



## Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 14, 2021

10:30 AM

Join us for our livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit/>  
or <https://www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ>  
Zoom Coffee Hour: URL: <https://zoom.us/j/753360733>



**Everyone is welcome.** As people of God, St. John's welcomes all regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28) This is Christ's church, and Christ has bid you come.

**March 14, 2021**

**Coffee Sale:** If you need fair trade coffee, teas, and chocolate, contact Jane Bowman.

**Bridges Outreach** is currently doing runs into Newark 7 days a week. The need is very great. They are happy to receive donations of lunches any day before 2:00 PM. Lunches need to be taken to the Bridges office; call 908-273-0176 to inform them you are bringing lunches.

**U.S. Severe Storms:** In recent days, severe storms have created a significant crisis in Texas and surrounding areas. Donations to Lutheran Disaster Response go 100% to relief. You can donate through St. John's [online](#) or by check (memo: LDR Severe Storms) or directly to [LDR](#).

**Holy Week Bags:** We are preparing for our Holy Week Bags and we need delivery drivers. If you are willing to make home delivery of bags on March 27, please contact Bev Kaczmariski at [mkaczmariski@comcast.net](mailto:mkaczmariski@comcast.net).

**Easter Brunch to Go:** We are offering Easter Brunch to go this year. Each order serves two and will include: egg casserole, baked goods, and fruit cup. Special dietary needs can be accommodated. Each order is \$20 with all money being donated to [GRACE](#) to help feed hungry people in our community. Brunch-to-go will be available for pick up Saturday, April 3, and after the Easter in-person service April 4. Please sign up [here](#) by **March 28**.

**Please give blood, Wednesday, March 31 from 1:30 PM–7:30 PM** at the New Providence Municipal Building, 360 Elkwood Rd., New Providence. Please sign up at [nybc.org/njdrive](http://nybc.org/njdrive) and use sponsor code 14417 or call/text Genevieve at 732-672-5281.

**Zoom Children's Time, Sundays at 9:30 AM.** Join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86580617100>.

**Evening Prayer: Wednesdays at 7:00 PM** on both our [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages.

**Giving Is Important.** We count on your generous offerings to continue to do our robust ministry. Please give generously. You may [give online](#) or mail checks to the church.

**Worship Live Stream at 10:30 AM** on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit) or our YouTube Channel at [www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ](http://www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ) **Worship bulletins** are located: <https://www.stjohnssummit.org/bulletins>.



## Holy Week & Easter Schedule

**Please Note: In-person services** will be outside. Please bring your own chair and wear a mask. If it is raining, we will meet in Hinman Hall (please still bring your chairs), wearing masks, with the windows open, and the exhaust fan running. **Online services** will be prerecorded and broadcast on Facebook and YouTube.

- Palm Sunday:**                    **8:30 AM**—In-Person [RSVP](#)  
Liturgy of the Palms with Holy Communion  
**10:30 AM**—Online  
Triumphal Entry and Passion according to Mark
- Maundy Thursday:**            **7:30 PM**—Online  
Holy Thursday Liturgy—the beginning of the Great Three Days
- Good Friday:**                    **Noon**—Online  
Liturgy of Good Friday  
**3:00 PM**—In-person [RSVP](#)  
Reflection on the Cross  
**7:30 PM**—Online  
Seven Last Words, Service of the Central Cluster ELCA Congregations
- Easter Vigil:**                    **7:30 PM**—Online  
This is the night! In word, image, and song we renew our baptism and proclaim Christ raised from the dead conquering death.
- Easter Sunday:**                 **8:30 AM**—In person [RSVP](#)  
Resurrection Morning with Holy Communion  
**10:30 AM**—Online  
Festival Celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord

### **Prayer Before Worship**

Almighty God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, open your Word and illumine our darkened world, that we may see clearly and live faithfully by the light of your truth in Jesus Christ.

Amen.

*From Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year B, Vol. 1*

**PRELUDE** Setting of *Rockingham Old*

By Allan Mahnke (b. 1944)

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Gathering**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

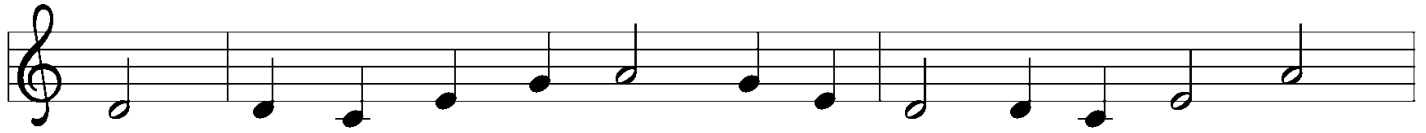
Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God, seeking forgiveness in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Most merciful God, 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.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our † Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 666 What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



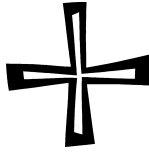
that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

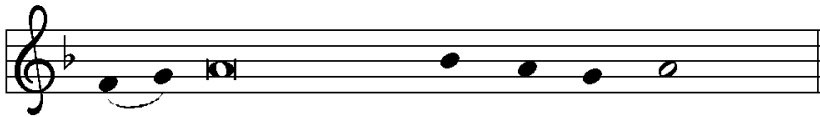
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835



## APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



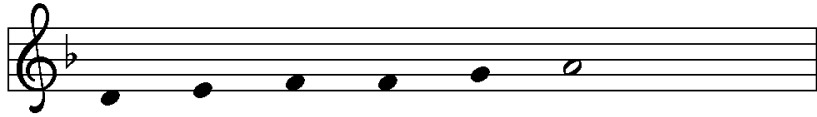
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



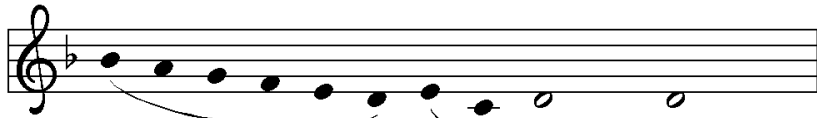
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



## Word

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.*

### **FIRST READING** Numbers 21:4–9

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING** Ephesians 2:1–10

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## GOSPEL John 3:14–21

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

*The Gospel is proclaimed, concluding:* The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

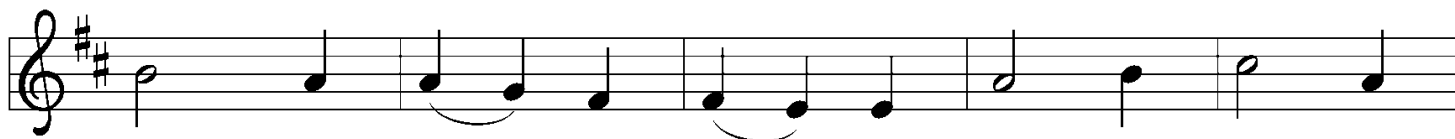
## HOMILY

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet

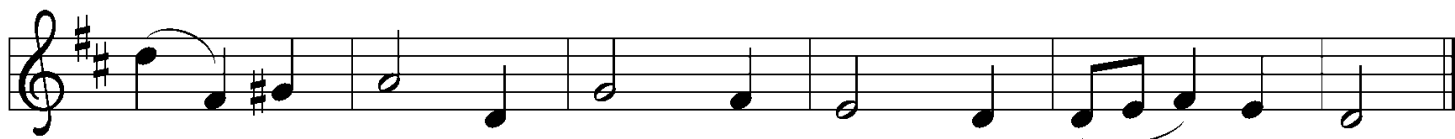
# HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 323 God Loved the World



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all  
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in  
trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues  
sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by  
Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.  
Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.  
Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.

Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## **PEACE**

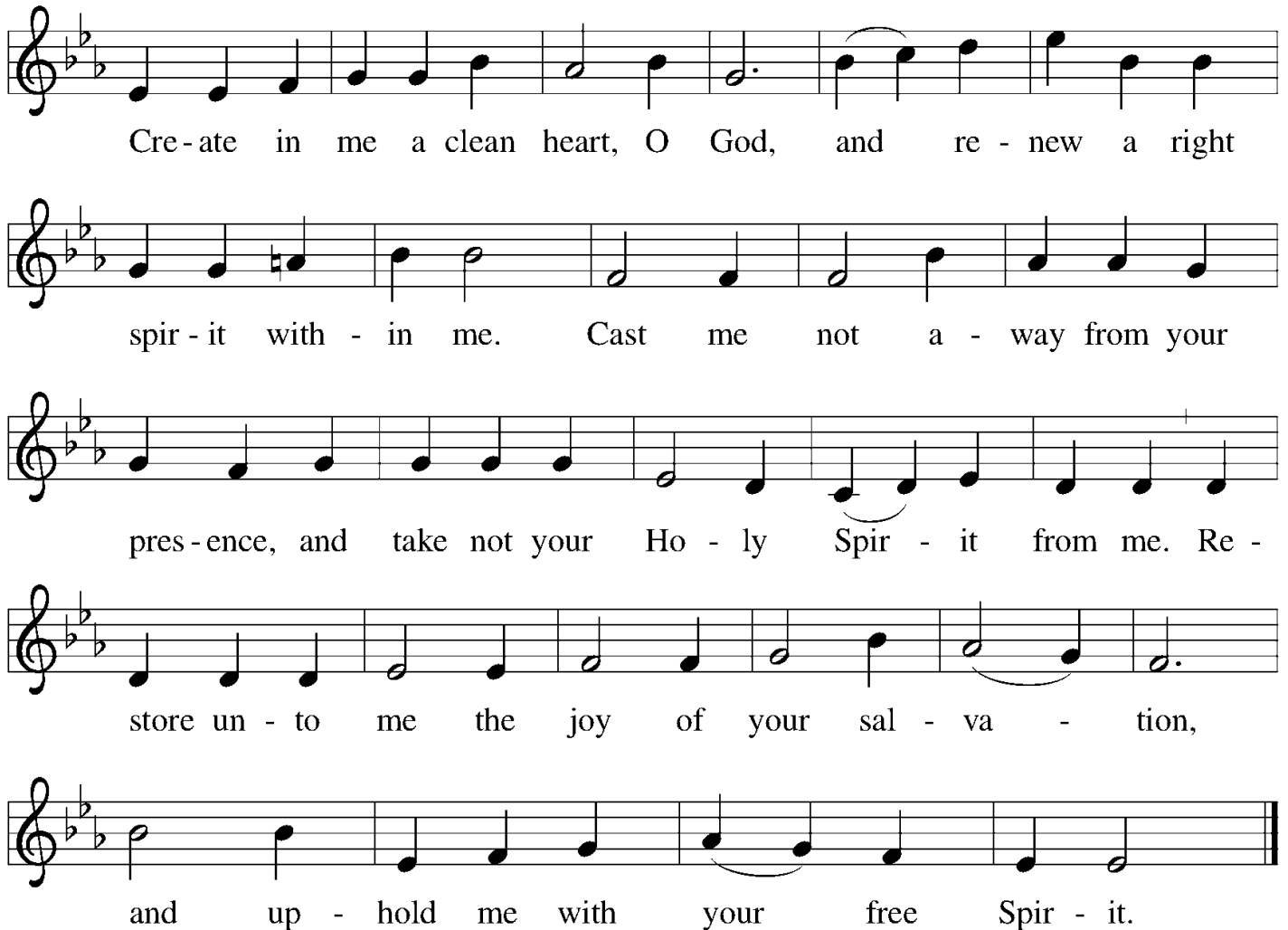
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## **GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*We present monetary, food, and other offerings for God's mission through this congregation. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, you may visit [www.stjohnssummit.org](http://www.stjohnssummit.org).*

**OFFERING MUSIC** "What Wondrous Love Is This" Arr. Kevin McChesney (b. 1963)  
Virtual Chime Choir

## OFFERTORY



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -  
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,  
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

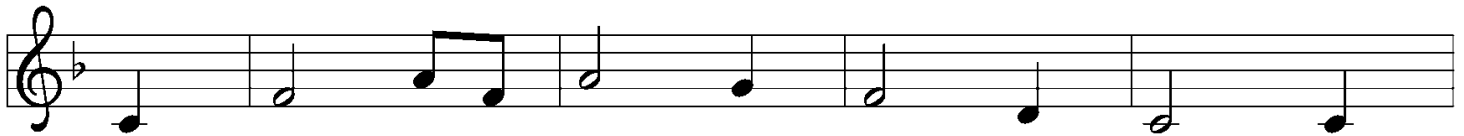
### **Sending**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## BLESSING

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And may Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW 779 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** Setting of *New Britain*

Stephanie Rothman, Trumpet

By John Carter (b. 1930)



more  
fervent in  
**PRAYER**



more  
generous  
in WORKS of  
**CHARITY**



more  
eager in cele-  
brating the  
**MYSTERIES**  
by which we  
are reborn

## **Ministers: The People of St. John's**

### **Clergy & Staff**

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor

Donna Garzinsky, Director of Music

Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator

Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation

Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton

Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

[pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org](mailto:pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org)

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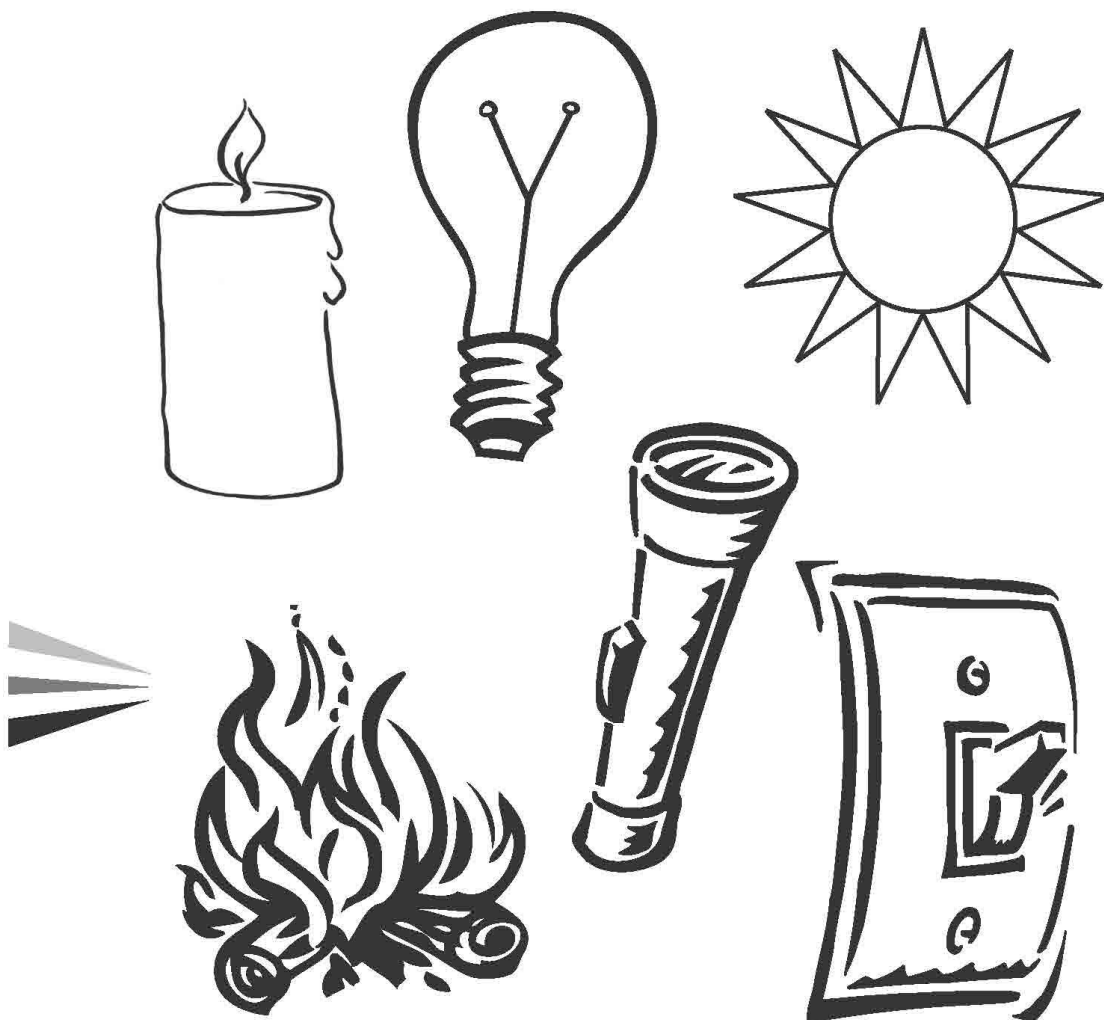
# READER

Lent 4

- Today is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in **Lent**.
- The color of Lent is **purple**.
- Purple represents **quiet** and **reflection**.
- During Lent, we think about and reflect on **Jesus' life**.

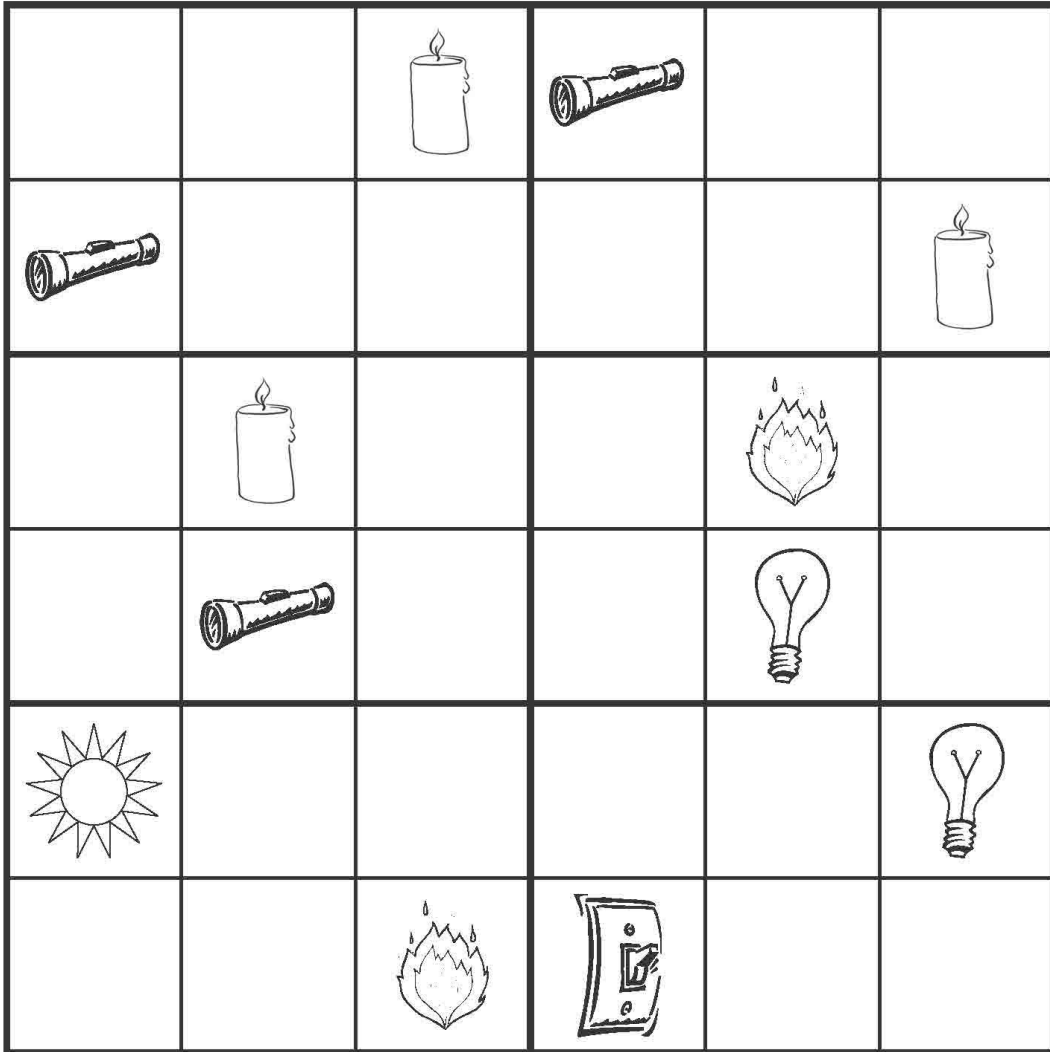
## Light It Up!

Draw some light coming out of each object. Then number these light sources in order from dimmest light to brightest light.



# Light It Up!

Try this Sudoku that uses sources of light in the squares. Remember that each light source can only show up once in each row and each column. Also, each source can only show up once in each 2x3 box.





 **Look It Up!**

Nicodemus shows up later in the Bible, too. Read John 19:38-42 to find out what Nicodemus brought to Jesus' burial.



Figure out the missing letters in this memory verse. Then unscramble them to write a name for Jesus in the blanks.

**Memory Verse**



"T\_\_\_\_\_ose who d\_\_\_\_\_ hat \_\_\_\_\_s

\_\_\_\_\_rue come to the \_\_\_\_\_i\_\_\_\_\_ht, s\_\_\_\_\_ hat

it may be clear\_\_\_\_\_y se\_\_\_\_\_n that t\_\_\_\_\_ei\_\_\_\_\_ deeds have been done

in Go\_\_\_\_\_." - **John 3:21**



\_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Ask It!

Nicodemus asked Jesus a lot of questions. What questions would you like to ask these people during worship?

Questions for my pastor:

Questions for the acolyte:

Questions for the music leader:

Questions for the usher:

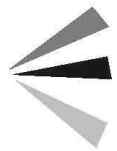
Questions for the person sitting next to me:





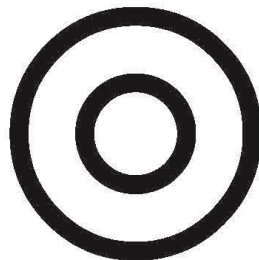
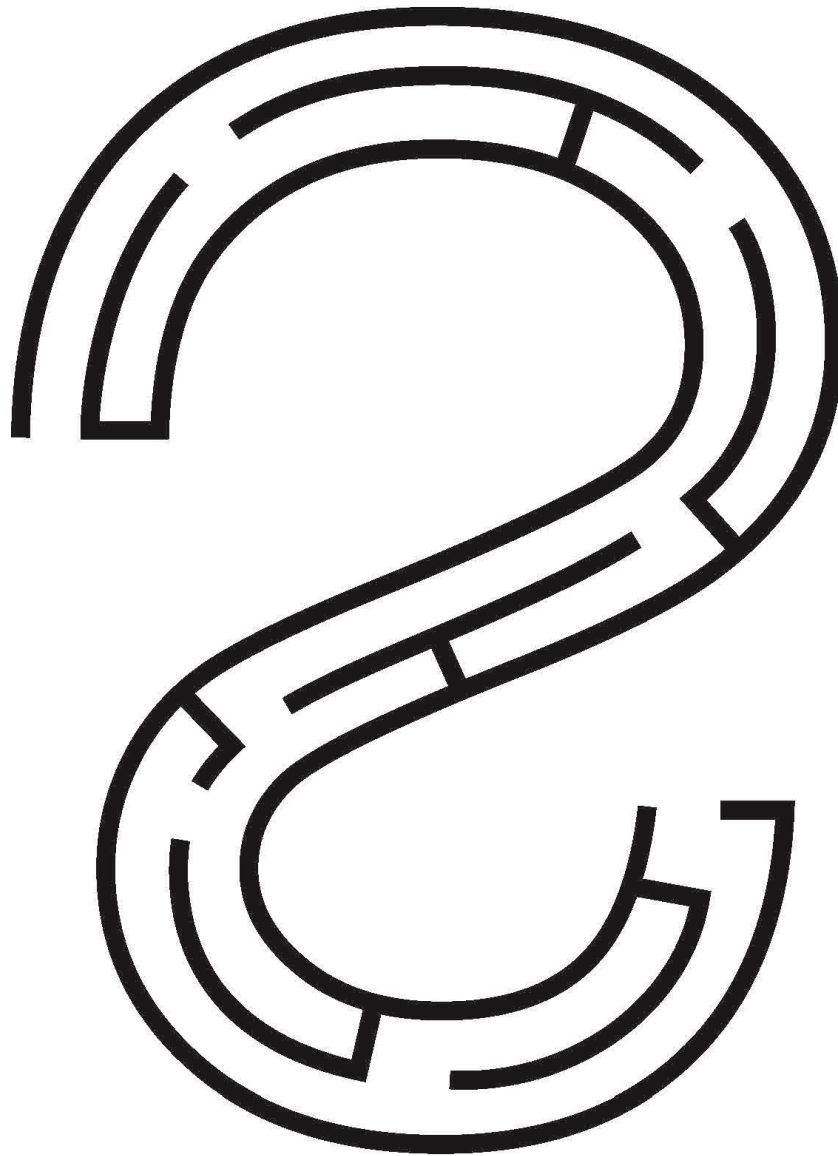
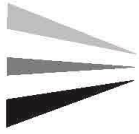


**“I am all that is good and right, and God sent me to light up this world.”**



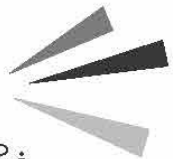
Nicodemus had a lot of questions for Jesus. Sometimes, finding answers can be tricky.

**Can you complete this maze?**



Nicodemus had a lot of questions for Jesus. Do you have questions about what happens during worship?

**Write or draw your questions below. Then ask someone who can help you find the answers!**



Handwriting practice lines consisting of three sets of three rows each. Each row contains a series of dotted question marks for tracing. The first row of each set is horizontal, the second is vertical, and the third is horizontal.