

First Sunday in Lent
March 9, 2025
9 am



Saint John Lutheran Church
Fairfield, Pennsylvania

Reverend Wayne Gallipo, Interim Pastor
Carol Garman, Organist/ Music Director

**St. John Lutheran Church
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Pastor's Office Hours – Mon. & Tues. 8:30am – 4:30pm

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Office Hours
Monday-Thursday 8:30am-12 pm

Like us on Facebook

Our Mission is to make Christ known.

We welcome all guests this morning.
We are very pleased to have you worship with us.
All are welcome to receive communion.

Sunday School for all ages meets 10:15.
Everyone is welcome! Grab some refreshments and join us!

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARING CONVERSATIONS: “What is Your Greatest Temptation?”

PRELUDE Holy, Holy/Jesus Lover of My Soul

Beech/Smith

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of Almighty God, the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage 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: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives 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. **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

ELW 618

INVOCATION

P: May 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.

LENTEN CANTICLE: As the Deer Runs to the River

ELW 331

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

P: O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.... *The Word of the Lord... Thanks be to God.*

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16 (Read Responsively)

¹You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty
²**you will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust."**

⁹Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰**no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

¹¹For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.

¹²**Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

¹³You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

¹⁴**I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

¹⁵They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

¹⁶**With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.**

Second Reading: Romans 10:8b-13

The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” *The Word of the Lord...Thanks be to God.*

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~ please stand if able**

Let your steadfast love come to us O Lord. Save us as you promised. We will trust You.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke... Glory to you O Lord

GOSPEL Luke 4:1-13

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” ⁴Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

⁵Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.

⁶And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

⁹Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’

¹¹and 'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' ”

¹²Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time. *The Gospel of the Lord, Praise to you O Christ.*

BIBLE, God Sent His Son

Children’s Choir

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Wayne Gallipo

HYMN

Bless Now, O God the Journey

ELW 326

APOSTLES CREED

(inside back cover of hymnal)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: God in Your Mercy, Hear our Prayer

PEACE

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY - Lamb of God

Beech

OFFERING PRAYER

C: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right....

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: On the night in which he was betrayed ... for as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes again.

LORD'S PRAYER

THE FRACTION AND INVITATION

LAMB OF GOD

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 peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

DISTRIBUTION

We practice "open communion" at St. John. ALL are invited to come forward as ushered to receive this life-giving sacrament. Those not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing. As you are given the bread and wine an appropriate response is "Amen." Please be respectful of this meditative time within our worship.

COMMUNION HYMNS

On Eagles' Wings

ELW 787

O Lord Throughout These Forty Days

ELW 319

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

ELW 325

(Instruments available at back of Sanctuary for children to play)

1 I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

3 When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: A Mighty Fortress is Our God

arr Bish