



*God's love, Our service.*

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

## Sunday, March 20, 2022

### Third Sunday in Lent

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

#### **WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The March Noisy Offering collection will go to the Olathe Animal Shelter, chosen by the 5th & 6th grade class.



## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of God,  
who makes a way in the wilderness,  
walks with us,  
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One,

**we confess that we have wandered far from you:  
we have not trusted your promises,  
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,  
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,  
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.**

**Have mercy on us!**

**Forgive us and turn us again to you.**

**Teach us to follow in your ways,  
assure us again of your love,  
and help us to love our neighbor.**

**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,

the Word draws near to you,  
and all who call out to God shall be saved.

In Jesus, God comes to you again and again  
and gathers you under wings of love.

In ✝ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.

God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

**Amen.**



## PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 611, vs. 1 & 3

### I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down  
your head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
so weary, worn, and sad;  
I found in him a resting-place,  
and he has made me glad.

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise,  
and all your day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
till trav'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889

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### Greeting page 203

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 Pg. 203

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God,  
**your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

*To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.*

<sup>1</sup>Ho, everyone who thirsts,  
come to the waters;  
and you that have no money,  
come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

<sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
and delight yourselves in rich food.

<sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me;  
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
my steadfast, sure love for David.

<sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander for the peoples.

<sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know,  
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while he may be found,  
call upon him while he is near;

<sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way,  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 63:1-8**

*O God, eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you. (Ps. 63:1)*

<sup>1</sup>O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land  
where there is no water.

<sup>2</sup>**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,  
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is better than life itself;  
my lips shall give you praise.

<sup>4</sup>**So will I bless you as long as I live  
and lift up my hands in your name.**

<sup>5</sup>My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

<sup>6</sup>**when I remember you upon my bed,  
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

<sup>7</sup>For you have been my helper,  
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

<sup>8</sup>**My whole being clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.**

### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

*Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.*

<sup>1</sup>I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup>And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup>These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup>So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup>No 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 Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

*Holy Gospel, according to Luke, the 13th Chapter.*

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Luke 13:1-9**

*Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.*

<sup>1</sup>At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.<sup>2</sup>[Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?<sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.<sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?<sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.<sup>7</sup>So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’<sup>8</sup>He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it.<sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”



**CHILDREN'S SERMON** Pastor Kris Dietzen

**SERMON** Pastor Kris Dietzen

## HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 629

### Abide with Me

- 1 Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.  
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me  
abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.
- 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass  
away;  
change and decay in all around I see;  
O thou who changest not, abide with me.
- 3 I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's  
pow'r?  
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide  
with me.
- 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitter-  
ness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy  
victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me!
- 5 Hold thou thy cross before my closing  
eyes,  
shine through the gloom, and point me to  
the skies;  
heav'n's morning breaks,  
and earth's vain shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847

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## APOSTLES CREED

**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**

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. (*A brief silence.*)

We pray for the church around the world in all its forms: for pastors, deacons, bishops, chaplains, and mission developers; for church councils, committee chairs, and all lay ministry leaders; for congregations that contemplate difficult decisions about the future of their ministry. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

For the health of this planet and the well-being of its creatures: for lands impacted by droughts and at risk of wildfires; for fig trees and vineyards that produce fruit for our nourishment and delight; for animal habitats threatened by climate change. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

For those called into positions of civic responsibility: for judges, attorneys, and court administrators tasked with uncovering truth and delivering justice; for activists and community leaders who cast a vision of a more compassionate and equitable society. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

For those who call upon you for mercy: for all who live in poverty and experience hunger; for any who feel tested beyond their strength; for those who are hospitalized or near death, and for all in need of healing (*especially*). Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

For the advocacy efforts of this congregation: for those whose faith leads them to speak difficult truths and engage in difficult conversations with policymakers; for those who promote mercy over vengeance or retaliation. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

For those whose earthly journeys have ended, we give thanks. With (*names* and) all the saints, we praise you for the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**



## **PEACE**

In Jesus Christ, God has made his peace with us.  
The peace of the Lord be with you always,  
**And also with you**  
Let us share God's peace with one another.

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, .....  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, Holy** pg. 207

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Here is food and drink for the journey.  
Take and be filled.

## **COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION SONG** pg. 208



## COMMUNION HYMNS ELW 542

### O Living Bread from Heaven

1 O living Bread from heaven,  
how well you feed your guest!  
The gifts that you have given  
have filled my heart with rest.  
O wondrous food of blessing!  
O cup that heals our woes!  
My heart, this gift possessing,  
in thankful song o'er flows.

2 My Savior, you have led me  
within your holiest place,  
and here yourself have fed me  
with treasures of your grace;  
for you have freely given  
what earth could never buy,  
the bread of life from heaven,  
that now I shall not die.

3 You gave me all I wanted;  
this food can death destroy.  
And you have freely granted  
the cup of endless joy.  
My Lord, I do not merit  
the favor you have shown;  
and all my soul and spirit  
bow down before your throne.

4 Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened  
with heav'nly food, while here  
my course on earth is lengthened,  
to serve you, free from fear;  
and bring me home to praise you  
where none can peace destroy,  
where I will ever raise you  
glad songs in endless joy.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607-1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

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## ELW 623

### Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood,  
from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure;  
cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

2 Not the labors of my hands  
can fulfill thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears forever flow,  
all for sin could not atone;  
thou must save, and thou alone.

3 Nothing in my hand I bring;  
simply to thy cross I cling.  
Naked, come to thee for dress;  
helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the fountain fly;  
wash me, Savior, or I die.

4 While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when mine eyelids close in death,  
when I soar to worlds unknown,  
see thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-1778

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

**Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Blessed Jesus,  
in this rich meal of grace,  
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.  
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope  
to a world in need.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING**

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **BLESSING**

You are children of God,  
anointed with the oil of gladness  
and strengthened for the journey.  
Almighty God,  
motherly, majestic, and mighty,  
✠ bless you this day and always.

**Amen.**

### **RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 807, vs. 1 & 3**

#### **Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory  
fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore thee;  
may I still thy goodness prove.

3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be;  
let that grace now like a fetter  
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;  
prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

**Thanks be to God.**



## PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.780.6408 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

### **St. Mark's members:**

Joni Benz,  
Shirley Knappenberger  
Linda Westbrook,  
George McElroy,  
Nan Wolfe,  
Pete and Linda Cagle,  
Shane Paulson,  
Janet Schmidt,  
Susan & Bill Roberts,  
Phyllis Dettmer,  
Madison Young

### **Family & friends:**

Austin, grandson of Jim & Mary Weeg,  
Jane Ventress, friend of Ruth Ann Hackler's  
granddaughter,  
Manuel & family, friend of Jenny Wheeler's  
grandson,  
Elsie, Aunt of Debbie VanKempen,  
Donna McCarthy, friend of Ginny Schwartzbeck,  
Bob and Luann Decker, friends of the Weegs,  
John and Suzanne McMahan, friends of St.  
Mark's,  
Allen, Son of Kathy Hinkle's Step-mom,  
Jo Ann Sidoreus, friend of Pastor Kris,  
Juliana Marie McClelland, friend of Susan Rob-  
erts,  
Andrew, friend of the Scherrers,  
Ron, Nephew of Jenny Wheeler,  
Kenny Belcher, friend of Steve Benz,  
Doug Vogelsberg, friend of Dale Albers and  
Sheryl Alderson,  
Craig Downing, Father of Joni Benz,  
Suzie, Aunt of Nancy Bryer,  
Glenda Kirk, friend of Joyce Johnson,  
Randy Borg, nephew of Joyce Johnson,  
Jenny Mack, Niece of Jenny Wheeler,  
Chris, Brother of Pete Cagle,  
Amber Smith, friend of Pete Cagle,  
Family of Kathy, cousin of Barb Nail,

Iris Howard, friend of Pete Cagle,  
Steele McLaren, friend of the Luins,  
Leo Patton, Grandfather of Jason Howe,  
Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,  
Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe,  
Bruce Campbell, Brother-in-law of Joni Benz,  
Lena Shelton, friend of the Schmideskamps,  
Peggy Hinkle, Step-Mother of Kathy Hinkle,  
Stephanie Herndon, friend of Kathy Hinkle,  
Tim Eiter, Father of Todd Eiter,  
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,  
Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Good-  
heart,  
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,  
Katherine Gile, sister of Anne Gardner,  
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Good-  
heart,  
Joan Nelson, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,  
Dean Taake, Joyce Johnson's brother,  
Gibby, friend of Erica Bryer,  
Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister,  
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,  
Judy Wendt, Jeannine Matthew's  
sister-in-law,  
Donna Poppe, friend of St. Marks,  
Rosemary Williams & her sons Wayne & Wade  
Beck,  
Brooke Harris, friend of Gretchen Goodheart  
Stewart,  
Dan Ostergaard - friend of the Goodhearts,  
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,  
Jackson Werth, friend of the Bott/Bollinger Fami-  
lies,  
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,  
Ivan, brother of Jane Stresewski,  
All People affected by natural disasters

### **Those in the Military:**

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thomp-  
son,  
Logan Peck, nephew of Karen and Stan