

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022 | 10:30 AM



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.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. So that we may be in contact with you, we invite you to sign the guest book in the narthex. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate. We hope you will worship with us again soon.

Children are welcome. We encourage them to attend worship with their parents—even their noise and restlessness are surely a delight to God. Children's bulletins are available from the ushers and a professionally staffed nursery is available from 7:45 AM to 11:45 AM. Follow the signs or ask any member for directions.

To assist you during worship: Large print worship bulletins are available from the ushers. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please inform an usher and the pastors will be happy to commune you at your pew.

Offerings: St. John's is a tithing church. We dedicate a percentage of our offerings to the mission of the wider church through the NJ Synod of the ELCA and to many other mission partners. We are able to support these ministries because of your offerings and tithes.

Assisted Listening: To access assisted listening, Connect to the StJohnsALS WiFi network. Download the free WaveCast app to your phone. Tap ST_JOHNS_ALS to connect. Please use your own headphones to listen. Individual wired devices coming soon!





Ministers: The People of St. John's

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor
Donna Garzinsky, Director of Music
Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator
Jessica Damrow Sherman, Communications Director
Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation
Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton
Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org dgarzinsky@stjohnssummit.org crothman@stjohnssummit.org jdamrowsherman@stjohnssummit.org wk154linda@gmail.com

We're delighted you're worshiping with us. As part of our ongoing outreach, your voice and your image may be videographed and photographed and used by St. John's for ministry purposes. For any questions or concerns, contact the church office.

Prayer Before Worship

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit open our minds and bodies to the re-creating power of your Word, that we may see the world though the mind of Christ and live in the world as a foretaste of your new creation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

Gathering

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

PRELUDE Five Meditations on "Wondrous Love:" Meditation I By Rönald Perera

WELCOME

Please stand.

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.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

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 606 Our Father, We Have Wandered



Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929-2006

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612

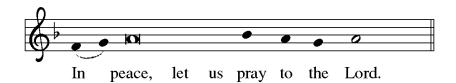
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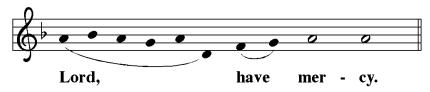


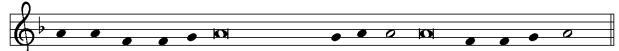
APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.**

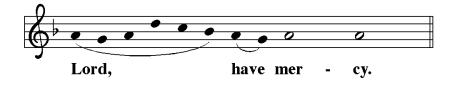
KYRIE

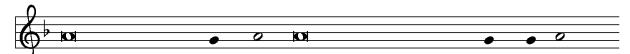




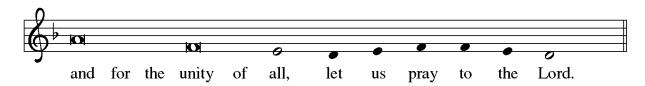


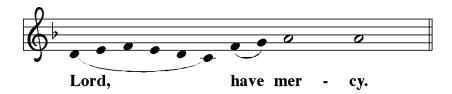
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.





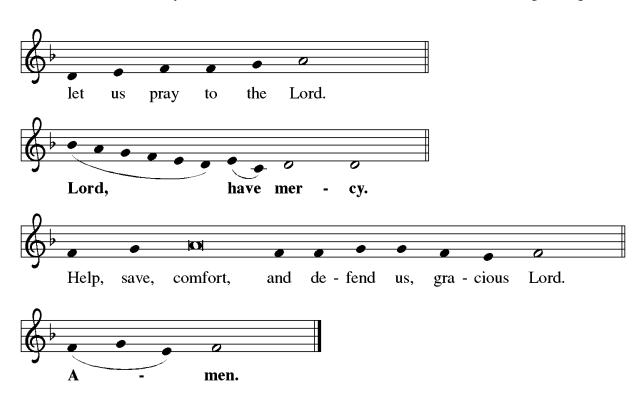
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of 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.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Joshua 5:9–12

⁹The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

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

Choir sings the lightface verses. All sing the boldface verses.



¹Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven, and whose sin is | put away!

²Happy are they to whom the LORD im- | putes no guilt, and in whose spirit there | is no guile!

³While I held my tongue, my bones with- ¹ ered away, because of my groaning ¹ all day long.

⁴For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."

Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.

⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble; you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.

⁸"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that ¹ you should go; I will guide you ¹ with my eye.

⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you."

¹⁰Great are the tribulations | of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice [|] in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are [|] true of heart.

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 5:16–21

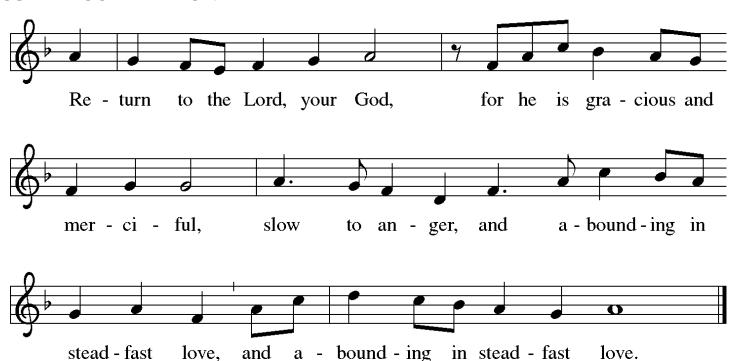
¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}"There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." , ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON The Rev. Blake A. Scalet

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 587 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



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

God of mercy, **Hear our prayer. Response at the conclusion of the prayer: Amen.**

PEACE

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

Please be seated.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MISSION

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We present monetary, food, and other offerings for God's mission through this congregation. Both visitors and members alike may use the pew envelope to make a contribution. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, you may visit www.stjohnssummit.org or scan this code.



OFFERING MUSIC Were I the Perfect Child of God

Arr. Tony Alonso and Michael Mahler

Adult Choir

Were I the perfect child of God whose faith was deep and love was broad, not doubtful, guilty, worn or flawed, I'd gladly follow Jesus. But I'm the child of what I've been, estranged by much I've done and seen, afraid to show the love I mean, unfit to follow Jesus.

Yet God, who knows me first and last, who's seen my best, my worst, my past, has shown his love intense and vast by meeting me in Jesus. For Christ, though killed at Calvary by sins like mine and folk like me, has ris'n, forgiv'n and set me free, made fit to follow Jesus.

Then sprinkle water on my brow as, in this place, I make my vow to own and love my Savior now and give myself to Jesus. God grant me what I still require that I, in others, might inspire the hidden hope, the deep desire to love and follow Jesus.

John L. Bell

OFFERTORY



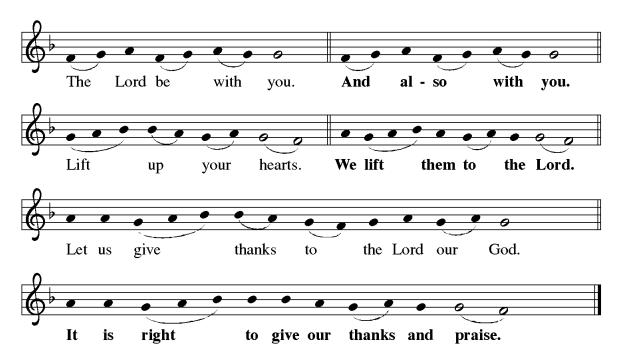
OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.

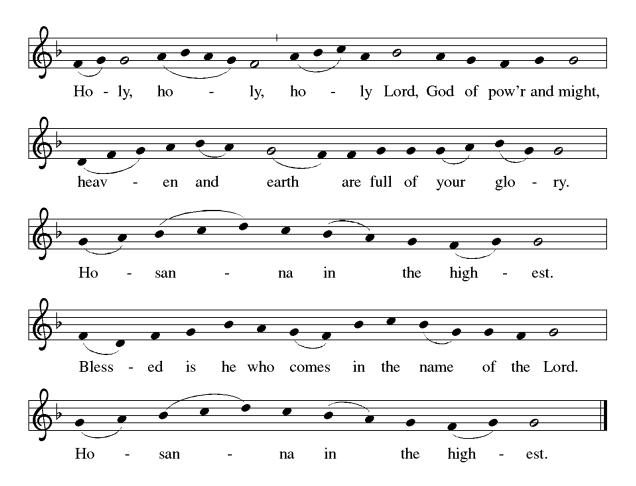
Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

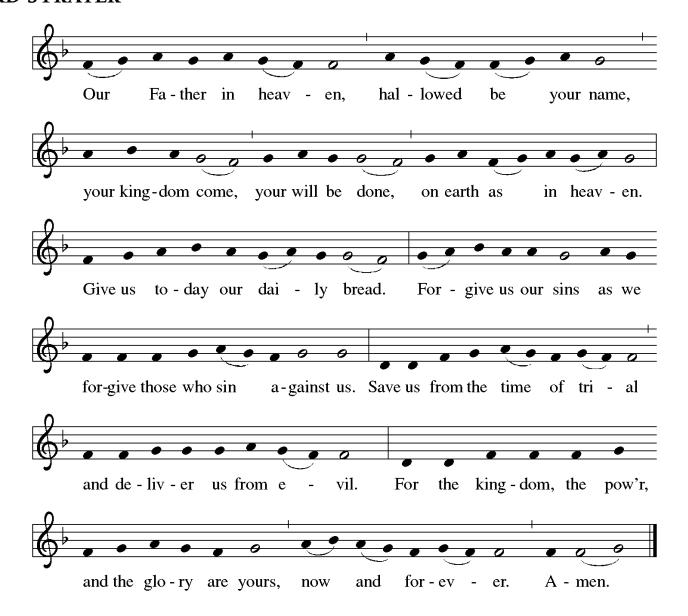


PROPER PREFACE



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER



Please be seated.

RECEPTION OF COMMUNON

If you wish to receive communion, please approach the pastor one at a time.

The pastor will place a wafer in your open hands. Please indicate if you need a gluten free wafer.

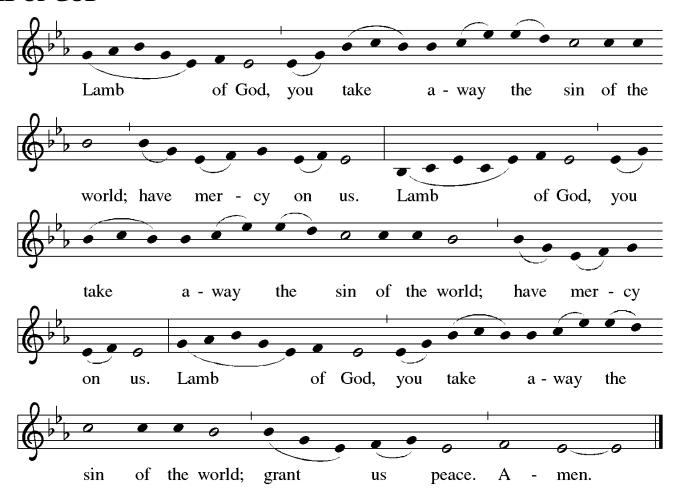
The assisting minister serves the wine/grape juice in pre-filled individual cups.

You may pick up your personal cup, being careful to only touch that cup.

Step aside and drink the wine, placing the used cup in the return tray.

All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table. If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.

LAMB OF GOD





COMMUNION 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



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



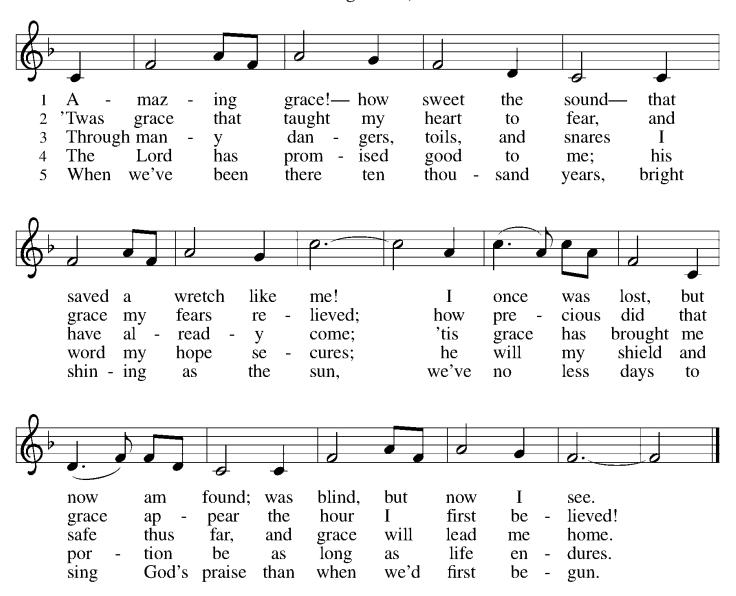
that caused the Lord of bliss the dread-ful curse for my to bear a - side his crown for my be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid mil-lions join the theme, I the great I AM, while will who is through e - ter - ni - ty I'llsing God's love for me, and I'll sing



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

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

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 779 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



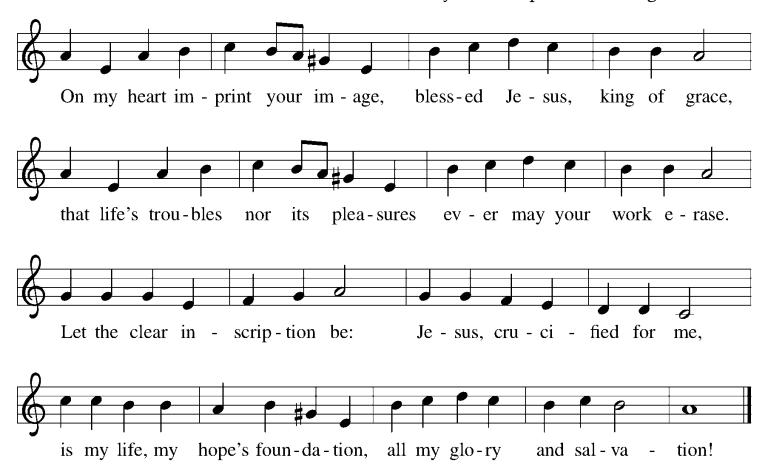
Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Please stand.

BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE ELW 811 On My Heart Imprint Your Image



Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.

Music: DER AM KREUZ, Johann B. König, 1691-1758

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

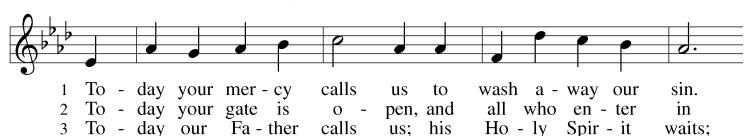
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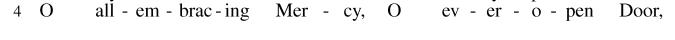
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

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 LBW 304 Today Your Mercy Calls Us







How - ev - er great our tres - pass, what - ev - er we have been, shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come and par - don for their sin. his bless - ed an - gels gath - er a - round the heav'n-ly gates. what should we do with - out you when heart and eye run o'er?



long from mer - cy our how - ev - er hearts have turned a - way, pres - ent The past shall be for - got - ten, be giv'n, joy a ques - tion will asked us, how of - ten be have come: we When all things seem a - gainst drive de - spair, us. to us to



your pre-cious blood can wash us and make us clean to -day.
a fu - ture grace be prom - ised, a glo-rious crown in heav'n.
al - though we oft have wan - dered, it is our Fa-ther's home.
we know one gate is o - pen, one ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816-1878, alt.

Music: ANTHES, Friedrich K. Anthes, b. 1812

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Five Meditations on "Wondrous Love:" Meditation V

By Rönald Perera

March 27, 2022

Intergenerational Faith Formation continues TODAY at 9:00 AM! Everyone is invited to enjoy some fellowship time, while we explore the role of Lent in our spiritual lives through crafting, music and maybe a snack. TODAY'S theme is, "The Parables of Jesus."

Anti-Racism Committee Forum, TODAY at 9:00 AM to discuss Redlining.

Lent midweek services, Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. Join us each week for Evening Prayer.

Worship Assistants Needed: Altar Guild volunteers, Greeters, Counters, Readers, Ushers and Livestream Crew members. MANY hands are needed to offer the worship services and events that we do. Please email Pastor Blake or Bey Kaczmarski.

Boxes of Cereal for Loaves & Fishes: We have been asked to collect boxed cereal for Loaves and Fishes during Lent. We ask everyone to bring at least one box of cereal each week of Lent to reach our goal of **300+ boxes**. We have collected approximately 225 boxes so far!

Let Us Build a House–Bethlehem Build: Our partner congregation, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, New Orleans, is building new affordable housing rentals on their property in partnership with Tulane University. Our Council has challenged St. John's to raise \$22,500, or 10% of the needed funds to make this project possible during Lent. Give online or by check payable to St. John's with "Bethlehem Build" in the memo line.

Missing our Lenten soup suppers? We will be selling homemade soups and breads between services for you and your family to purchase and enjoy during Lent. **All proceeds will go toward the Bethlehem Build Project.** If you are interested in making soup or bread for the sale – please contact Jane Bowman or Jama Bowman.

Easter Flowers: We are collecting donations for Easter flowers; suggested donations of \$25–50 All dedications must be received by **April 3**. Sign up in the entryway.

Baby Drive Collection: Robin Taylor Roth is co-sponsoring a baby drive for GRACE to collect food, diapers, pull-ups, wipes through the end of April. A collection box is in the rear entryway.

Lutheran Disaster Response is providing refugees and those affected by the crisis in Ukraine with immediate financial support (100% of all donations are given) as well as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits. You can mail or drop off a check at the church office, or donate online and type "Ukraine" under the "Special Giving" field or in the memo line.

Registration for all Cross Roads Summer Camp Programs is open. Come to one of the Cross Roads open houses on May 14 or June 11 to visit camp, ask all your questions, and even enjoy a delicious lunch! Learn more and register at crossroadsretreat.com.