

# Fifth Sunday In Lent

## March 26th, 2023

### Order of Service

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7 :45 Hymns - 708; 552\* vs 1, 9 & 10, 4;

752; 746; 761

10:30 Hymns - 708; 552\* vs 1, 9 & 10, 4;

761

### Sermon

"Christ Gives Life"

John 11:17-27, 38-53

Rev. Mark Auernhamer

### Scripture Readings

*Ezekiel 37:1-14:* The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord." So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was

a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord."

*Romans 8:1-11:* There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law,

weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

*John 11:17-27, 38-53:* Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but

Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

### Serving in Worship Today

Elders . . . . . Wayne Bierlein, Eric Roedel,

Dave Miller

Lucas Brown

Organist . . . . . Chas Chaveriat

Usher Captains . . . . . Mike Buchinger,

Brian Knoll

Altar Guilds . . . . . Bev Bierlein,

Linda Trombley

### Wednesday

Elder . . . . . Lucas Brown

Pianist . . . . . Dr. Jon Eifert

Usher . . . . . Brian Knoll

*Baptism:* Walker Spiekerman will be baptized today in late service. He was born on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to Tony and Jaclyn (Wagner) Spiekerman. Sponsors: Jason Bierlein, Chris Matthews

*New Teacher:* We give thanks to God that He provides workers for the harvest field! Rebecca Gehm has accepted the call to be our 8th grade teacher. She will be commissioned and installed at the 10:30 service today.

*Lenten Worship:* Our final Wednesday night Lenten service is this week as we look at Pontius Pilate's question, "Are you the king of the Jews?" In His answer Jesus reveals that truly He is the Son of God.

*Pastor Gillaspie's* Sunday Bible study will not meet today. We will resume next Sunday, April 2nd. No Kidzmin this Sunday or next because of Spring Break.

*Calls:* Pastor Nitzel has declined our call. His letter is on the bulletin board. The Call Committee will review the list and bring their recommendations to the Voters at a future date.

*Our Lenten Supper:* this Wednesday is hosted by Lutheran Laymen's League, donations will go towards the new Park Hall Tables & Chairs. Please consider joining us for delicious homemade soups, salads, and desserts.

*Large Print Hymnals:* a large print edition of the Lutheran Service Book is now available from Concordia Publishing House. There has been an interest in obtaining several copies for St. Michael's. If you would be interested

in donating toward this, please bring your money to the church office. Cost is \$49.99 per book. Thank you!

*The Handbell Ensemble* will be participating in an area-wide handbell concert on Sunday, April 16, 4:00 at Valley Lutheran High School. Our handbells will join with groups from several other churches to present a program of fun, energetic music culminating in two pieces by the full group. Come and enjoy some great music!

*Cemetery Help:* April 1<sup>st</sup> at 9 a.m, the LLL members need help removing decorations.

*Easter Cards:* are available on the card counter near the office for \$0.50.

*THRIVENT MEMBERS:* If you haven't already done so, you can still direct 2022 Choice Dollars through MARCH 31, 2023. Don't miss your opportunity to recommend where Thrivent gives back. If you have any questions, you can call Pam Mossner 989-239-6999.

*Sloppy Joe Fundraiser:* Let the 6th and 7th graders cook lunch for you! We will be hosting a sloppy joe fundraiser after early and late church services on Sunday, April 16th in the foyer. You will receive a sloppy joe, bag of chips, and a cookie. The cost is \$5 each. Proceeds will go towards their Washington, DC trip in the fall. A special thank you to Pam Mossner and St. Michael's

Outreach for a Norm's gift card as well as Thrivent Financial for making this possible.

*Youth 7th-12th Grade:* Our service project for the month of March is going to once again be St. Michael's passion drama. We challenge our youth to either volunteer to help with it and/or attend it. Passion Drama will be March 31st and April 1st. It will also be presented inside the church again this year. Look below for more information.

*Passion Drama:* We will have a rehearsal for the Passion Drama on Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> after church. Gowns will be available for pickup March 26<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> after services. We will set the church up on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> starting at 6 pm. Also, there will be a chicken dinner served before Friday's performance starting at 5pm. The Passion Drama will be March 31st at 6:00 and 7:30; April 1st at 4:30, 6:00, and 7:30. We hope many of you will participate as we tell the story of our Savior's suffering and death!

*VBS:* Mark your calendars for VBS July 10-13th, evenings. Free dinner will be served each night. Volunteers are needed in various areas. Teens are also welcome to help, and get volunteer service hours. Please contact Heather Reinbold 989-577-0013 if willing to help.

#### Attendance

March 19<sup>th</sup>: 354  
March 22<sup>nd</sup>: 258

#### This week at St. Michael's

Today . . . . . *Fifth Sunday in Lent*  
Communion 7:45 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Executive Board 6 p.m.  
Wed . . . . . *Lenten Supper 5:30 p.m.*  
Handbells 6 p.m.  
Worship 7 p.m.  
Thurs . . . . . Adult Choir 7 p.m.  
Fri . . . . . *Passion Drama*  
Sat . . . . . *Passion Drama*  
Sun . . . . . *Palm Sunday*  
Worship Service 7:45 a.m.  
Communion 10:30 a.m.

Church Office . . . . . 989-868-4791  
New website . . . . . [stmichaelsrichville.org](http://stmichaelsrichville.org)  
Email . . . . . [church@stmichaelsrichville.org](mailto:church@stmichaelsrichville.org)  
School Office . . . . . 989-868-4809  
Child Care . . . . . 989-868-3830

#### Other News

The Lutheran Hour airs on WSAM-1400 from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. The sermon for next Sunday: "Hell: No One Has to Go There" *Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler*, Hell is a serious word, meant to be taken seriously. However, hell doesn't have to be one's inevitable destination.(Matthew 26:20-29)

# Prayers

## Health

*Marion Gugel, Mary Free Bed; Bob Hadaway, Covenant; Edna Michael (cancer), North Carolina, Lois Bierlein, knee surgery; Mary Ann Mossner, Wanda Reinert, Brenda MacKay, Health conditions*

## Missions

*Rev. Tyler and Yanela McMiller serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) as missionaries in Eurasia, based in Italy. Tyler is the sole LCMS pastor in Italy, where he provides spiritual care for a number of Italians who discovered Lutheranism online and want to learn more.*

## Prayer of the Day

"Almighty and eternal God, it was Your will that Your Son should bear the cross for us and destroy the power of the evil one. Help us to remember and give thanks for our Lord's Passion that we may receive the forgiveness of sins and be redeemed from eternal death; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen."