

Fifth Sunday in Lent March 26, 2023 | 10:30 AM



All are welcome at Saint John's regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socioeconomic position, immigration path, or faith journey. We believe that a diverse and inclusive congregation benefits all, and that we grow when we listen to and learn from those who are different from us. Scripture teaches us to do good and seek justice, and we invite you to join us in striving for a just world. We are committed to continuing the work of anti-

racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care. We look forward to learning from one another and growing together on this journey of faith, grace, and love.

Jesus said: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

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.

To assist you during worship: Large print worship bulletins are available from the ushers. Please inform an usher if you would like the pastor 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.



Ministers: The People of Saint John's

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastorpastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.orgChristopher Harlow-Jennings, Director of Musiccharlowjennings@stjohnssummit.orgCarolyn Rothman, Church Administratorcrothman@stjohnssummit.orgJama Bowman, Communications Coordinatorjamabowman@stjohnssummit.orgDeacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formationwk154linda@gmail.comHarold Wyss, Weekday Sextonwk154linda@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

Lord God, Great I AM, you are resurrection and life. As we worship you this day show us who we are: bearers of good news, messengers of resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Gathering

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

ELW Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Red Book ACS All Creation Sings: Purple Book

PRELUDE Shall We Gather at the River

Liam Johnson, alto saxophone

David Cherwein

WELCOME

Please stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **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.

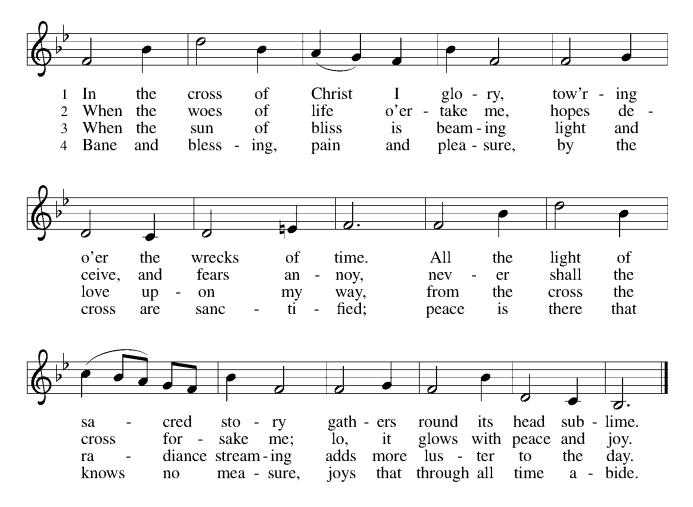
Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 324 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

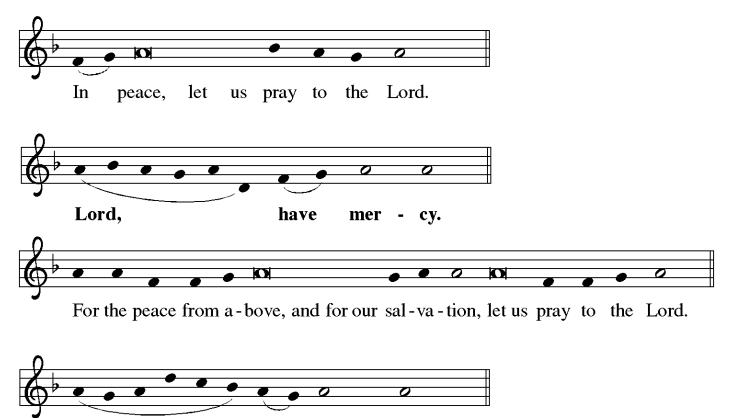


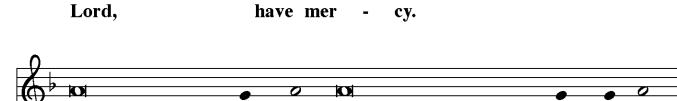
Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872 Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

APOSTOLIC GREETING

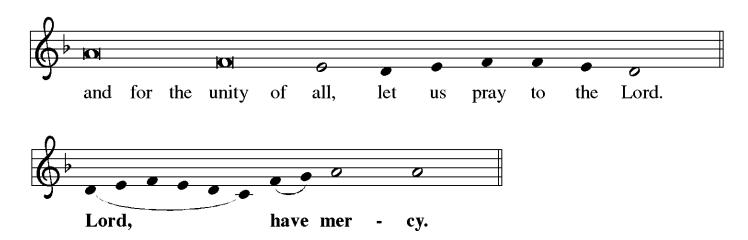
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE



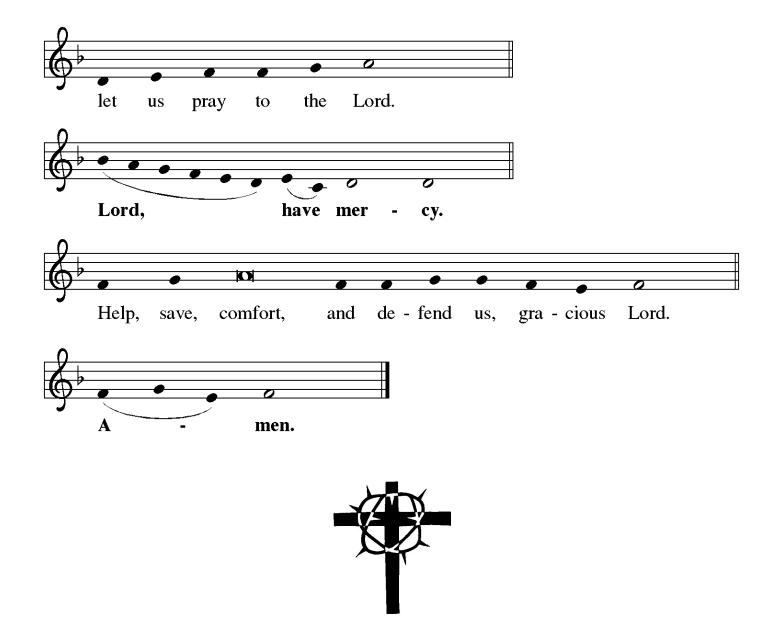


For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,





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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, 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 Ezekiel 37:1–14

¹The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on 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."

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

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



¹Out [|] of the depths I cry to [|] you, O Lord;
²O Lord, hear [|] my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my [|] supplication.

³If you were to keep watch [|] over sins, O Lord, [|] who could stand?
⁴Yet with you is for-[|]giveness, in order that you [|] may be feared.

⁵I wait for you, O Lord; [|] my soul waits; in your word [|] is my hope.

⁶My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the ¹ morning, more than those who keep watch ¹ for the morning.

⁷O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is ¹ steadfast love; with the Lord there is plenteous ¹ redemption.

⁸For the Lord shall redeem | Israel

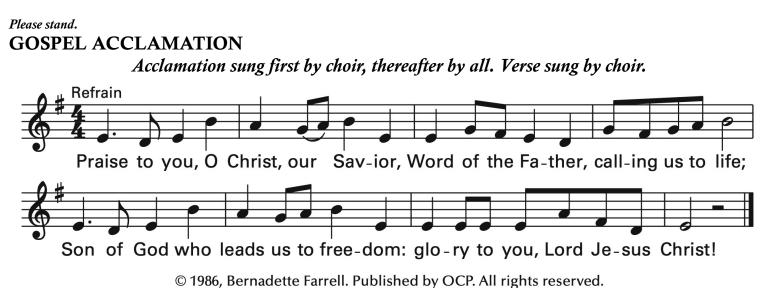
from [|] all their sins.

SECOND READING Romans 8:6–11

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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



V. You are the Word who calls us out of darkness; you are the Word who leads us into light;

you are the Word who bring us through the desert; glory to your, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL John 11:1–45

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

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." ¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

Please be seated. CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet

Please stand. **HYMN OF THE DAY** ELW 750 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart



Text: Martin Schalling, 1532–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: HERZLICH LIEB, B. Schmid, *Orgeltabulaturbuch*, 1577

NICENE CREED

With the whole Church, let us confess our faith: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is,

seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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 offerings for God's mission in the world 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 ANTHEM Out of the Deep

Out of the deep have I called to thee, O Lord: Lord hear my voice.

O let thine ears consider well the voice of my complaint.

Lord wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss:

O Lord, who may abide it? For there is mercy with thee:

therefore shalt thou be feared.

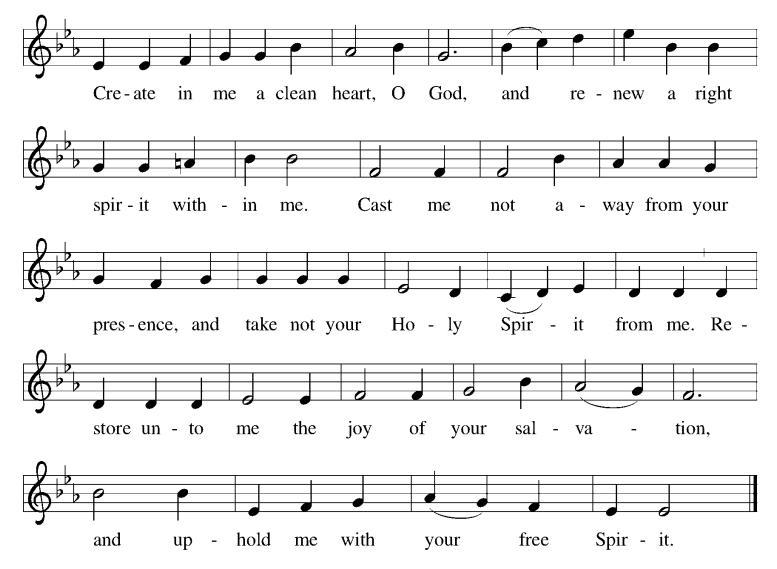
I look for the Lord;my soul doth wait for him: in his word is my trust.

My soul fleeth unto the Lord: I say, before the morning watch.

Oh Israel trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy: and with him plenteous redemption.

And he shall redeem Israel from all his sins. Amen. -Psalm 130

Please stand. OFFERTORY ELW 188 Create in Me a Clean Heart

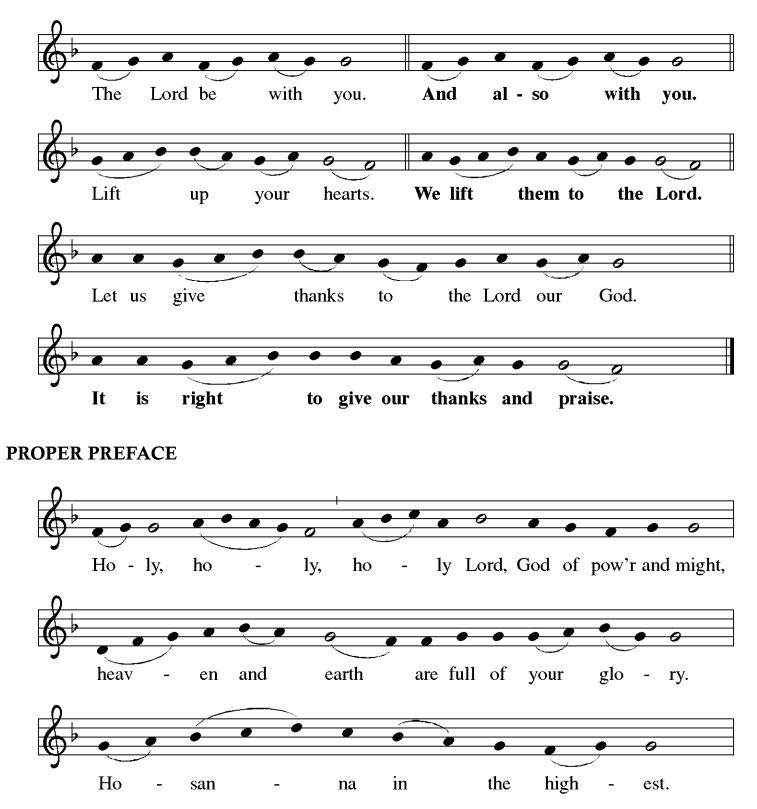


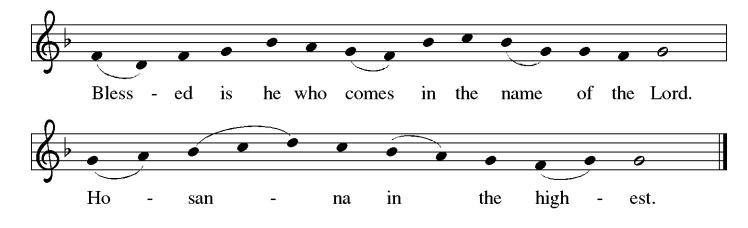
OFFERING PRAYER

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 Lord. Amen.

Meal *God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

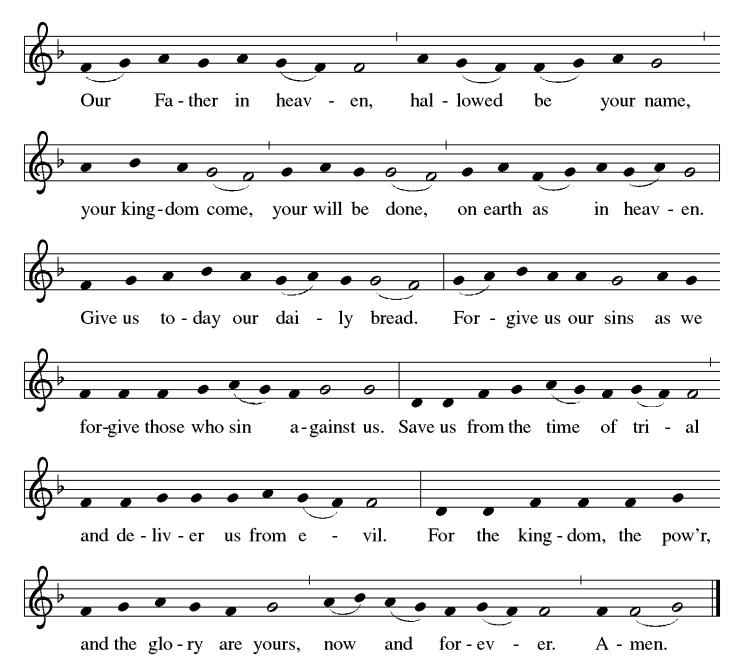
GREAT THANKSGIVING





EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

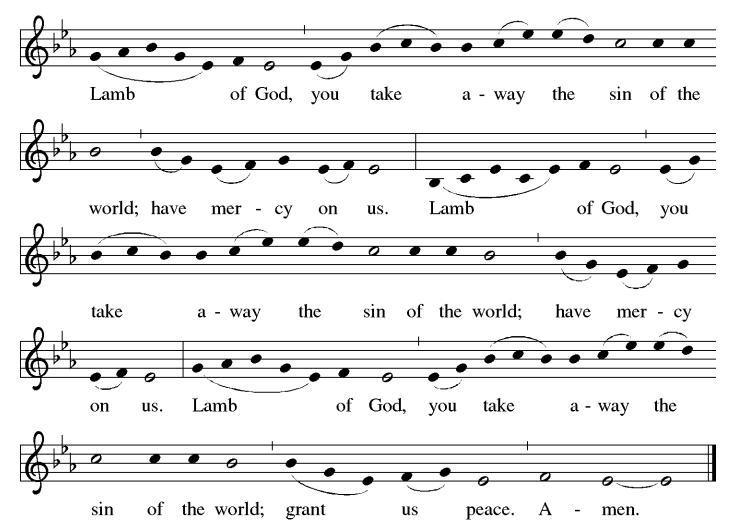


Please be seated. RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

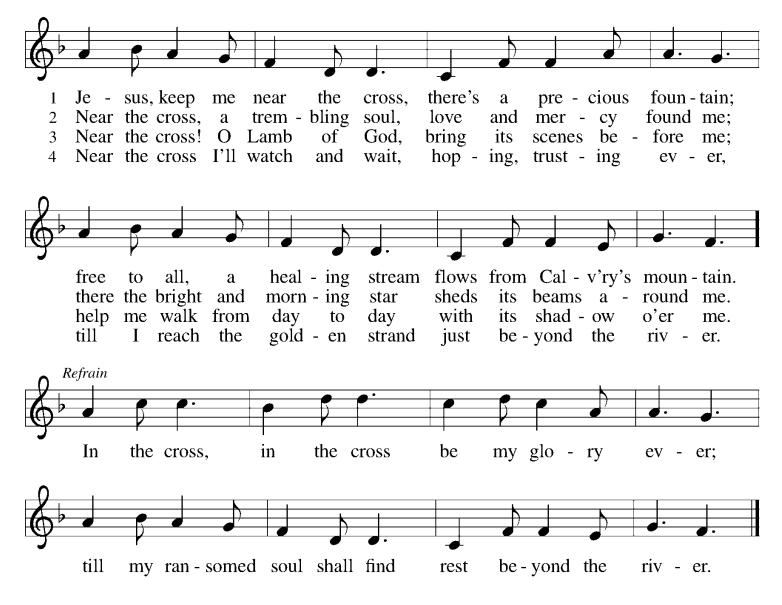
If you wish to receive communion, please approach the pastor one at a time. The pastor will place a wafer in your open hands. Please indicate if you need a gluten free wafer. Wine is served from the chalice—either by intinction or drinking from the common cup. Wine and grape juice is available in pre-filled individual cups.

> 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 335 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915 Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 337 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824

Please stand.

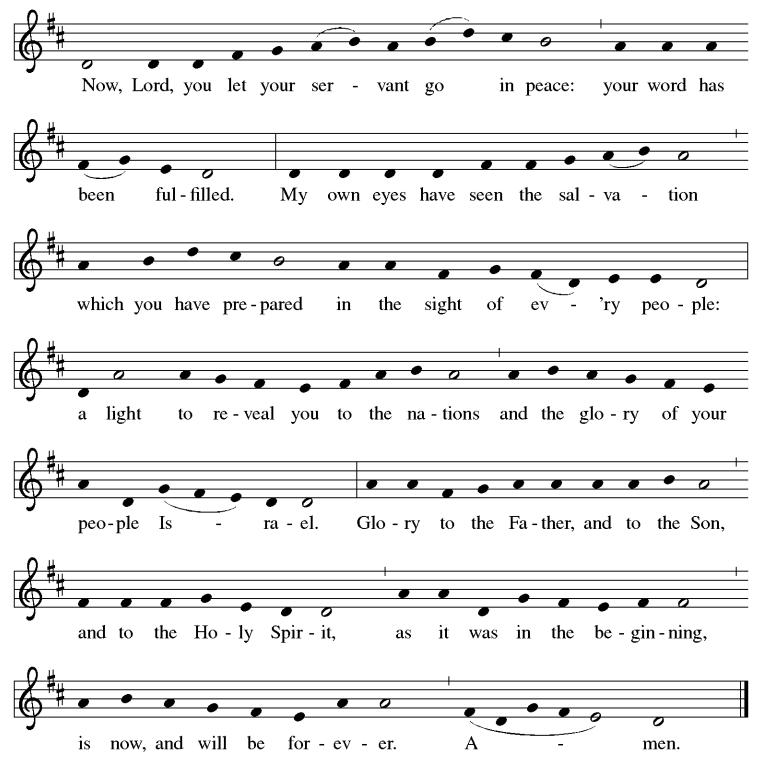
BLESSING

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

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.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



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 506 The Word of God Is Source and Seed



Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939 Music: GAUDEAMUS DOMINO, David Hurd, b. 1950 Text © 1983, 1993 Sisters of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Prelude in b minor, BWV 544

J.S. Bach

Holy Week 2023

April 2	Palm Sunday, 8:00 & 10:30 AM*
April 6	Maundy Thursday Service, 7:30 PM*
April 7	Good Friday Services, Noon & 7:30 PM*
April 8	Vigil of Easter, 7:30 PM
April 9	Easter Day Services, 8:00 & 10:30 AM*
	Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt, 9:00 AM
	*These services will be livestreamed.

SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 587 Springfield Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901 stjohnssummit.org | 908-273-3846



From Evangelical Lutheran Worship copyright © 2006 and All Creation Sings copyright © 2020. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #9925-S, OneLicense.net license #A-722032, &/or Church Copyright License #11453771 which provide permission to podcast the music in this service.

March 26, 2023

Soup for a Cause, ENDS TODAY: All proceeds will go toward the Bethlehem Build Project.

Lenten Bridges Collection: We will be preparing 200 sustainable lunches for the April Bridges Run on **TODAY at 9:00 AM** during Faith Formation.

Help us decorate the church by donating for Easter. To have your dedications or memorials included in the Easter bulletins, you must sign up or contact the church office by **TODAY.**

Lenten Midweek Worship Services on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM, Soup Suppers and Fellowship at 6:00 PM. Sign up on the rear entry bulletin board to bring food to ensure we have enough.

Cereal for Loaves & Fishes Lent Collection. A traditional Lenten discipline is to give to those in need. We have been asked to collect boxed cereal for Loaves and Fishes. We ask everyone to bring at least one box of cereal for each of the six weeks of Lent. We have 240 so far!

Bethlehem Build Lent Collection. Our partner congregation, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, New Orleans, is building the 2nd affordable house on their property Our Council has challenged us to raise \$25,000 between now and Easter and we can match dollar for dollar up to \$6,000 to support this project. Give online or by check, **payable to St. John's**, "Bethlehem Build" in the memo line. We have raised \$3,282 to date.

Holy Work for Holy Week: We need of ushers, assisting ministers, readers, candle preparers, chare arrangers and more for all of our Holy Week services. Please sign up in the narthex.

Easter Brunch is back and donations are needed by April 8. Please sign up in the rear entry.

Cross Roads Camp "Wednesdays Away," April 5, 9:30 AM–3:00 PM, led by Linda Walker. Registration is \$50 and includes lunch and morning coffee. Register via the weekly email.

Easter Offering: Your regular offerings and special offerings are essential to this congregation's ministry and the fulfillment of God's mission. Your gifts allow this congregation to thrive as a vibrant place of worship, education, service, and community. Please give generously.

Faith, Hope & Love: Building Safer & More Welcoming Congregations for LGBTQ+ Youth Workshop, Saturday, April 22 at Abiding Presence, 2220 Pennington Rd, Ewing Township, NJ from **8:45 AM - 3:30 PM**. The day will include three workshop slots filled with topics surrounding youth, parent resources, advocacy, LGBTQ+ 101, and mental health. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Suggested donation of \$20/attendee or \$40/family (3 or more members of the same family). Registration link can be found in the weekly email.

Afternoon Tea for Cross Roads, April 29, 3:00 PM at St. John's. Recommended donation, \$45 per person. There will be additional opportunities to give to Cross Roads at the fundraiser. All are welcome and fancy dress is encouraged—bowties and hats are expected while white gloves and mink stoles optional. Register by April 14 online or call the office with number attending. Space is limited.

We are hiring a Livestream Coordinator for Sunday services from 7:45–Noon including religious holidays. Approximately 5 hours a week. Experience with livestream and audio equipment. Open to high school and college students with TV production experience. Please contact Linda Mesenbrink at Linda.mesenbrink@verizon.net or 973-202-2773.