

First Sunday in Lent February 18th, 2024

Order of Service

DSIII: pg.184

7:45 Hymns: 547, 544, 656

10:30 Hymns: 547, 544, 656, 424, 418, 543

Wed. Hymns: 547, 544, 656

Sermon

"Lead Us Not Into Temptation"

Pastor Mark Auernhamer

Scripture Readings

Gen. 22:1-18: Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?"

Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together. When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son." Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided." The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, "I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

James 1:12-18: Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him. When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

Mark 1:9-15: At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Serving in Worship Today

Elders *Dave Miller; Dennis Thurston,
Matt Brown; Mark Frank*

Organist *Dr. Jon Eifert*

Choirs *Handbells*

Usher Captains *Jeff Buchinger, Alan Kischnick*

Altar Guild . . . *Bev Bierlein, Linda Trombley*

Acolytes . *Maya McCloud, Nataleigh Meyer*

Wednesday

Elder *Wayne Bierlein, Mark Schiefer,
Charles Zwerk*

Organist *Dr. Jon Eifert*

Choir *5th-8th Grade Choir*

Usher Captain *Ron Spiekerman*

Questions of the Passion: This week's question is from Jesus who asked His disciples, "Could you not keep watch with me for one hour?" We will have the Lord's Supper at this Lenten service (1st and 3rd Wednesdays).

Bible Class & KidzMin: Pastor Gillaspie's Bible study and KidzMin will not meet today.

Ash Wednesday: In case you were wondering, the ashes were from the burnt palm leaves from last year's Palm Sunday, mixed with olive oil.

Lutherans Laymen's League: Feb. 19th, Board Meeting will start at 6:30, with guest speaker Chas "Mr. C" Chaveriat. Card Party will be March 9th, watch for more information!

Lenten Supper: Our Lenten Supper on Wednesday will be hosted by St. Michael's Adult Choir. Donations will go towards the Vassar Food Pantry. Please join us for delicious food and fellowship! On the menu: Lasagna, salads and desserts

Contributions Online: It's easy to setup electronic donations. Go to the St. Michael's webpage, "stmichaelsrichville.org" and scroll down and click on the "I Give Online" button. From there you will complete the instructions and make an account. If you need help, please contact Mark Schoenow (989) 751- 4910 for help.

Youth Group: 7th -12th Grade, Feb 24, We will meet at St. Michael's at 4:00 PM and head to Harrison, MI to Snow Snake and return around 11:00 PM. We will need drivers for this event. Please print waivers for this from the Youth Ministry Facebook page and have for this event. For this event the student cost will be \$15.00 a tuber- if we have at least 30 tubing. Otherwise the cost would be \$40.00 a person. Please RSVP by Feb. 21st to Mrs. Hoepfner or Mrs. Leanne Rodammer if you are available to drive let us know.

Thank you to my church family for all your prayers and well wishes. My knee surgery was a success, and I am now at home recovering. God's Blessings to you all - Lois Bierlein

Attendance

Transfiguration of Our Lord: 473
Ash Wednesday:

This week at St. Michael's

Today First Sunday of Lent
Worship Service 7:45 a.m.
Communion 10:30 a.m.
Mon. No School
LLL 7 p.m.
Board of Education 7 p.m.
Wed Handbells 6 p.m.
Communion 7 p.m.
Thurs. Adult Choir 7 p.m.
Next Sunday Second Sunday of Lent
Communion 7:45 a.m.
Bible Classes/KidzMin 9 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Church Office 989-868-4791
Website stmichaelsrichville.org
Email 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. Next week, "When Winning Is Losing" Rev. Dr. John Nunes, In Christ, losing is winning and winning is losing. Dr. John Nunes explains what that means. (Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22:23-31. Romans 5:1-11, Mark 8:8-27)

PRAYERS

Health

Karen Bauer, Sharon Dietrich, Kurt Howell, Sherry Krieger, Mary Ann Mossner, Mike Mossner, Nancy Palmreuter, Deborah Doan, Chuck Mossner (recovering from surgery)

Call Extended

Pastor Keith Knea of Trinity Lutheran Church, Evansville, IN, has received the call to serve St. Michael's as administrative pastor.

Dr. Jon Eifert, called as music director to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and School, Birmingham, MI

Thanksgiving

Arlene Bierlein
90th Birthday, Feb. 21st

Joe and Georgette Aubel
59th Wedding Anniversary, February 20th.

Special Concern

Financial Problems at Concordia University, Ann Arbor, and Concordia University, Wisconsin

Missions

Lori Hecht, Medical mission trip to Guatemala, leaving on 2-14-24 and returning on 2-22-24.

Prayer of the Day

"Almighty and eternal God, we implore You to direct, sanctify, and govern our hearts and minds to follow Your Commandments, that through Your divine protection we may remain in true faith; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen."