



# St. John's Lutheran Church Lenten Worship

March 12, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.

The Joy of Lent

Ringing of the bell

Prelude

Welcome

## Opening Hymn "O Savior, Precious Savior" TLH 352

O Savior, precious Savior, Whom, yet unseen, we love;  
O Name of might and favor, All other names above,  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee Our holy Lord and King.

O Bringer of salvation, Who wondrously hast wrought,  
Thyself the revelation Of love beyond our thought,  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee Our gracious Lord and King.

In Thee all fulness dwelleth, All grace and pow'r divine;  
The glory that excelleth, O Son of God, is Thine.

We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee Our glorious Lord and King.

Oh, grant the consummation Of this our song above  
In endless adoration, And everlasting love!  
Then shall we praise and bless Thee Where perfect praises ring  
And evermore confess Thee, Our Savior and our King.

## Opening Response

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

**C Amen.**

P I love the Lord, for he has heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.

**C Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.**

P I have chosen the way of faithfulness;

**C I set your rules before me.**

P I cling to your testimonies, O Lord;

**C let me not be put to shame!**

P For Christ also suffered for sins once and 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.

**C Therefore we give glory to God who raised him up and called us to salvation. Amen.**

**PASSION READING – John 18:2-11**

**C Lord of all mercy, we come to you with bowed heads and bended knees seeking your pardon. We confess that we have turned away from the Savior in thought, word, and deed. We have sought our own way, forgotten his sacrifice for us, chosen the easy way at the crossroads of betrayal. Forgive us, Lord. Strengthen our faith, confirm our commitment to Jesus' way, empower us by the Spirit to live the life of joyful witness to your love for us in Jesus Christ.**

**P At the command of the Savior who offered himself for us, I announce to you the full and free forgiveness of all of your sins. May the joy of Christ dwell in your hearts and fill your lives.**

Hymn of Confession - "I Do Not Come" TLH 379

**I do not come because my soul Is free from sin and pure and whole  
And worthy of Thy grace; I do not speak to Thee because  
I've never justly kept Thy laws And dare to meet Thy face.**

**I know that sin and guilt combine To reign o'er every thought of mine  
And torn from good to ill; I know that, when I try to be  
Upright and just and true to Thee, I am a sinner still.**

**I know that often when I strive To keep a spark of love alive  
For Thee, the powers within Leap up in unsubmissive might  
And oft benumb my sense of right And pull me back to sin.**

**I know that, though in doing good I spend my life, I never could  
Atone for all I've done; But though my sins are black as night,  
I dare to come before Thy sight Because I trust Thy Son.**

**In Him alone my trust I place, Come boldly to Thy Throne of grace,  
And there commune with Thee. Salvation sure, O Lord, is mine,  
And, all unworthy, I am Thine, For Jesus died for me.**

**Old Testament Reading ... Isaiah 33:13-16**

<sup>13</sup> Hear, you who are far off, what I have done;  
and you who are near, acknowledge my might.

<sup>14</sup> The sinners in Zion are afraid;  
trembling has seized the godless:

"Who among us can dwell with the consuming fire?  
Who among us can dwell with everlasting burnings?"

<sup>15</sup> He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly,  
who despises the gain of oppressions,  
who shakes his hands, lest they hold a bribe,  
who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed  
and shuts his eyes from looking on evil,

<sup>16</sup> he will dwell on the heights;  
his place of defense will be the fortresses of rocks;  
his bread will be given him; his water will be sure.

**P This is the Word of the Lord.**

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Epistle Reading ... Colossians 3:16-17**

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Reading ... Matthew 4:1-11**

<sup>23</sup> And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. <sup>24</sup> For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. <sup>25</sup> For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **Hymn "Christ, the Life of All the Living" TLH 151 vs. 1-3**

Christ, the Life of all the living, Christ, the Death of death, our foe,  
Who, Thyself for me once giving To the darkest depths of woe,--  
Thro' thy suff'rings, death, and merit I eternal life inherit:  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou, ah! Thou, hast taken on Thee Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;  
Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee, O Thou sinless Son of God!  
Thus didst Thou my soul deliver From the bonds of sin forever.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou hast borne the smiting only That my wounds might all be whole;  
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely, Rest to give my weary soul;  
Yea, the curse of God enduring, Blessing unto me securing.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

**Sermon: "Jesus in Charge"**

### **Hymn "Christ, the Life of All the Living" TLH 151 vs. 4-7**

Heartless scoffers did surround Thee, Treating Thee with shameful scorn  
And with piercing thorns they crowned Thee. All disgrace Thou, Lord, hast borne  
That as Thine Thou mightest own me And with heavenly glory crown me.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee That from pain I might be free;  
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee,--Thence I gain security;  
Comfortless Thy soul did languish Me to comfort in my anguish.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou hast suffered great affliction And hast borne it patiently,  
Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me;  
Thou didst choose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Then, for all that wrought my pardon, For Thy sorrows deep and sore,  
For Thine anguish in the Garden, I will thank Thee evermore,  
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing, For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,  
For that last triumphant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

## Prayers & Offering

### Hymn "O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe" TLH 263

O little flock, fear not the Foe Who madly seeks your overthrow;  
Dread not his rage and pow'r. What tho' your courage sometimes faints,  
His seeming triumph o'er God's saints Lasts but a little hour.

Be of good cheer; your cause belongs To Him who can avenge your wrongs;  
Leave it to Him, our Lord. Tho' hidden yet from mortal eyes,  
His Gideon shall for you arise, Uphold you and His Word.

As true as God's own Word is true, Not earth nor hell with all their crew  
Against us shall prevail. A jest and byword are they grown;  
God is with us, we are His own; Our vict'ry cannot fail.

Amen, Lord Jesus, grant our prayer; Great Captain, now Thine arm make bare,  
Fight for us once again! So shall Thy saints and martyrs raise  
A mighty chorus to Thy praise, World without end. Amen.

### Prayers & 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.

### Benediction

P May the forgiving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal, encompassing love of God and the presence and power of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

### Closing Hymn "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" TLH 370

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, and blood Support me in the whelming flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my Hope and Stay.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.