



# third sunday in lent

March 3, 2024  
11:00 A.M.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Plain text indicates a part of the liturgy led by a worship leader.  
**Bold text indicates the congregational response.**

Hymn numbers refer to their corresponding pages in the back of the  
cranberry-colored *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal.

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Prelude

*In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

Robert Powell

## LENTEN CONFESSION

*The confession is from the Baptismal Font during Lent as a reminder of our baptism.*

P In the name of the Father,  
and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Most merciful God,

**C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God for gives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

Hymn 324

*In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

*The Kyrie (from the Greek Kyrie eleison, "Lord, have mercy") is a prayer seeking the mercy of God in Jesus Christ. It includes intercessions for ourselves, for the world, and for the church.*

Kyrie

*The Kyrie is sung responsively between cantor and congregation.*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer-cy.

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



Lord, have mer - cy.

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 mer-cy.

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



Lord, have mer - cy.

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



A - men

*The Prayer of the Day is tied to the overall theme of the scripture lessons or, sometimes, to the theme of day if it is a special occasion in the church calendar.*

*The tradition of reading sacred scripture in worship is a tie to our roots in Judaism. 1 Timothy 4:13 reminds us of the importance of this practice.*

*The first lesson is normally from the Old Testament.*

### Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

*We are seated.*



## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Children's Sermon

First Lesson: Exodus 20:1-17

**L** A reading from Exodus.

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

<sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns.

<sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*A psalm is spoken or sung in response to the first reading.*

Psalm 19:1-7, 14

*We chant the Psalm responsively, with the congregation singing the **bold** verses..*

<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glo-<sup>1</sup>ry of God,  
and the sky proclaims its<sup>1</sup> maker's handiwork.

<sup>2</sup>**One day tells its tale<sup>1</sup> to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge<sup>1</sup> to another.**

<sup>3</sup>Although they have no<sup>1</sup> words or language,  
and their voices<sup>1</sup> are not heard,

<sup>4</sup>**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends<sup>1</sup> of the world,  
where God has pitched a tent<sup>1</sup> for the sun.**

<sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out<sup>1</sup> of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to<sup>1</sup> run its course.

<sup>6</sup>**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of<sup>1</sup> it again;  
nothing is hidden from its<sup>1</sup> burning heat.**

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re-<sup>1</sup>vives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to<sup>1</sup> the simple.

<sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable<sup>1</sup> in your sight,  
O LORD, my strength and<sup>1</sup> my redeemer.**

*The second reading, usually from the New Testament letters, bears the witness of the early church.*

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

L A reading from First Corinthians.

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Acclamation gives special focus to the Gospel, the principal and climactic biblical reading in the liturgy.

The Liturgy of the Word culminates in the reading of the gospel and the sermon by which Christ comes among his people and speaks to us in our own context. Because of this we stand to listen to the good news of our Lord.

This hymn complements the day's scripture readings and sermon.

*We stand.*

### Gospel Acclamation

*The choir sings the Gospel Acclamation, and we all repeat it.*

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,  
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The Gospel: John 2:13-22

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

Sermon

Pastor James Armentrout

*We stand as we are able and sing the hymn.*

Hymn 727

*Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth*

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

P In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

P Who presents Julian Leigh and Harrison Keith to receive the sacrament of Holy Baptism?  
*Sponsors: We do.*

P In Christian love you have presented these children for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring them to the services of God's house, and teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and the Ten Commandments. As they grow in years you should place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for them instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

*Sponsors: We do.*

P And you, people of God, do you promise to support these brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**C We do.**

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize. Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

*Sponsors & Parents: I do.*

P Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C 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.**

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C 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.**

P Julian Leigh, I baptize you in the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen**

P Harrison Keith, I baptize you in the name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen**

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon Julian and Harrison:

the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,  
the spirit of joy in your presence.

**C Amen**

*The newly baptized are anointed with oil.*

**P** You have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

*A candle is presented to the newly baptized.*

**P** Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to our Father in heaven.

**P** Through Baptism God has made these brothers members of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

**C** **We welcome you into the Lord’s family.  
We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ,  
children of the same heavenly Father,  
and workers with us in the kingdom of God.**

*We join our hearts in prayer as we pray for the Church, for the well-being of creation, for peace and justice, for those in need. 1 Timothy 2:1-2*

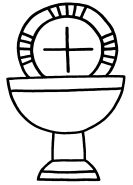
### The Prayers



*Each petition concludes:*

**P** Lord, in your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC LITURGY



*Much more than a pleasant greeting—we do this to proclaim God’s promise of peace. 2 Corinthians 13:11*

### The Peace

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** **And also with you.**

*We greet one another, saying “Peace be with you.”*

### The Offering

*Our gifts are received and dedicated to our Lord’s service. These offerings support the ministries of this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners.*

### Offertory Anthem

### Amazing Grace

John Bertalot

*For text, see p. 11.*

*We stand as we are able and sing the offertory.*

### Offertory

God of de - sert, God of prom - ise, you have bid us jour - ney on  
 through the days of dust and dark - ness to the ris - ing of the dawn.  
 Let us cross out of the wil - der - ness to the ris - ing of the dawn.

*As our gifts of offerings and tithes are brought forward we sing a song of praise for God’s generous goodness.*

*Our prayer is modeled after the Jewish prayer of thanksgiving and dedicates the giver to a stewardship of all life.*

*The Thanksgiving Dialogue begins the part of our worship called the Great Thanksgiving.*

*The dialogue and the Proper Preface are ancient parts of the worship which proclaim our thanks for the gifts of God in the meal.*

*The Sanctus ("holy") echoes the angels' cry in Isaiah 6:3 and the crowds of Mark 11:9 as Jesus entered Jerusalem. This reminds us that we are in the presence of a God identified both by holiness and humility.*

### Offertory Prayer

**P** Let us pray.

**C** **Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.**

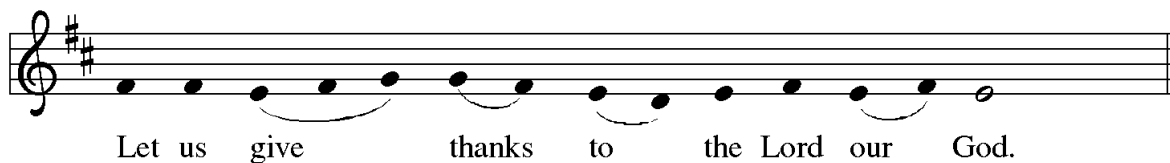
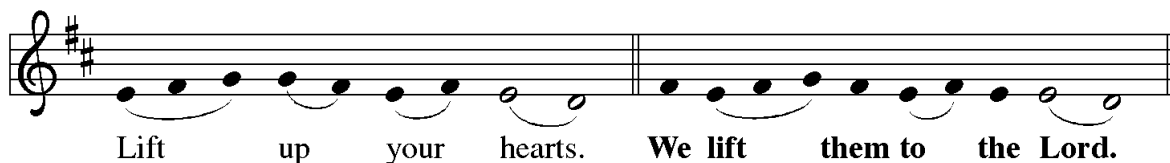
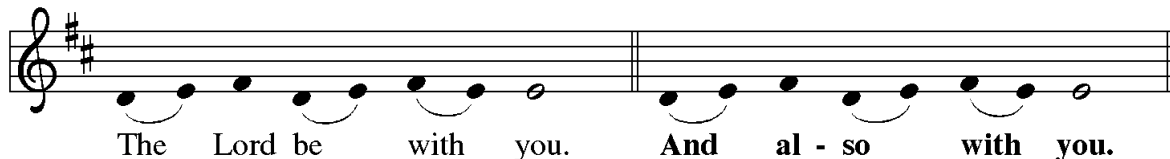
**Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness.**

**Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace.**

**We pray this in your name.**

**Amen**

### Thanksgiving Dialogue

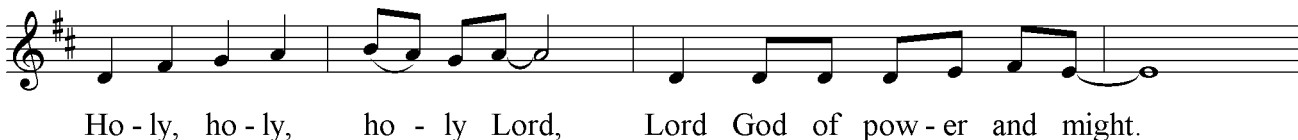


### The Proper Preface

*The presiding minister continues: "It is indeed right ..."*

*The proper preface concludes: "we praise your name and join their unending hymn."*

### Sanctus





*The Eucharistic Prayer recalls God's saving acts throughout history and, particularly, the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture.*

## Eucharistic Prayer

**P** Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.  
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.  
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.  
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.  
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.  
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.  
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C** **Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

**P** O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.  
Grace our table with your presence.

**C** **Come, Holy Spirit.**

**P** Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.  
Breathe new life into us.  
Send us forth,  
burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C** **Come, Holy Spirit.**

**P** With Saint Mark and your holy ones of all times and places,  
with the earth and all its creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

*The Lord's Prayer brings the Great Thanksgiving to a conclusion. Prayed here, this familiar and beloved prayer becomes the table-prayer of the congregation. Luke 11:1-13; Matthew 6:5-15*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**P** Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**C** **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
 thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.  
 Amen**

*We are seated.*



**COMMUNION WITH OUR RISEN LORD  
 WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE**

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

We come forward by way of the center aisle, forming two lines to receive communion in front of the chancel steps. We return to our pews by way of the side aisles.



*The Agnus Dei ("lamb of God") recalls the words of John the Baptist upon seeing Jesus (John 1:29). We make this our prayer as well, as we prepare to meet the Risen Lord in the bread and wine*

**Agnus Dei**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
 have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
 have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Once we have all received the sacrament and returned to our seats, we celebrate the personal encounter with the risen Christ through blessing, prayer, and singing.*

Post-Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray. Generous God,

C **at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.**

**As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,**

**now make us one loaf to feed the world;**

**in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.**

**Amen**

Blessing

P May you go from this place having acknowledged yourselves as sinners in word and deed and in what has been left undone.

C **Amen**

P May you know always that God's response to our repentance is never less than grace-filled and loving forgiveness.

C **Amen**

P May you be given the grace to forgive others as God is forgiving you.

C **Amen**

P And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C **Amen**

Hymn 705

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

*We are dismissed from worship knowing that our service does not end. Rather, having been in the presence of the risen Lord, we leave so that our service may truly begin.*

Dismissal

P Go in peace loving God and loving your neighbor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*No postlude during Lent.*

**Amazing Grace**

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see!

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;

'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,

we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than we we've first begun.

- text by John Newton, sts. 1-3, anonymous, st. 5

## THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Sunday, March 3 <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i>	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, March 4	5PM—7PM	The Lion's Share open
Tuesday, March 5	6:30PM	Choir rehearsal (Nave)
Wednesday, March 6	7PM	Lenten Service @ St. Philip Lutheran 8115 Williamson Rd Roanoke, VA 24019
Thursday, March 7		
Friday, March 8	10AM—noon	The Lion's Share open
	6:30PM	NA meeting (Library)
Saturday, March 9	8PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, March 10	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion

### SERVING IN WORSHIP

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
<b>Greeter</b>	Linda Anderson & Allison Artemntrout	Sandy Anders & Lois Ashby
<b>Lector</b>	Sabina Ugochukwu	Cheryl Gordon
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Donna Abbott & Nan Keenan	Teresa Stowasser & Patti Mills
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Mary & Lawrence Brewer	Clara Chitty & Laura Bolton

Attendance Last Sunday	65
Offering Received (Pledges/Loose)	\$3594.00
Budget (Pledges/Loose)	\$3,531.00



St. Mark's  
Lutheran Church

*Loving God, Loving Our Neighbor*

#### Ministers and Staff

*Ministers:* Congregation of St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
*Secretary / Financial Administrator:* Kathy Bryant  
*Organist / Choir Director:* Jacob Gordon  
*Pastor:* James Armentrout

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