

First Sunday in Lent February 18, 2024

Bulletin for Online Service
The Good News for Today: Grace
and mercy win the day.

To view this service, please visit our YouTube channel.

Thank you for worshiping with St. John's, where we are building a loving, accepting community centered on growing in Christ.

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Confession and Forgiveness

Let us take a moment and confess our sins before God.

(moment of spoken or silent confession)

1 John 1.9 says that, "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from everything that is not right." By Christ's 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.

Amen.

Opening Hymn: Great Is the Lord – W&P 53 (Purple Book)

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just, by his power we trust in his love.
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true, by his mercy he proves he is love.
Great is the Lord, and worthy of glory.
Great is the Lord, and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice:
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

Text and music: Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith Text and music © 1982 Meadowgreen Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing Arr. Michael Brinkworth.

Prayer of the Day

Let us Pray.... Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Scriptures

Genesis 9:8-17

8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 9 "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you 10 and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. 11 I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." 12 God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: 13 I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. 14 When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, 15 I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. 16 When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." 17 God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

The Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-10 (Read Responsively)

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

1 Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Mark 1:9-15

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord.

- ⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. ¹¹ And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."
- ¹² And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him.
- ¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon - "The Other Side of the Flood" - Pastor Bo Bannister

The Apostles' Creed

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

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

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.

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. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

We pray for... (pastor will pray for these topics spontaneously)

the church universal, its ministry, and the mission of the gospel...

Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

for the well-being of creation...

Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

for peace and justice in the world, the nations and those in authority, the community...

Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

for the poor, oppressed, sick, bereaved, lonely...

Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit...

Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

for St. John's, for online viewers, and for special concerns...

Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

thanksgiving for the faithful departed may include those who recently have died and those commemorated on the church's calendar...

Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

Let us offer up prayers of our own hearts.

Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who taught us to pray, saying,

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Closing Hymn: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God – ELW 503 (Red Book)

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious; he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious.
 The old evil foe,
 Sworn to work us woe,
 With dread craft and might he arms himself to fight.
 On earth he has no equal.
- No strength of ours can match his might!
 We would be lost, rejected.
 But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected.
 Ask who this may be:
 Lord of hosts is he!
 Christ Jesus our Lord,
 God's only Son, adored.
 He holds the field victorious.
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us, we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpow'r us.
 This world's prince may rage, in fierce war engage.
 He is doomed to fail;
 God's judgment must prevail!
 One little word subdues him.
- 4 God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it; for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit. If they take our house, goods, fame, child, or spouse, wrench our life away, they cannot win the day. The kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship* Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Arr. Michael Brinkworth

Benediction and Dismissal

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and \pm give you peace.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Pastor Bo Bannister

pastorbo@sjlch.org

Minister of Music: Michael Brinkworth

Christian Education Director: Abigail Metheny

Office Manager: Ashdon Bobbie

Social Media Coordinator: Jess Flynn

Media Coordinator: Bob Muller

St. John's Lutheran Church

505 N. York Road

Hatboro, PA 19040

215-675-2031

office@sjlch.org