



Lent Midweek 4

March 18, 2026

St. John's Lutheran Church

stjohnslutheranjc.com

Schubert

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Ringing of the Bell - Prelude - Welcome

Opening Hymn - TLH 34 "My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker"

**My soul, now bless thy Maker! Let all within me bless His name
Who maketh thee partaker Of mercies more than thou dar'st claim.
Forget Him not whose meekness Still bears with all thy sin,
Who healeth all thy weakness, Renews thy life within;
Whose grace and care are endless And saved thee through the past;
Who leaves no sufferer friendless, But rights the wronged at last.**

**He shows to man His treasure Of judgment, truth, and righteousness,
His love beyond all measure, His yearning pity o'er distress,
Nor treats us as we merit, But lays His anger by,
The humble, contrite spirit Finds His compassion nigh;
And high as heaven above us, As break from close of day,
So far, since He doth love us, He puts our sins away.**

**For as a tender father Hath pity on his children here,
He in His arms will gather All who are His in childlike fear.
He knows how frail our powers Who but from dust are made;
We flourish like the flowers, And even so we fade;
The wind but o'er them passes, And all their bloom is o'er,-
We wither like the grasses, Our place knows us no more.**

**God's grace alone endureth, And children's children yet shall prove
How He with strength assureth The hearts of all that seek His love.
In heaven is fixed His dwelling, His rule is over all;
Angels, in might excelling, Bright hosts, before Him fall.
Praise Him, who ever reigneth, All ye who hear His Word,
Nor our poor hymns disdaineth- My soul, oh, bless the Lord! Amen.**

Opening Versicles

P: O Lord, open Thou my lips.

C: And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: Make haste to help me, O Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Reading – Psalm 102

- ¹ Hear my prayer, O Lord;
let my cry come to you!
- ² Do not hide your face from me
in the day of my distress!
Incline your ear to me;
answer me speedily in the day when I call!
- ³ For my days pass away like smoke,
and my bones burn like a furnace.
- ⁴ My heart is struck down like grass and has withered;
I forget to eat my bread.
- ⁵ Because of my loud groaning
my bones cling to my flesh.
- ⁶ I am like a desert owl of the wilderness,
like an owl of the waste places;
- ⁷ I lie awake;
I am like a lonely sparrow on the housetop.
- ⁸ All the day my enemies taunt me;
those who deride me use my name for a curse.
- ⁹ For I eat ashes like bread
and mingle tears with my drink,
- ¹⁰ because of your indignation and anger;
for you have taken me up and thrown me down.
- ¹¹ My days are like an evening shadow;
I wither away like grass.
- ¹² But you, O Lord, are enthroned forever;
you are remembered throughout all generations.
- ¹³ You will arise and have pity on Zion;
it is the time to favor her;
the appointed time has come.
- ¹⁴ For your servants hold her stones dear
and have pity on her dust.
- ¹⁵ Nations will fear the name of the Lord,
and all the kings of the earth will fear your glory.
- ¹⁶ For the Lord builds up Zion;
he appears in his glory;
- ¹⁷ he regards the prayer of the destitute
and does not despise their prayer.

¹⁸ Let this be recorded for a generation to come,
 so that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord:
¹⁹ that he looked down from his holy height;
 from heaven the Lord looked at the earth,
²⁰ to hear the groans of the prisoners,
 to set free those who were doomed to die,
²¹ that they may declare in Zion the name of the Lord,
 and in Jerusalem his praise,
²² when peoples gather together,
 and kingdoms, to worship the Lord.
²³ He has broken my strength in midcourse;
 he has shortened my days.
²⁴ "O my God," I say, "take me not away
 in the midst of my days—
 you whose years endure
 throughout all generations!"
²⁵ Of old you laid the foundation of the earth,
 and the heavens are the work of your hands.
²⁶ They will perish, but you will remain;
 they will all wear out like a garment.
 You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away,
²⁷ but you are the same, and your years have no end.
²⁸ The children of your servants shall dwell secure;
 their offspring shall be established before you.

P: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!

Sermon Hymn TLH 522 "When in the Hour of Utmost Need"

**When in the hour of utmost need We know not where to look for aid;
 When days and nights of anxious thought Nor help nor counsel yet have brought,
 Then this our comfort is alone, That we may meet before Thy throne
 And cry, O faithful God, to Thee For rescue from our misery;
 To Thee may raise our hearts and eyes, Repenting sore with bitter sighs,
 And seek Thy pardon for our sin And respite from our griefs within.
 For Thou hast promised graciously To hear all those who cry to Thee
 Through Him whose name alone is great, Our Savior and our Advocate.
 And thus we come, O God, today And all our woes before Thee lay;
 For sorely tried, cast down, we stand, Perplexed by fears on every hand.
 Ah! hide not for our sins Thy face, Absolve us through Thy boundless grace,
 Be with us in our anguish still, Free us at last from every ill,
 That so with all our hearts we may To Thee our glad thanksgiving pay,
 Then walk obedient to Thy Word And now and ever praise Thee, Lord. Amen.**

The Sermon

Offertory Hymn TLH 644 "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

△ **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Magnificat

P: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;

C: for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.

For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.

P: For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;
and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

C: He has shown strength with His arm;

He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

P: He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

C: He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.

P: He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his seed forever.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Prayers

Kyrie

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Christ, have mercy upon us.

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

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.

Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

Collects

Benedicamus

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Benediction

Closing Hymn TLH 145 “Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

**Jesus, Refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life’s desert dreary, Savior from the world above,
Oh, how oft Thine eyes, offended, Gaze upon the sinner’s fall!
Yet, upon the cross extended, Thou didst bear the pain of all.**

**Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
Tho’ we see Thee wounded, bleeding, See Thy thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Thy sinless death hath brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Thy grace hath taught us Calms the sinner’s stormy breast.**

**Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for Thee!
May our eyes be ever turning To thy cross of agony
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior’s side,
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified! Amen.**

Cover pic artwork: Allan Forbis

The Lutheran Hymnal: St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn # 34: Scripture: Psalm 103; Nun lob, mein’ Seel’, den Herre; My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker; Author: Johann Gramann (1525);
Translator: Catherine Winkworth (1863, alt.); Tune: Nun lob, mein’ Seel’, Source: “Concentus Novi”, Augsburg, 1540.

Hymn #522: Scripture: 2 Chronicles 20:12; Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein; When in the Hour of Utmost Need; Author: Paul Eber
(1560); Translator: Catherine Winkworth (1858, alt.); Tune: Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten; Source: “Genevan Psalter”, 1547.

Hymn #644: Psalm 150:1; Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow’ Author: Thomas Ken (1695); Tune: Old Hundreth; Source:
Genevan Psalter,” 1551.

Hymn #145: Scripture: Mark 15: 29,30; Giesù sommo conforto; Jesus, Refuge of the Weary; Author: Girolamo Savonarola (1563);
Translator: Jane F. Wilde (1853); Tune: O du Liebe; Source: “Musikalischer Christenschatz”, Basel (1745).

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ministry of Good News Publishers.