

WELCOME

To our friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to the stranger, we extend our sincere greeting. If you are a visitor, please understand that you are our guest and we want you to feel welcome and comfortable. We are happy you chose to be with us in this service, and pray you have been blessed by our Lord today as He has blessed us by your presence.

THOSE WHO SERVE US

| | |
|--|---|
| Each Member of St. John's | A Minister |
| Rev. Mike Burdick | Pastor |
| Rev. Gary Fortkamp | Visitation Pastor |
| Mrs. Sandy Esker | Preschool Director |
| Mrs. Dana Keller | Organist |
| Mrs. Erin Wendling | Song Leader |
| St. John's Praise Band | 10:30AM Music |
| Mr. Todd Zeigler | 5:30PM Elder on Duty |
| Katie & Camille Zeigler | 5:30PM Acolyte |
| Mr. Howard Janis | 8AM Elder on Duty |
| AJ Radloff & Alex Gordon | 8AM Acolyte |
| Mr. Jim Schroeder | 10:30AM Elder on Duty |
| Hayden Wendling | 10:30AM Acolyte |
| Mr. Jake Wendling 217-246-8667 | Elder on Duty for March 16- 20, 2020 |
| Sister Congregation | in Blidene, Latvia |
| Chatelain School & Baja School | Our Schools for feeding in Haiti |
| Mrs. Julie Scott | (217-343-3047) Prayer Partner Coordinator |
| State, National & International Missions | through our District and Synod |

CHRIST is important to us
in our worship
in our study
in our fellowship
in our lives.

YOU are important to us
in our worship
in our study
in our fellowship
in our lives.

HIS VISION FOR US:

St. John's will be known for being involved in our changing community, for providing leadership in our changing world, and for serving others in Christian love.

We will welcome our diverse guests with open arms. Our friendly, loving and accepting people will engage our guests, mentor them in the faith, and inspire many to become members.

Our members will be motivated by the cross to be actively engaged in ministry, showing love and care to others. We will encourage one another, nurture one another, and enthusiastically serve our God together!

HIS GOAL FOR US:

We will pray and work with singleness of purpose to expand the impact of our ministry to God's children of all ages, with special emphasis on young families, by developing new ways to strengthen the relationship between St. John's, our members and our community, providing the facilities and resources to involve more people in ministry and outreach.

WELCOME CENTER

Greeters are present at the Welcome Center in the atrium adjacent to our sanctuary before and after the service to answer any questions you may have, provide directions to restrooms, classrooms, etc. If you are a first time guest, we also have a gift for you. If you live in our community or surrounding area and you do not have a church home, we welcome your consideration. We offer true fellowship with the living Savior and membership in His Church.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Kindly fill out a registration card (welcome side) located in the pew rack. Our guests are also asked to complete the address and phone number portion. Please pass your card to the center aisle to be gathered during the offering.

CELL PHONES

Please turn your cell phones off before the service begins.

ALTAR CENTERPIECE has been given to the glory of God in celebration of Dean & Donna Wetherell's 50th wedding anniversary which is March 29.

AS WE GATHER

God's mercy and grace are revealed to those who deserve anything but. The Israelites who wandered the wilderness complained of no water. They didn't deserve anything because of their sinfulness, yet God responds in mercy and grace, providing water from a rock. A marginalized Samaritan woman didn't receive compassion from her community and didn't deserve it from our Savior Jesus Christ, yet she was given and shown mercy and grace and came to believe He is the Savior of the world. We, too, have gone astray and deserve much less than mercy and grace from God Himself. Yet, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

BELLS - CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

#423

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 95; Romans 5:1, 8

Pastor: In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also. The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.

People: **Almighty Lord, our Creator, we confess to You we forget Your power and might, fail to trust in Your ever-providing hands, and are found lacking in our managing of this world You formed.**

Pastor: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

People: **Almighty Lord, our Maker and Shepherd, we confess we like sheep have gone astray, listening to other voices of this world. We have not loved You with our whole heart and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

Pastor: Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your fathers put Me to the test and put Me to the proof, though they had seen My work. For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways." Therefore I swore in My wrath, "They shall not enter My rest."

People: **Almighty Lord, like those You sent wandering in the wilderness, we justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

Pastor: Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. In this Lenten season as we journey closer to His cross, God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners,

People: **Christ died for us.**

Pastor: As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen. Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.**

✠ WORD ✠

HYMN

“Look Down in Mercy on Us, Lord”

tune: “Amazing Grace”

**Look down in mercy on us, Lord,
Receive our prayers and praise,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word,
For Your amazing grace.**

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008. Copyright © 1990 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 17:1–7

¹All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” ³But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” ⁴So Moses cried to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵And the LORD said to Moses, “Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 95:1–9*

¹Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

²Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
 let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

³For the LORD is a great God,
 and a great King above all gods.

⁴In his hand are the depths of the earth;
 the heights of the mountains are his also.

⁵The sea is his, for he made it,
 and his hands formed the dry land.

⁶Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
 let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

⁷For he is our God,
 **and we are the people of his pasture,
 and the sheep of his hand.**

Today, if you hear his voice,

**⁸do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
 as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,**

⁹when your fathers put me to the test
 and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

EPISTLE

Romans 5:1–8

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

VERSE

John 4:23

The hour is coming, and is now here,

when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 4:5–26 (27–30, 39–42)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁵[Jesus] came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

⁷There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

²⁷Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" ²⁸So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, ²⁹"Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" ³⁰They went out of the town and were coming to him. . . .

³⁹Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

“God Loved the World So That He Gave”

#571

SERMON (Pastor Fortkamp)

“Peace with God” *John 4:5-26, 27-30, 39-42*

CREED

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord God, though we are undeserving of not only Your mercy and grace but also of Your tending to our daily needs, we give You thanks that You provide all we need for this body and life. We pray for all that we need—health for the soul, peace for the mind, strength for the body, forgiveness of sin, freedom from condemnation, and a genuine heart gifted for service. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Grant Your healing to those we name before You, [*especially . . .*]. Bind up the hearts of those who are troubled, heal the wounds of those who suffer disease or injury, and comfort those who are burdened. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Grant that the witness and teaching of those whom You have called and placed as overseers and leaders in Your places of worship here and throughout the world faithfully fulfill the tasks You have placed before them, that they speak Your Word in confidence so that Your truth prevails. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for those who serve in our country in the armed forces and ask that You would guard and protect them in the fulfillment of their duties in domestic and foreign lands. For all who work in our communities for safety, order, and protection, be with them in their service; for all who use Your gifts and abilities given for the health and well-being of others in medical fields, guide their care. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: In this season of Lent, continue to open our ears to hear Your Word, to repent of sin, and to be drawn to the cross of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

(additional petitions and thanks)

Pastor: Bless all who commune at this altar today, that through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus, they be strengthened in Your forgiveness, enabled to withstand temptation of the devil, and empowered to lovingly serve neighbors in Your name. Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

#563

POSTLUDE

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