



Third Saturday
in
LENT

**Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church
Third Saturday of Lent * March 7, 2026**

PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS
OPENING SONG

With All Faith

Press into the heart of the Father, Hold fast to the grace received,
Breathe in ... the life of the Spirit and with all faith believe,
And with all faith believe. (Repeat)

Believe on this ... The Word of Life ... The Lord the Christ, has come to save us.
Receive by faith ... His blood sup-plied ... And the power of sin be cursed,
And the Father, be glorified.

Press into the heart of the Father, Hold fast to the grace received,
Breathe in ... the life of the Spirit and with all faith believe,
And with all faith believe.

Believe on this ... The Word of Life ... The Lord the Christ, has come to save us.
Receive by faith ... His blood supplied ... And the power of sin be cursed,
And the Father, be glorified.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Let us turn back to God, trusting not in our goodness, but in God's
abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

**C: you are overflowing with grace and rich in mercy, yet our lives do not
always reflect your love. We have not loved others the way you have
loved us. We have withheld compassion. We have failed to welcome the
stranger. We have chosen comfort over courage,
and too often we participate in systems that harm even though you have
set us free. We have taken for granted the gifts of this earth
and forgotten they are yours. Forgive us. Change us.
Lead us back to the way of the cross—the way of self-giving love.
Amen.**

P: Beloved of God, hear this good news: God never closes the door. God's arms
remain open. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. You are welcomed home.
You belong in God's house - now and always. **C: Amen.**

First Reading:

Exodus 17:1-7

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵ The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Second Reading:

Romans 5:1-11

¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

⁵ [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,'¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem."²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work."³⁵ Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around

you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

SERMON

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

APOSTLES' CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Hear Us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

SHARE THE LORD'S PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you!

P: As God has reconciled us to himself in Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, let us share a sign of God's Peace with those around us... (*a peace sign, a wave, or a fist bump are good alternatives to a handshake*)

OFFERING SONG

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my savior God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

When Christ shall come, with shouts of acclamation.
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great thou art! **Refrain**

OFFERING PRAYER

P: O God, maker of heaven and earth,

C: your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

HOLY COMMUNION

Leader: As we journey through these forty days, we come to find rest for our hearts and contentment for our minds.

All: We are caught up in the activity of our life and need to pause and receive God's sustaining gift of grace.

Leader: In this holy time of worship, we come to receive the forgiving grace of God in the bread and the wine.

All: We praise you, God, for your heavenly food given in love for us.

Leader: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

All: In this meal we discover a God who sent his only Son, so that all may receive life. In the body broken and the blood poured out, we experience the forgiveness of a dying Savior who prayed for our forgiveness. In the eating and drinking we are united with the risen Savio who greets us with the promise of peace. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

THE DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: God of our salvation,

C: we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.

Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen..



Welcome!

St. John practices "open communion". All who are baptized and instructed are welcome to share the Lord's Supper with us today. Starting with the right side of the church, followed by the left when they are finished, the Pastor will distribute the bread and the communion assistant will serve the wine. We will also have pre-sealed elements available for those who would prefer the more hygienic option (or those who wish to receive grape juice instead of wine). Indicate to the Pastor that you would like pre-sealed elements and skip the wine server. Those who wish to receive a blessing should indicate their wishes to the Pastor by crossing their arms over their chest.

BLESSING

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:

God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains
creation, bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

Great is the Lord

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just. By his power we trust in his love.

Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true. By his mercy he proves he is love.

Great is the Lord and worthy of glory. Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.

Great is the Lord, I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice.

Great is the Lord great is the Lord

(Repeat)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

