



St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA

"A Legacy of Worship and Outreach in San Antonio since 1857"

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March 15, 2020
Third Sunday in Lent



GATHERING

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

Prelude

Wie Schon Leuchtet der Morgenstern

Hugo Distler

Bells

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God,
who is present, who gives life,
who calls into existence the things that do not exist. **Amen.**

(silence for reflection)

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess:

**Gracious God, have mercy on us.
We confess that we have turned from you,
knowingly and unknowingly.
We have wandered from your resurrection life.
We have strayed from your love of all people.
Turn us back to you, O God.
Give us new hearts and right spirits,
that we may find what is pleasing to you
and dwell in your house forever, Amen.**

Receive good news: God turns to you in love.
"I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God.
All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ,
who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

"Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

ELW #772

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.**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, 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 holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth 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 and preaching; we respond in profession of faith and prayer

Exodus 17:1-7

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the LORD among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." 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 complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation

(Before Gospel v. 1-2)

(After Gospel v. 3)

Keep in Mind That Jesus Christ Has Died for Us



Keep in mind that Je - sus Christ has died for us and is ris - en from the



dead. He is our sav - ing Lord; he is joy for all a - ges.



1 If we die with the Lord, we shall live with the Lord.



If we en - dure with the Lord, we shall live with the Lord.



2 In him all our sor - row, in him all our joy. In



him hope of glo - ry, in him all our love.



3 In him our re - demp - tion, in him all our grace. In



him our sal - va - tion, in him all our peace.

Text: From 2 Timothy 2

Music: Lucien Deiss, b. 1921

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The Holy Gospel: John 4:5-42

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

The good news of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John:

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common 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 no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."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 have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet.²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.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 seeks such as these 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" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,²⁹"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."³³So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"³⁴Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.³⁵Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.³⁷For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.'³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done."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 truly the Savior of the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children are invited to go to their Sunday lesson and activity. They will return at Holy Communion. Parents are welcome to accompany them.

Sermon

Pastor James Dew

Hymn of the Day

"As the Deer Runs to the River"

ELW #331

Apostles' Creed

With the whole Church in heaven and on earth, 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

*Each petition concludes: "Hear us, O God," The congregation responds: **"Your mercy is great."***

We hold in prayer: Bob Cauble, Frances Bara, Chris Gates, Danny Myers, Janice Williams, Ralph Detwiler, Claudine Michalek, Arlene Schirmer, Harold Spivey, Kim Friesenhahn, Kenny Knippa, Tia Mathre-Adams, Susan Dickson, Brad Richie, Russell Brown, the family of Ruth Garrity.

The Prayer List is updated monthly (or as needed).

*For prayer requests, please contact the church office
(210) 223-2611 or info@StJohnsSA.org*

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

(Please share with those nearest you these or similar words: "Peace be with you.")

MEAL

*We bring our "first fruit" offerings to the Table of the Lord
where we are strengthened and nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ*

Offering

"Agnus Dei" from Requiem

Morley

Offertory Hymn

"I Called to My God for Help"

LBW # 9

I Called to My God for Help

Lent

I called to my God for help;
he heard me from his tem - ple. His
arm reached down to save and res - cue me
from my foes. The man - na from heav - en for
Is - ra - el is his Son, the bread of life!

Text and music © 1972 *Contemporary Worship 5: Services of the Word*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Offertory Prayer

God of abundance:

**You feed us, not with bread alone,
but with words of grace and life.**

**Bless us, and these gifts we bring,
these first-fruits of our own weekly labors,
that through the giving of what we have,
we may share the Bread of Life with others. Amen.**

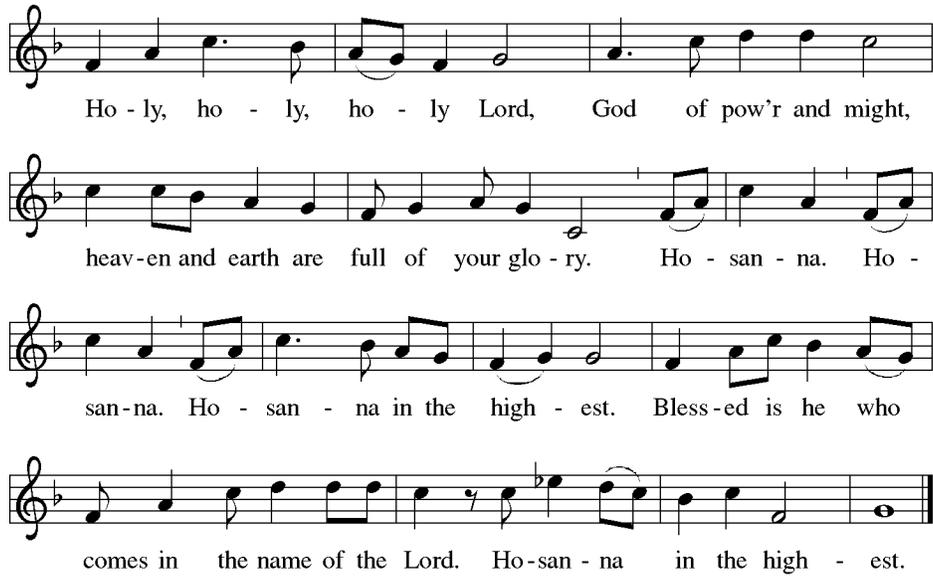
Great Thanksgiving

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... ..we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you... ..we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

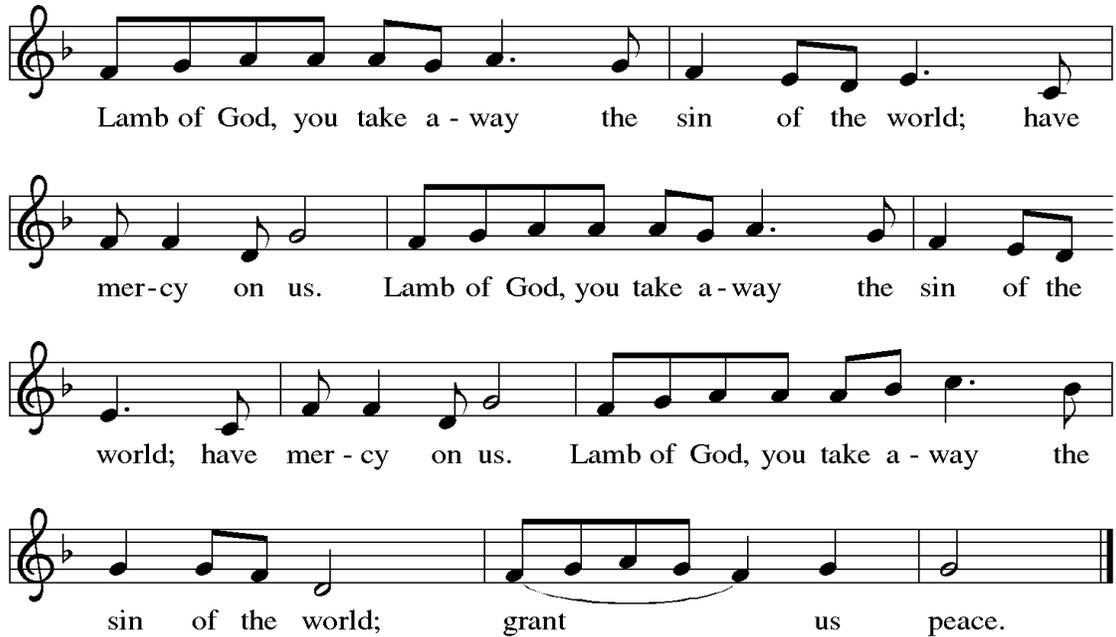
Remember us, Lord, in your kingdom, and help us to pray:

**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.**

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are all who are fed at his Table.

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Holy Communion

We believe that Christ is truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and we welcome all who wish to receive the Holy Sacrament. Individual cups are offered at the altar. Intinction by common cup is offered on the sanctuary floor. Please follow the direction of the ushers. A gluten free host is available upon request.

Communion Hymns

ELW # 325 *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*
ELW # 480 *O Bread of Life from Heaven*
ELW # 487 *What Feast of Love*

Communion Blessing

Communion Prayer

God of both mountain tops and darkest valleys,
In this Holy Sacrament your Son has given us himself as our food,
that he may be our companion through this Lenten journey.
Send us now from this table both strengthened and changed,
to grow more and more into his likeness, Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

Announcements

Benediction

As you daily die and rise with Christ,
may you also each day live and serve as Christ.
Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

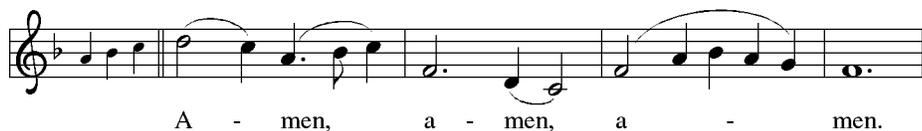
Sending Hymn

"Glorious Things of You Are Spoken"

ELW #647

Dismissal

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.



Postlude Choral improvisation on *As the Deer Runs to the River* (ELW # 331)

A Memorial for Ruth Garrity will be here on Thursday, March 26 at 10:00 AM.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister + Pastor James Dew
Assisting Minister + Rosemary Petry
Lector + Julie Shadrock

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Worship is central to who we are as a people of God. Every time we gather to hear and respond to the Word, to offer up our prayers for the needs of many, and to receive Christ's living presence in the consecrated bread and wine, we seek to "become what we receive", namely, the Body of Christ for the sake of the life of the world. As we are gathered, fed, and then sent back out in mission, God empowers us to be bearers of blessing and vessels of grace, commissioning us to intentionally live out the reign of God throughout the course of our weekly living.

Mid-Week Lenten Gatherings 2020

March 18, 25 / April 1 Wednesdays

12:15 PM Word, Silence and Prayer

5:30 PM Supper

6:15 PM Word, Silence and Prayer

7:00 PM Choir Practice

April 9 Maundy Thursday

7:00 PM Worship in Sanctuary

April 10 Good Friday

7:00 PM Worship in Sanctuary

For everyone's well-being, hand sanitizer is available at both entrances to the sanctuary.

This week at St. John's

Sun 15 • Worship Team Meeting 11:00 AM

Tue 17 • Sisters in Christ Meeting 6:30 PM

Wed 18 • Word, Silence and Prayer 12:15 PM

Wed 18 • Supper 5:30 PM

Wed 18 • Word, Silence and Prayer 6:15 PM

Wed 18 • Choir Practice 7:00 PM

Sun 22 • Fiesta Team Meeting 11:00 AM

Please see the current month's Tidings for other calendar events.

Financial Reports and Council Minutes are available in the church office by request.

Liturgical Calendar Commemoration

Joseph, Guardian of Jesus

Thursday, March 19, 2020

Though the Bible tells us little about the husband of Jesus' mother Mary, we know that he was a carpenter or builder by trade. He is also shown as being devoted both to God and to Mary and Jesus. It is assumed that he died before Jesus became an adult.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.