

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Welcome to our visitors!

- It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.
- Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area.
- Large print service folders, assisted listening devices, children's service folders, and children's worship notes are available from the ushers.
- Parents may take small children into the entry area, mother's room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed and follow the worship service on the TV monitor. Changing tables are available in the mother's room and in the room adjacent to the nursery.
- As the offering is received, members and guests are asked to sign the Friendship Register. Please pass the register to your neighbor and then return it to the center aisle. Visitors are also asked to fill out a guest card and give it to an usher.
- The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in our worship today. Scripture tells us that the Lord's Supper is an expression of unity in God's Word and a privilege reserved for those who have publicly confessed their oneness in faith. Therefore, we ask guests who are not members of WELS or ELS congregations to refrain from communion until such oneness can be established. We do not intend to be exclusive and unloving. Rather, we desire to faithfully carry out the teaching of Scripture and further explore God's Word with you in the hope that we may eventually enjoy such "communion fellowship" together. For more information, please speak with one of our pastors.

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 14 & 15, 2020

The Battle for Your Soul: Victory over blindness.

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Please stand to sing the final stanza

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Christian Worship 221

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.

Please kneel

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.

Please stand

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.

Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated

First Lesson**Isaiah 42:14-21**

The promised Messiah will guide the blind and turn our darkness into light.

“For a long time I have kept silent,
I have been quiet and held myself back.
But now, like a woman in childbirth,
I cry out, I gasp and pant.
I will lay waste the mountains and hills and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn rivers into islands and dry up the pools.
I will lead the blind by ways they have not known
along unfamiliar paths I will guide them;
I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth.
These are the things I will do;
I will not forsake them.
But those who trust in idols,
who say to images, ‘You are our gods,’
will be turned back in utter shame.
Hear, you deaf; look, you blind, and see!
Who is blind but my servant, and deaf like the messenger I send?
Who is blind like the one committed to me,
blind like the servant of the LORD?
You have seen many things, but have paid no attention;
your ears are open, but you hear nothing.”
It pleased the LORD for the sake of his righteousness to make his law great and glorious.

Psalm of the Day**Psalm 143 (see pg. 15)**

The mercy of God shines his light into our sin-darkened lives.

Second Lesson**Ephesians 5:8-14**

Now that we are no longer spiritually blind, we should live as children of the light.

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said:

“Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Verse of the Day

M: Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

Please stand

Gospel**John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39**

Jesus heals a man's physical and spiritual blindness.

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Having said this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see."

Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath."

But others asked, "How can a sinner do such miraculous signs?" So they were divided.

Finally they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened."

The man replied, "He is a prophet."

To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

"Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you."

Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated

Anthem (Sunday)

Junior Handbell Choir

O dearest Jesus, what law have you broken
That such sharp sentence should on you be spoken?
Of what great crime have you to make confession –
What dark transgression?

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r;
Your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour;
Turn not from his griefs away; learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

I'll think upon your mercy without ceasing,
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;
To do your will shall be my sole endeavor
Henceforth forever.

Hymn of the Day

Christ is the World's Light

Christian Worship 343

Sermon

Isaiah 42:14-21

God Intervenes

Please stand

**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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who willingly died under the curse of this world's sin so that we may live forever in the light of God's blessing. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



1 O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How tru - ly blest is



might, Your glo - ry, earth and heav - en In
he Who in God's name is com - ing To



count - less ways re - cite. Ho - san - na! Come and
set his peo - ple free! He comes to bring sal -



save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And
va - tion And with his blood out - poured, De -



in your grace and mer - cy Re - ceive our fer - vent cry.
liv - er us from bond - age—Ho - san - na, might - y Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

M: Blessed are you, O Lord, because you have brought us from death to life. With humble and repentant hearts, we praise and thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, who became our substitute under your holy law, who destroyed the works of the devil by his perfect obedience to your will, who willingly carried a cross to pay the debt of the world's sin, who lives and reigns to give us life.

Through his body and blood, once given and poured out for us, forgive our sins and strengthen us for our journey heavenward. Unite us to our crucified and risen Lord, that we may believe in him, confess him, call on his name, and finally be delivered from this world to the feast of the Lamb, whose kingdom has no end.

C: **Amen.**

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.**

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

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 your peace. A - men.

Be seated

*To receive communion, please proceed down the center aisle and exit via the side aisles.
 Grape juice is available in the center of the individual cup tray for those unable to receive wine.
 Personal prayers for communion can be found on pg. 19 of the service folder.*

Distribution Hymns

Church of God, Elect and Glorious (see pg. 16)
Christian Worship Supplement 774

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

Please stand

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It features a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The lyrics are: "O Lord, now let your servant De-part in peace, as-sured: For I have seen your prom-ised In-car-nate, sav-ing Word— A Light that will en-light-en All gloom where Gen-tiles dwell; The bril-liant, crown-ing glo-ry Of those in Is-ra-el!"

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, 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

O Christ, Our True and Only Light (stanzas 1 & 4)

Christian Worship 569

Announcements

Postlude

If you do not wish to take your service folder home, please place it in the basket so it can be reused.

Acknowledgements

Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-709971, all rights reserved

Divine Service II. Text © 2008 Northwestern Publishing House.

“*Psalm 143*” Tune Richard Proulx © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc. Tone © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House.

“*O Dearest Jesus*” & “*Go to Dark Gethsemane*” Text public domain.

“*Holy, Holy, Holy*” Text Stephen P. Starke © 2006 Northwestern Publishing House. Tune public domain.

“*Lamb of God*” Text public domain. Tune Dale Witte © 2005 Northwestern Publishing House.

“*Song of Simeon (Nunc Dimittis)*” Text Stephen P. Starke © 2006 Concordia/Starke. Tune public domain.

“*Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us*” Text and tune public domain.

Serving at Worship

Preacher	Pastor Kyle Bitter
Presiding Minister	Pastor Eric Schroeder
Musicians	Lisa Eggebrecht, organ (Saturday) Eric Sipe, organ (Sunday)
Junior Handbell Choir Director	Julie Handeland
Communion Assistants	Mark Meissner, Dan Schmal (8:00 a.m.) Brian Treichel, Jeff Sitz, Mike Swenson (10:30 a.m.)
Greeters	John & Carol Stearns, Mary Rindfleisch (8:00 a.m.) Bruce & Kary Ailey, Marcus & Karah Radue (10:30 a.m.)
Head Ushers	Mark Meissner (Saturday); Tom Wessel (8:00 a.m.); Doug Knuth (10:30 a.m.)
AV Operators	Lyle Haferman (8:00 a.m.); Brian Cleary (10:30 a.m.)

Worship Notes

- The altar flowers are given by Janel Sonichsen, Elaine Twietmeyer, and Andrea Durrant in honor of Dave and Dana Leyrer's 25 years of dedicated service shaping minds and faithful hearts in the teaching ministry at St. John's.

In Our Prayers

- Henry William Miller, son of Ed and Rachel (nee Benz) Miller, who will be baptized in a private ceremony this afternoon.

Psalm 143

Refrain



Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Psalm tone



O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;
in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.

Do not bring your servant into judgment,
for no one living is righteous before you.

My spirit grows faint within me;
my heart within me is dismayed.

Refrain

Answer me quickly, O LORD;
do not hide your face from me.

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,
for I have put my trust in you.

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God;
may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

**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

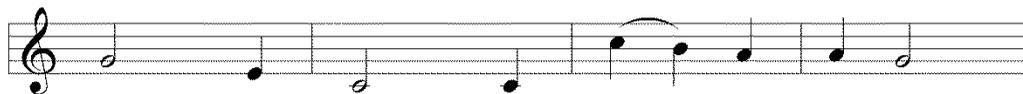
Church of God, Elect and Glorious



1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious,
 2 God has called you out of dark - ness
 3 Once you were an al - ien peo - ple,
 4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly,



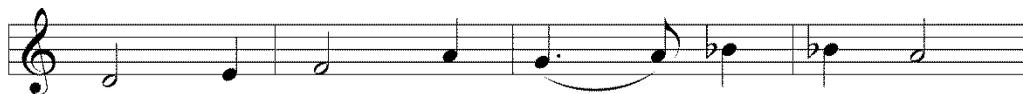
Ho - ly na - tion, cho - sen race;
 In - to his most mar - v'ulous light,
 Stran - gers to God's heart of love;
 Be the peo - ple he in - tends;



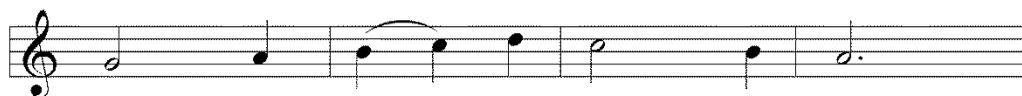
Called as God's own spe - cial peo - ple,
 Brought his truth to life with - in you,
 But he brought you home in mer - cy,
 Strong in faith and swift to an - swer



Roy - al priests and heirs of grace:
 Turned your blind - ness in - to sight.
 Cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.
 Each com - mand your mas - ter sends:



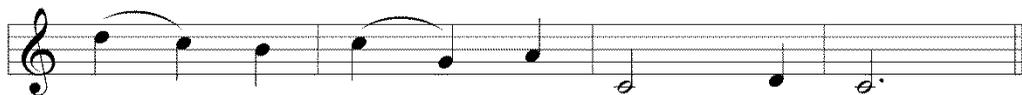
Know the pur - pose of your call - ing.
 Let your light so shine a - round you
 Let his love flow out to oth - ers;
 Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing



Show to all his might - y deeds;
That God's name is glo - ri - fied
Let them feel a Fa - ther's care;
Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer;



Tell of love that knows no lim - its,
And all find fresh hope and pur - pose
That they too may know his wel - come
Give your lives in joy - ful ser - vice—



Grace that meets all hu - man needs.
In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
And his count - less bless - ings share.
Sing his praise, his love de - clare.

This hymn emphasizes how Christians naturally fulfill what God has created and called them to be in Christ Jesus.

Text: James E. Seddon, 1915–1983 © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, Ltd. (admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: ABBOTT'S LEIGH (87 87 D) Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1992 © 1942, Ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Parents' Preview for March 22

The Parents' Preview highlights an aspect of next week's service: a liturgical song, a Psalm refrain, or a hymn stanza. Our hope and prayer is that parents will teach this portion of the service to their children at home during the week so that children can participate more fully in the worship service.

“Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” (stanza 1)

Christian Worship 486



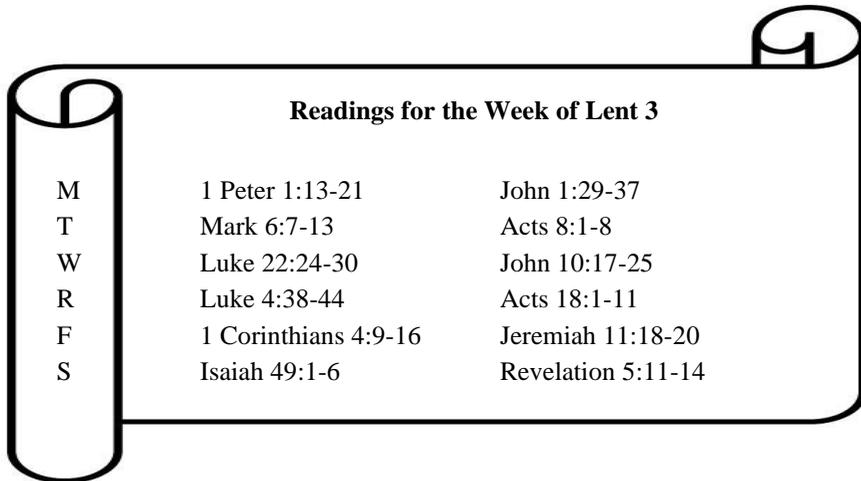
I Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us With your
life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the
lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice,
And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings
count - less as the sand To th' un - thank - ful and the
e - vil With your own un - spar - ing hand.

Personal Prayer for Before Communion

Heavenly Father, through this sacrament you invite me to receive your Son's body and blood. I thank you for this gift of grace and for your forgiveness given here. Lead me to your altar with a humble and repentant heart. Strengthen me with your presence through the communion present in this meal. Amen.

Personal Prayer for After Communion

Faithful God, in baptism you have adopted me as your child and made me a member of the body of Christ. I thank you for the forgiveness of sins present in this Sacrament. As I leave the table, empower me by your Spirit to witness and serve in your name. Amen.



Readings for the Week of Lent 3		
M	1 Peter 1:13-21	John 1:29-37
T	Mark 6:7-13	Acts 8:1-8
W	Luke 22:24-30	John 10:17-25
R	Luke 4:38-44	Acts 18:1-11
F	1 Corinthians 4:9-16	Jeremiah 11:18-20
S	Isaiah 49:1-6	Revelation 5:11-14

