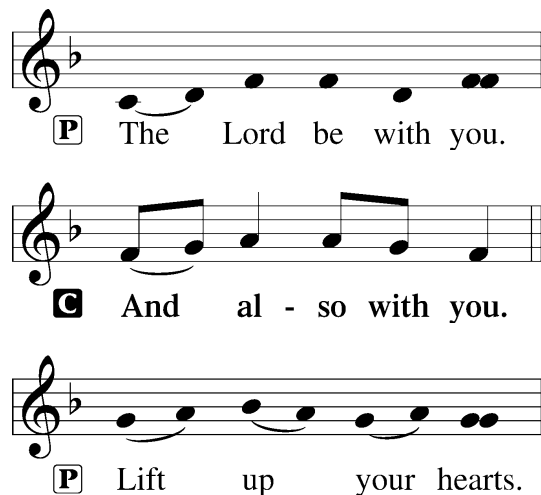


C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple,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

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

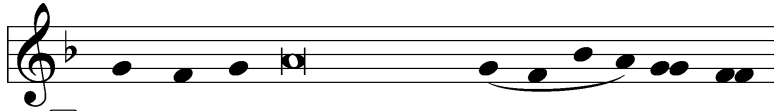
2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



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.

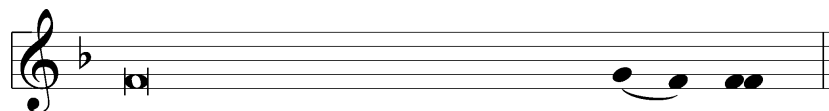
The Words of Our Lord

- 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."

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



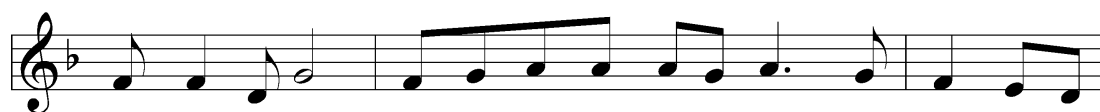
C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

Visitors – Please see note on front of this service folder regarding our Holy Communion policy.

Distribution Hymn: 763 When Peace Like a River



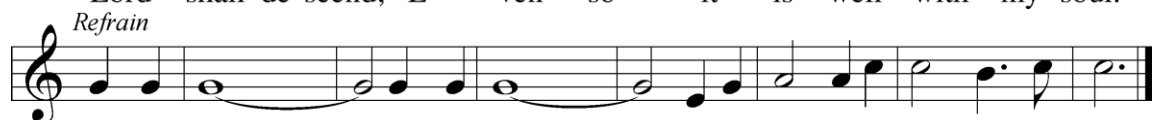
1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; When
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let
 3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; My
 4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The



sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; E - ven so it is well with my soul.



Refrain
 It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–88, alt.

Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–76 Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 733 O God, Our Help In Ages Past

sts. 1-6



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
 Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
 From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
 Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
 Soon bears us all away;
 We fly forgotten as a dream
 Dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
 Our hope for years to come,
 Be Thou our guard while troubles
 last And our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: William Croft, 1678–1727 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 prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to reveal 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

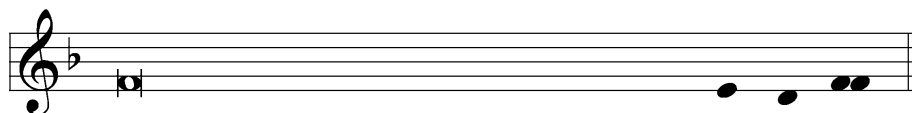
P Let us pray.
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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: 435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -
4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er



Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.
deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun. 3/16 **Second Sunday in Lent**
• **Divine Service** at 9:30 a.m.
• **Special Voter's Meeting** 10:45 am

Tues. 3/18 **Church Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.**

Thurs. 3/20 **First Day of Spring**
Quilting Bee 10 a.m.

Fri. 3/21 **Newsletter Articles Are Due**

Sun. 3/23 **Third Sunday in Lent**
• **Divine Service** at 9:30 a.m.
• **Adult Bible Study** 10:45 am

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL VOTER'S MEETING IS TODAY. The meeting will be held in the fellowship hall following the Divine Service. If you are able, please attend this very important meeting.

DUE TO THE VOTER'S MEETING - BIBLE STUDY has been cancelled. It will resume next week at 10:45 am.

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS provided to us courteous from The Lutheran Hour, have been printed up, and are found on the table in the rear of the church. You also can pick one up in the lobby on the table as you enter or exit the church from the parking lot side.

THE PEOPLE OF ST. MARKS ARE INVITED TO PEACE LUTHERAN, AS THEY WILL BE HOSTING LENT MID WEEK SERVICES. They will also be having a meal before service at 6:00 pm, usually with a suggested donation of \$4.00, to cover the cost of the food and setting up. There will be a sign-up sheet at Peace if anyone is interested or let the office know if any might be interested. Service will be at 7:00 p.m.

LADIES OF ST. MARK'S: The LWML Multi Lakes Zone is in need of a Co-Chair as the current one has had to resign. Our zone is in need of a delegate for the National convention in Omaha, NE in June. If you have any interest in these positions, please call Leslie Oehring for further information. Thank you!

LWML – MULTI – LAKES ZONE SPRING RALLY is being held on Saturday, April 5th at Hope Lutheran 7355 W. Silver Lake Rd., Linden, MI 48451. It will run from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm. It will include: Continental Breakfast and Lunch (to be determined), they intend to have Loose

Senior Choir at the event. They also will be collecting “Pay It Forward” non-perishable food items. They request that you register by calling: 810-735-4807 by March 30th.

2026 LWML MICHIGAN DISTRICT CONVENTION. THIS WILL BE HELD IN EAST LANSING AT THE KELLOGG HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER FROM JUNE 25 – 28, 2026. The HOSTING Zones are Multi Lakes, Thumb; Wayne Oak Hills.

We will need volunteers from all of your churches to help make this convention a success. There are many sub-committees that need to be manned, and I am hoping to enlist your help to fill them.

I am asking all of you and your churches to prayerfully consider joining us in making this a wonderful event. At this time, I have selected 8 committees that the MULTI LAKES Zone will potentially be responsible for. This can change and other committees may need to be selected but at this time I ask that you think about being a part of one or more of these committees.

Convention Committees:

1 - BREAKOUT - these are the sessions that attendees go to during the non-voting periods of the convention. There will be a variety of informational sessions that delegates can attend to learn more about certain organizations or programs that the LWML has helped in the past and continue to support. Volunteers would help with distributing informational materials and the meals for the attendees.

2 - INFORMATION DESK - this will be staffed daily during the convention and during free time: Volunteers will provide schedules; parking vouchers; maps; daily newsletters; prayer requests; information on the election results; Gifts from the Heart totals; Walk/Run collection totals; servant event totals; Emergency contact information for Emergency Response team; Convention evaluations.

3 - CONVENTION FLOOR - Volunteers would make name cards for the delegates, board members, and special guests. Sets up and breaks down zone markers & name cards, banners & flags as needed. Procures special delegate gifts for tables.

4 - LWML BOOTH - In the Exhibitor hall - works with Exhibits committee - staff's booth daily - works with District Christian Growth Coordinator to assist with booth.

5 – LOST /FOUND – work with Guest Services schedules, manages, staffs. Request space; prepares Room Setup Request from Convention Manager.

6 – REGISTRATION – Registrar creates online registration form with information from Convention Manager, District President and committees, obtaining District President approval before publication. Coordinates food packages, Charms, Shirts, breakout sessions, choir, housing, and special events. Provides registration numbers to Convention Manager, District President and responsible committees/Executive Committee. Reports delegates alternates to

Recording Secretary. Works with Tote Bag committee for stuffing relevant materials. Resolves registration payment issues, email confirmations.

7 – STORE – Staffs LWML store during convention. Works with District Christian Materials Coordinator.

8 – VOTING – Hostesses, Ushers, pages (as necessary); YWRs (as necessary) support voting activities during sessions (collection of paper ballots, distribution of handouts, etc.)

I know that this is a huge undertaking, but with the Lord's help and guidance we can accomplish these tasks. Please meet with your ladies' groups, share with your other church groups and even the youth groups, as "Pages" will be needed to help at the convention. IF you could get back to me before MARCH 31 with your questions, volunteers and suggestions, I would greatly appreciate it.

I can be reached at work: St. Paul Community Lutheran – 248-758-9019 (Tues, Wed, Thurs) or my cell phone: 248-408-9863 (texting works best). OR Email be at mvidolich2011@gmail.com.

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. 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.**

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 so that the stamp isn't damaged. Thank you.

ST. MARK'S HAS BEEN INVITED to join them at St. Stephen Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 30th at 12:00pm, to listen to Major Jon Turnbull share how our Lord comes to us in the midst of suffering and loss, to guide, comfort, and strengthen our faith in Him. There will be a luncheon beginning at 11:15am for anyone who would like to join us.

NO COST | FREE-WILL OFFERING Please RSVP by Thursday, March 20th

Location is: St. Stephen Lutheran Church
3795 Sashabaw Rd.
Waterford, MI 48329
248-673-6621
office@ststephenwaterford.org

THE FATHER'S HANDS FOOD PANTRY AND CLOTHING OUR FOOD PANTRY is in dire need of the following items:

The food locker needs: Cereal, peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, pasta mac and cheese boxes, tuna, canned chicken or any canned meat, protein beans, canned pasta dinners, Rice, canned vegetables, both starchy and non-starchy, canned or dried fruit, soups, Raman noodles, protein bars, dried potatoes

For large family supplement bags: large cans of canned meat, dried milk, fruits and veggies, large family dried soups, large family sized baked beans, large family sized spaghetti sauce, large family sized spaghetti noodles; family sized shampoo and conditioner

For personal bags: toilet paper, bar soap, deodorant, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, Diapers - size 4,5 & 6 and newborns. And wipes

We are open for drop off on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10-4:30 and Wednesdays from Noon - 5pm. We greatly appreciate any and all donations. Address:
1133 Joslyn Ave, Pontiac, MI 48340

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE LENT FOR 40 DAYS?

Don't forget what Lent is all about!

It is a time when we are reminded of what Jesus gave up for us, and a time when we look forward to and prepare for His death and resurrection!

We celebrate Lent for six weeks, or 40 days, as we remember Christ's temptation in the wilderness in the Gospel of Matthew. There Jesus was without food for 40 days.

We remember the temptation of the Israelites in the desert after the Lord had delivered them from Egypt. This lasted 40 years.

Finally, we can remember the story of Noah and his family. After 40 days and 40 nights of rain, the Lord delivered them as He promised.

During these 40 days of Lent, we remember God's faithfulness to His people and how His faithfulness is complete in Jesus, our Savior. Jesus remains faithful to us, always being where He promises to be: in His Word and Sacraments. Wow! What a Savior!



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister	Pastor Rod Zwonitzer
Altar Guild	Cathy & Gail Fitzgerald
Elder on Duty	Darryl Swainson
Greeter(s)	Jennie & Karen Kaufman
Offering Counters	Barbara Jewell & Lori Whitehead
Organists	Rob Wheeler
Usher	Matt Maier



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister	Pastor Frank Pies
Altar Guild	Cathy & Gail Fitzgerald
Elder on Duty	None
Greeter(s)	Cathy Fitzgerald
Offering Counters	Barbara Jewell & Lori Whitehead
Organists	Rob Wheeler
Usher	Tom Kaufman