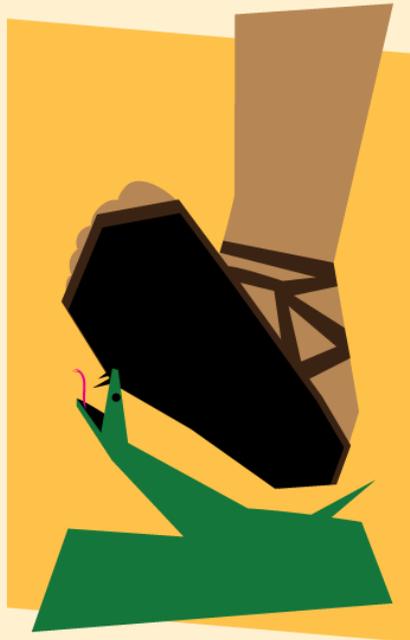




St. John's Lutheran Church

Rooted and Growing: In Christ. In Community.



CRUSHED

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 and assisted listening devices are available from an usher.
- Children's service folders and worship notes are available in the round tract rack in the entry area.
- 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.
- During the offering, all worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder or available online at www.sjtosa.org/Connect). Completed cards may be placed in the baskets by the exit.
- Please join us for Bible study at 9:15 a.m.
*Christ Will Be of No Advantage to You:
Paul's Case Against Salvation by Law in Galatians*
(Fellowship Hall, lower level of church)
A staffed nursery is available during Bible study

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 26 & 27, 2022

Our Condemnation is Crushed by God's Grace.

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Please stand to sing the final stanza

All Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Christian Worship 603

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day*

Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, you receive us as your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge your merciful goodness, give thanks for all your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

***Prayer of the Day:** The *Prayer of the Day* is a prayer that often focuses on the content of the Gospel, aiding in the unity of thought throughout the service. This prayer is somewhat poetic and reverent in nature and often has deep roots in the history of the Christian Church. We should be careful to avoid the mistaken notion that written prayers are not spiritual. On the contrary, a written prayer is a well-thought out reflection of the God of order.

First Reading

Isaiah 12

God's grace turns the gloom of our condemnation into the joy of our salvation.

In that day you will say:

“I will praise you, LORD.

Although you were angry with me,
your anger has turned away
and you have comforted me.

Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust and not be afraid.

The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense;
he has become my salvation.”

With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.

In that day you will say:

“Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done,
and proclaim that his name is exalted.

Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things;
let this be known to all the world.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,
for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day (Saturday)

Psalm 32 (see pg. 12)

Response to the Word (Sunday)

Children's & Adult Choir

The First Song of Isaiah

Christian Worship 810

Refrain: Surely it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, “Give thanks to the Lord, and call upon his name.” *Refrain*

Make his deeds known among the people;
see that they remember that his name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord for he has done great things
and this is known in all the world. *Refrain*

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. *Refrain*

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Second Reading

Romans 8:1–10

God's grace turns the condemnation of our flesh into the joy of living in the Spirit.

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 15:10

Glory, praise, and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
There is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God
over one sinner who repents.
Glory, praise, and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

God's grace turns the condemnation of our rejection into the joy of his fatherly love.

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this parable:

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

"Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

"The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

"'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' "

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Anthem (Sunday)

Adult Choir

Softly and Tenderly

by David M. Cherwien

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.

Refrain: "Come home, come home, ye who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home!"

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me? *Refrain*

Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me.
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me. *Refrain*

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Hymn of the Day

Jesus Sinners Does Receive

Christian Worship 654

Sermon (Saturday)

Romans 8:1-10

God Declares You to Be Free!

Sermon (Sunday)

Isaiah 12

God Crushes Our Condemnation

Please stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there 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

Dearest Lord Jesus, accept our humble thanks for becoming one of us: the Word made flesh who fulfilled all that was necessary for our eternal redemption.

You lived a holy life that your perfect obedience might be credited to us.

Bearing our sins, you willingly traveled the agonizing path to the cross where God laid on you the iniquity of us all.

You died an innocent death that we might live forever in heaven.

Keep this message of pardon granted and salvation won always on our hearts and lips, that we may tell those around us of your grace and mercy.

Remind us daily of the depths of your love, and provide us with opportunities to live out this love in our lives.

On those days when trials and temptations threaten to overshadow your love for us, cause us to remember your promise to never leave us or forsake us.

Even in our darkest hours, give us the strength to bear our crosses and remain firm in our faith.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

As we continue our journey in this fallen world, remind us that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Bring us quickly to the day when we will exchange our crosses for a crown of glory. Amen.

Be seated

Offering

Members of St. John's give offerings to support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors are welcome but not obligated to give an offering. To submit your offering electronically or to fill out an online Connection Card, scan the QR code or visit www.sjtosa.org/offering.



Hymn

Lamb of God
Christian Worship 550

Please stand

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.

Amen.

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

Drawn to the Cross

Christian Worship 808

Announcements

Postlude

Acknowledgments

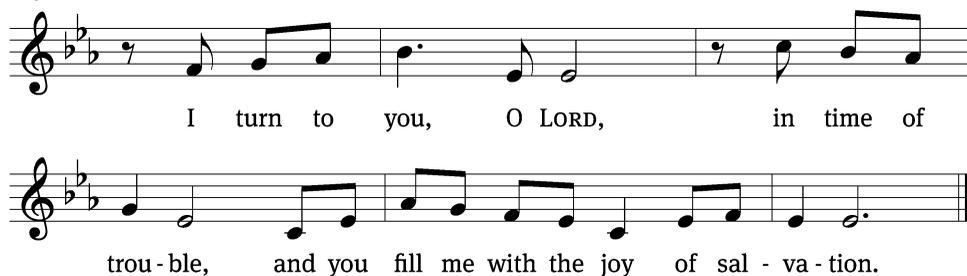
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Psalm 32

Refrain



I turn to you, O LORD, in time of
trou-ble, and you fill me with the joy of sal - va - tion.

Tone



Blessed is the one whose transgressions are for- / given,
whose sins are / covered.

Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count a- / gainst them
and in whose spirit is / no deceit.

When I kept silent, my bones wast- / ed away
through my groaning / all day long.

For day and night your hand was heav- / y on me;
my strength was sapped as in the heat of / summer.

Then I acknowledged my / sin to you
and did not cover up my in- / iquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions / to the LORD."
And you forgave the guilt / of my sin. *Refrain*

You are my / hiding place;
you will protect me from / trouble.

Many are the woes of the / wicked,
but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the one who / trusts in him.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,**

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Serving at Worship

Preacher

Seminary Student Andrew Carter (Saturday)
Pastor Kyle Bitter (Sunday)

Presiding Minister

Pastor Eric Schroeder

Musicians

Eric Sipe, organ (Saturday)
Lynn Kozlowski, organ (Sunday)
Kristi Meyer, handbells (Sunday)
Nathaniel Crowder, percussion (Sunday)

Adult Choir Director

Adam Sipe

In Our Prayers

- JoAnn Schoeneck, hospitalized after suffering a minor stroke and now temporarily convalescing at the San Camilla Care Facility.
- Nick Maurer, who remains hospitalized in the Neurological ICU at Columbia-St. Mary's.

Lent Worship Opportunities

Midweek Lent services are held on Wednesdays at 3:30 (broadcast online) and 6:45 p.m.

March 30: Midweek Lent 5
The Semblance of Legality
Pastor Tom Kneser

April 6: Midweek Lent 6
A Part for the Whole
Pastor Mark Aufdemberge

April 14: Maundy Thursday
3:30 & 6:45 p.m. worship with Holy Communion

April 15: Good Friday
1:00 p.m. worship with Holy Communion
6:45 p.m. Tenebrae worship

April 17: Easter Sunday
6:00 a.m. sunrise worship
8:30 & 10:30 a.m. festival worship



Readings for the Week of Lent 4

M	Genesis 42:1-34, 38	Mark 12:1-12
T	Genesis 43:1-28	Mark 12:13-27
W	Genesis 44:1-18, 32-34	Mark 12:28-44
R	Genesis 45:1-20, 24-28	Mark 13:1-23
F	Genesis 47:1-31	Mark 13:24-37
S	Genesis 49:29-50:7, 14-26	Mark 14:1-11

Parents' Preview for April 3

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.

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,
heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.
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, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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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

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

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School Office

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(414) 258-4214
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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.

sjtosa.org