



St. John's Lutheran Church

Rooted and Growing: In Christ. In Community.

JESUS CARRIES **CROSS**
OUR



The First Sunday in Lent

February 20 & 21, 2021

Jesus Carries Our Cross: Temptation.

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Please stand to sing the final stanza

I Walk in Danger All the Way

Christian Worship 431



1 I walk in dan - ger all the way; The thought
2 I pass through tri - als all the way, With sin
3 Grim death pur - sues me all the way; No - where
4 I walk with an - gels all the way; They shield
5 I walk with Je - sus all the way; His guid -



shall nev - er leave me That Sa - tan, who has
and ills con - tend - ing; In pa - tience I must
I rest se - cure - ly. He comes by night, he
me and be - friend me. All Sa - tan's pow'r is
ance nev - er fails me. He takes my ev - 'ry



marked his prey, Is plot - ting to de - ceive
bear each day The cross of God's own send -
comes by day, And takes his prey most sure -
held at bay When heav'n - ly hosts at - tend
fear a - way When Sa - tan's pow'r as - sails



me. This foe with hid - den snares May seize me
ing. Oft in ad - ver - si - ty I know not
ly. A fail - ing breath, and I In death's strong
me. They are my sure de - fense; All fear and
me, And, by his foot - steps led, My path I



un - a - wares If e'er I fail to watch and
where to flee When storms of woe my soul dis -
grasp may lie To face e - ter - ni - ty to -
sor - row, hence! Un - harmed by foes, do what they
safe - ly tread. In spite of ills that threat - en



pray; I walk in dan - ger all the way.
may; I pass through tri - als all the way.
day. Grim death pur - sues me all the way.
may, I walk with an - gels all the way.
may, I walk with Je - sus all the way.

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated

THE WORD

First Lesson

Genesis 22:1-18

Abraham conquered the temptation of loving his son more than God.

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."

Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you."

Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

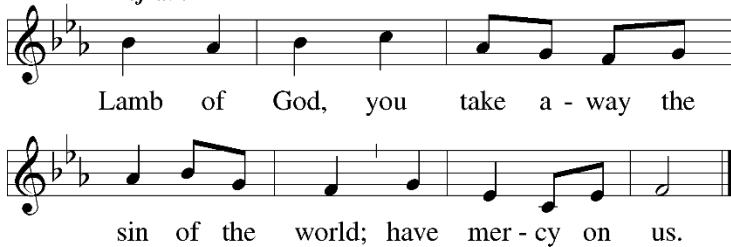
"Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

The LORD hears our cries and helps us conquer temptation.

Refrain



Psalm tone



O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger
or discipline me in your wrath.

Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am faint;
O LORD, heal me, for my soul is in anguish.

Turn, O LORD, and deliver me;
save me because of your unfailing love. *Refrain*

I am worn out from groaning.
My eyes grow weak with sorrow.

Away from me, all you who do evil,
for the LORD has heard my weeping.

The LORD has heard my cry for mercy;
the LORD accepts my prayer.

**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. *Refrain***

Because Jesus conquered temptation, we too are more than conquerers.

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Verse of the Day

It is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.”

Please stand

Gospel**Mark 1:12-15**

Jesus conquered Satan's temptation.

At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated

Anthem

Grades 1 & 2

Grant, O God, Your Blessing

by Michael Bedford

Refrain: Grant, O God, your blessing on us as we pray;
Grant, O God, your blessing all this day.

Just as Jesus prayed to you in the wilderness,
Let us pray ev'ry day; hear, O Lord, and bless. *Refrain*

For the things that we do wrong, please, O God, forgive.
Help us all, great and small, live as Jesus lived. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Christian Worship 201



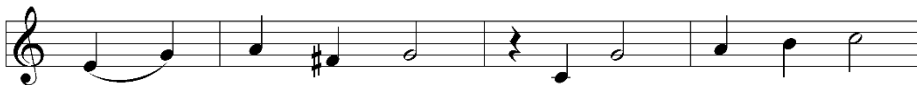
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A trust - y
2 With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, All ea - ger
4 The Word they still shall let re - main, Nor an - y



shield and weap - on; He helps us free from ev - 'ry
loss ef - fect - ed. But for us fights the val - iant
to de - vour us, We trem - ble not, we fear no
thanks have for it; He's by our side up - on the



need That has us now o'er - tak - en. The
one Whom God him - self e - lect - ed. You
ill; They shall not o - ver - pow'r us. This
plain With his good gifts and Spir - it. And



old e - vil foe Now means dead - ly woe;
ask, "Who is this?" Je - sus Christ it is,
world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
do what they will— Hate, steal, hurt, or kill—



Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in
 The al - mighty Lord. And there's no oth - er
 He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is
 Though all may be gone, Our vic - to - ry is



fight; On earth is not his e - qual.
 God; He holds the field for - ev - er.
 done! One lit - tle word can fell him.
 won; The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Sermon

Genesis 22:1-18

Faith Works

Please stand

Nicene Creed

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Offering

The members of St. John's have joined together to do the Lord's work in our community and around the world, and our offerings are a joyful response of our faith. To submit your offering electronically, scan the QR code or visit www.sjtosa.org/giving. If you are a visitor today, you are welcome but not obligated to give an offering.



Please stand

Prayer of the Church

The minister says the Prayer of the Church.

Lord's Prayer

C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

Hymn

Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken

Christian Worship Supplement 726



1 Christ, the Lord of hosts, unshaken
2 Michael fought the heav'nly battle,
3 Long on earth the battle rages,
4 Jesus came, this word fulfilling,
5 Swift as lightning falls the tyrant
6 Jesus, send your angel legions



By the devil's seething rage,
God - ly an - gels by his side;
Since the serpent's first deceit
Tram - pled Satan, death defied;
From his heav'nly perch on high,
When the foe would us en - slave.



Thwarts the plan of Sa - tan's min - ions;
Warred a - gainst the an - cient ser - pent,
Twist - ed God's com - mand to Ad - am,
Bore the brunt of our temp - ta - tion,
As the word of Je - sus' vic - t'ry
Hold us fast when sin as - saults us;



Wins the strife from age to age;
Foiled the beast, so full of pride,
Made for - bid - den fruit look sweet.
On the wretch - ed tree he died.
Floods the earth and fills the sky.
Come then, Lord, your peo - ple save.



Con - quers sin and death for - ev - er;
Cast him earth - bound with his an - gels;
Then the curse of God was spok - en:
Yet to life was raised vic - to - rious;
Wound - ed by a wound e - ter - nal
O - ver - throw at last the drag - on;



Slams them in their steel - y cage.
Now he prowls, un - sat - is - fied.
"You'll lie crushed be - neath his feet!"
By his life our life sup - plied.
Now his judg - ment has drawn nigh!
Send him to his fier - y grave.

Please stand

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

If God Himself Be For Me (stanzas 1 & 3)

Christian Worship 419



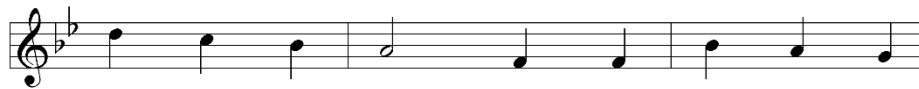
1 If God him - self be for me, I may a
3 I build on this foun - da - tion: That Je - sus



host de - fy; For when I pray, be - fore
and his blood A - lone are my sal - va -



me My foes, con - found - ed, fly. If Christ,
tion, My true, e - ter - nal good. With - out



my head and mas - ter, Be - friend me from
him all that pleas - es Is val - ue - less



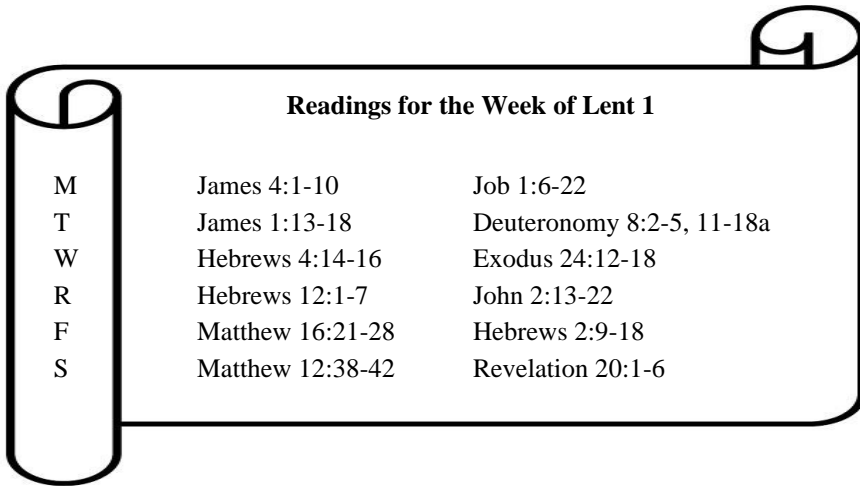
a - bove, What foe or what dis - as -
on earth; The gifts I have from Je -



ter Can drive me from his love?
sus A - lone have price - less worth.

Announcements

Postlude



Readings for the Week of Lent 1

M	James 4:1-10	Job 1:6-22
T	James 1:13-18	Deuteronomy 8:2-5, 11-18a
W	Hebrews 4:14-16	Exodus 24:12-18
R	Hebrews 12:1-7	John 2:13-22
F	Matthew 16:21-28	Hebrews 2:9-18
S	Matthew 12:38-42	Revelation 20:1-6

Serving at Worship

Preacher

Pastor Kyle Bitter

Presiding Minister

Pastor Joel Leyrer

Musician

Carmen Rupprecht, piano (Saturday)
Lisa Eggebrecht, organ (Sunday)

Worship Notes

- The flowers are placed by Dominic and Mary Boettcher in celebration of their 1st wedding anniversary.

In Our Prayers

- St. John's teacher Keith Hackbarth, as he deliberates the two divine calls he now holds.
- Lee Abraham, hospitalized this past week for a fall and now temporarily convalescing at San Camilla.
- Helen Tress, temporarily convalescing at a care facility in Brookfield.

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Lent Worship Opportunities

St. John's midweek Lent services are held on **Wednesdays at 3:30 (broadcast online) and 6:45 p.m.**

February 24 – Midweek Lent 2

Hands of Betrayal (Judas)
Pastor Joel Leyrer

March 3 – Midweek Lent 3

Hands of Misguided Zeal (Peter)
Professor Steven Pagels

March 10 – Midweek Lent 4

Hands of Hypocrisy (Caiaphas)
Pastor Eric Schroeder

March 17 – Midweek Lent 5

Hands of Brutality (Roman Soldiers)
Pastor Kyle Bitter

March 24– Midweek Lent 6

Hands of Self-Preservation (Pilate)
Rev. Dr. Mark Braun

April 1 – Maundy Thursday

April 2 – Good Friday

April 4 – Easter Sunday

(service times TBD for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday)



The Mission of our Church

As God's people gathered together at St. John's, we live to declare the praises of our Savior God who called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of his grace.

As 21st century disciples of Jesus, we reflect the light of God's love by:



Making worship of our Savior the top priority in our lives



Growing in our faith through daily contact with God's Word



Fostering Christian friendships for mutual encouragement and support



Using our unique gifts to glorify God and serve God's people



Sharing the good news of God's forgiving love with others

Worship Services

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Worship in Chinese

Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.

Pastors

*Pastor Joel Leyrer
joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org*

*Pastor Eric Schroeder
eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org*

*Pastor Kyle Bitter
kyle.bitter@sjtosa.org*

Chinese Outreach Pastor

*Pastor Joshua Yu
joshua.yu@sjtosa.org*

School Principal

*Mr. Dan Markgraf
dan.markgraf@sjtosa.org*

Church Office

*7809 Harwood Ave
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
(414) 258-7831
church@sjtosa.org*

School Office

*1278 Dewey Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
(414) 258-4214
school@sjtosa.org*

sjtosa.org