

**The Fifth Sunday in Lent
April 6, 2025, 8:30 A.M.
St. John's Lutheran Church**

Announcements

Prelude

Jesus and His Love
Senior Bell Choir

Benjamin A. Tucker

Ringling of the Church Bell

Confession and Forgiveness

page 116-117

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

L: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

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

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

As We Gather at Your Table

ELW #522

Greeting and Kyrie

"In peace, let us pray..."

page 147-148

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.

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: 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. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord. **C: Amen**

Psalm 126

L: ¹ When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

C: ² **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."**

L: ³ The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.

C: ⁴ **Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

L: ⁵ Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.

C: ⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

Prayer of the Day: Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶ Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸ Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
²⁰ The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard

everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death,¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Anthem

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life
Senior Choir

arr. Carl Heine

Children's Message & Noisy Offering

Gospel Acclamation *"Return to the Lord, your God,...."*

page 151

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

The Gospel: John 12:1-8

Glory to you, O Lord/Praise to you, O Christ.

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Sermon

Pastor Bryan Robertson

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

Page 127

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.

The Offering Hymn

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW #685, vss. 1-4

The Offering Prayer: L: Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen**

Prayers of the Church:

L: God, in your mercy,... C: ...receive our prayer.

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

page 112

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion Hymns: *In the Singing* ELW #466; *Let Us Break Bread Together* ELW #471

Benediction: L: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood, strengthen, keep, and unite us, now and forever. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace. Share the Good News!

C: Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

ELW #886, vss. 1-4

Postlude

Jesus Christ, Our Lord Redeemer

J.S. Bach

Activities this Week at St. John's

Sun, Apr 6	8:30am & 10:30am
	9:30am
	9:40am
	5:30pm
	7pm
Tues, Apr 8	9:15am
	7pm
Wed, Apr 9	9am-noon
	5:30pm-7pm
	6pm
	7pm
	7:45pm
Thurs, Apr 10	8:30am-4:30pm
Sun, Apr 13	8:30 & 10:30am
	9:30am
	5:30pm
	7pm

Apr 6, 2025 to Apr 13, 2025

Worship services w/comm
 Sr Choir
 Congregational Mtg-Trust Fund
 Sr Bell Choir
 Men's Choir
 Sarah Circle
 Dorcas Circle virtually
 Quilting
 Casserole Supper
 Youth Bells
 Lenten Service
 Confirmation
 WIC
 Worship services
 Sunday School & Sr Choir
 Sr Bell Choir
 Men's Choir

General Funds (undesignated)**Jan 1 – Apr 2, 2025**

Actual Income	\$ 55,764
Actual Expenses	48,668

Jan 1 – Apr 31, 2025

Budget Expenses	68,569
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Attendance

Last Sunday	90
2025 Average	88
2024 Average	90
Mar 26	47

Greeters	8:30am	Lee Ellickson family
	10:30am	
Ushers	8:30am	Bill Roe family
	10:30am	
Readers	8:30am	Norm Peterson, Eric Kirkeby
	10:30am	
Comm Prep	8:30am	Dan Treangen
	10:30am	
Comm Asst	8:30am	Sadie Bucheit
	10:30am	
Secretary	8:30am	Cindy Barness, Jane Kallevang
Custodians	10:30am	Evonne & Jill Kistler
Organist/Director of Music	8:30am	Dave & Wendy Sanderson,
Pastor	10:30am	Vickie Larson
		Sadie Bucheit
		Rhonda Barr
		John & Sharon Roe
		James H. Bieber
		Bryan Robertson

Radio Broadcast Ministry –Today's radio broadcast is given by Darrell & Jolayne Winkie, listeners from Decorah. Thank you for your continuing support of this outreach ministry. Join us on Sunday mornings on KNEI 103.5 at 8:30am. **Note: you have the option of selecting a hymn of your choice for the service you sponsor.**

Easter Food Baskets: we are currently in need of these food donations or cash for the baskets: 4 jars of mayo, 4 jars of jelly, 2 jars of peanut butter, 4 loaves of bread, 2 bags of 5# flour, 4 bags of 4# sugar, 1 can of mixed vegetables, and 4- 4 packs of fruit cups. Food donations can be left in the cart in the Narthex, or donations left in the Office. **Thank You**

Sarah Circle meets at 9:15am on Tuesday, April 8 in the Lounge with hostess Joan Leiran and Bible study done together.

Troop 64 Boy Scout Omelet Breakfast on Sunday, April 13, at the Waukon Event Center. Dine In or Carry Out. Made to order omelets, hashbrowns, cinnamon rolls, and coffee, juice or milk. \$10 advance ticket sales and \$12 at the door.

We are accepting pledges toward the Solar Project. Pledges may be made by calling the Church Office or talking to Pastor Bryan.

Please join the LYO for casserole suppers during Lent: April 9.

Newsletters are available for pickup for those who requested printed correspondence from the Church.

Old East Paint Creek Lutheran Church Norwegian Meatball Supper on Thursday, April 24, 2025 from 4pm – 7pm or until food runs out. **Drive Thru-Carry Out Only**. Suggested donation: \$15 per meal. Menu includes: meatballs, mashed potatoes/gravy, glazed carrots, celebration salad, rolls and Norwegian baked goods. *Plan to attend*

Greens Sugarbush Maple Festival Pancake Breakfast today. Serving from 10am-2pm rain or shine. Adults \$10, 12 and under \$5, preschool free. All you can eat pancakes & sausage. 1434 111th Ave, Castalia IA

St. John's Lutheran Church Meatball Supper on Wednesday, April 16. Serving from 4:30pm-7pm