



St. John's Lutheran Church

Rooted and Growing: In Christ. In Community.

**OUR
GREATEST
NEEDS**

Welcome to Worship!

Lent is an ancient season of the church year which dates back to the 300s AD. Running from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday (the day before Easter Sunday), this season is a time for preparation and repentance as Christians walk alongside their Savior on his journey to the cross. In the early Christian Church, catechumens (those studying the faith) were instructed during Lent. The Sundays between Ash Wednesday and Holy Saturday are not counted in the 40 days of Lent. Rather, these Sundays serve as islands of refreshment during the somber Lenten season and remind God's people that every Sunday is a little Easter.

This year, our Lenten midweek services will follow the theme "His Final Steps." Through a look at the significance of the people and places that Jesus encountered on his resolute final steps to the cross, we will ponder the depths of our Savior's love for us.

Worship Notes

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.

If you need assistance with anything during worship—including large-print service folders and assisted listening devices—please ask one of our ushers. Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area. Small children can be taken into the entry area, mother's room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed during the worship service. 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 located online at www.sjtosa.org/Connect). Completed cards may be placed in the baskets by the exit.

Acknowledgments

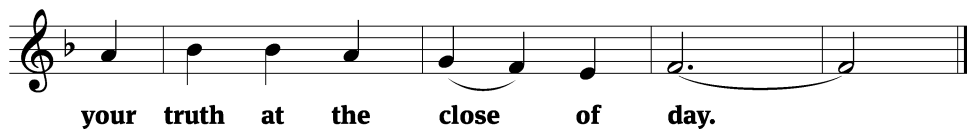
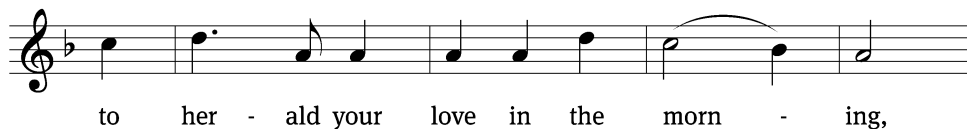
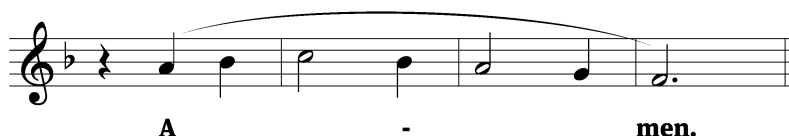
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Midweek Lent 3

March 8, 2023



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Opening Hymn

Please stand to sing the final stanza

My Song Is Love Unknown (sts. 1-4, 7)

Christian Worship 397

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds, and in all that we have not done. Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun, when we shall serve him in newness of life.

Amen.

Be seated

Psalm

Psalm 38

Refrain

LORD, do not for - sake me; quick-ly come to help me.

Tone

G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4

G2, A2, B2, C3, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2

LORD, do not rebuke me in your / anger
or discipline me / in your wrath.
Your arrows have / pierced me,
and your hand has come / down on me.
My guilt has over- / whelmed me
like a burden too heav- / y to bear. *Refrain*

All my longings lie open be- / fore you, Lord;
my sighing is not hidden / from you.

LORD, I / wait for you;

you will answer, / Lord my God.

I confess my in- / iquity;

I am troubled / by my sin.

Come quickly to / help me,

my Lord and my / Savior.

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

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Lord Jesus, my sin is more than I can bear. I thank you for bearing it for me when you suffered its consequences on the cross. Lead me, whenever I offend God's law, to confess my guilt to you.

Then intercede for me with our Father in heaven, so that my many sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Reading

The Passion History

*The Passion History readings tell us of Jesus' suffering
and death as recorded by the four Gospel writers.*

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem (3:30 p.m.)

7th & 8th grades

Father, Forgive Us

by Matthew Manthe

Father, forgive us for all we have done. Daily we stumble; from you we do run.

Often to try our own heaven to earn, forgive us, Lord; to your Son help us turn.

There on the cross we see God's only Son. Payment for sin, once for all and for one.

"Father, forgive them," he prays on the tree. Showing his love and his mercy so free.

Look to the cross; find forgiveness and love, pardon from God in his heaven above.

Father, forgive us for all we have done. Father, forgive for the sake of your Son.

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Hymn of the Day

Glory Be to Jesus
Christian Worship 402

Sermon

Matthew 21:12-17

His Final Steps Led to His Father's House

¹²Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. ¹³"It is written," he said to them, " 'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it 'a den of robbers.'"

¹⁴The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. ¹⁵But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple courts, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they were indignant.

¹⁶"Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him.

"Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read,

" 'From the lips of children and infants
you, Lord, have called forth your praise'?"

¹⁷And he left them and went out of the city to Bethany, where he spent the night.

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. All worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder). Physical offerings and Connection Cards can be left in the basket on your way out of church. To submit your offering electronically or fill out a Connection Card online, scan the QR code or visit www.sjtosa.org/offering.



Hymn

Luther's Evening Prayer
Christian Worship 782

Please stand



Hear my prayer, O Lord;



lis - ten to my cry.



Keep me as the ap - ple of your eye;



hide me in the shad - ow of your wings.



In right - eous - ness I shall see you;



when I a - wake, your pres - ence will give me joy.

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O God our Father, by your mercy and might the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light. We place into your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes, knowing that only what you bless will prosper. To your great love and protection we commit each other and all those we love, knowing that you alone are our sure defender; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your
name, your king - dom come, your will be done on
earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our
dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins, as
we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de -
liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the
pow - er, and the glo - ry are yours
now and for - ev - er. A - men.

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Song of Simeon

Nunc Dimittis



Guide us wak - ing, O Lord,



and guard us sleep - ing



that a - wake we may watch with Christ



and a - sleep we may rest in peace.



In peace, Lord, in peace you let your ser - vant



now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my



eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which



you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple, a



light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the



glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Guide us wak - ing, O Lord,



and guard us sleep - ing



that a - wake we may watch with Christ



and a - sleep we may rest in peace,



in peace, in peace.

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Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Blessing

The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless us and keep us.

Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night
Christian Worship 789

Announcements

Postlude

Serving at Worship

Minister

Pastor Joel Schwartz

Musicians

Lynn Kozlowski, organ

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
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Pastor Eric Schroeder
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Pastor Joel Schwartz
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Chinese Outreach

Pastor

Pastor Joshua Yu
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School Principal

Mr. Dan Markgraf
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Church Office

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church@sjtosa.org*

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.

School Office

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