

First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025 – 10:30 a.m.

With One Voice: Holy Communion, Setting 6



ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer before Worship:

Lord Jesus, walk with us during these 40 days of Lent. Be near to us in our struggles against temptation, and let us find our strength in you. Bless this time of worship for your Name's sake. Amen.



Welcome

Pre-Service Music

"Fantasia" (Orlando Gibbons)

Ringling of the Bells

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Gracious God,

C we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.

We are not worthy to be called your children.

Have mercy on us and turn us from our sinful ways.

Forgive us and bring us back to you,

For we once were dead but now have life, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

P The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Through the Holy Spirit, God gives life, freedom from the power of sin, and resurrection from the dead. In the name of ✠ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. Live in newness of life.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Processional Hymn

"The Glory of These Forty Days" (WOV 657)

1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
 2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
 3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
 4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in
 brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
 God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
 from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
 fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en
 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
 with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862-1947, alt.
 Music: attr. Martin Luther, 1483-1546; *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543
 Text © 1996 Oxford University Press, London

ERHALT UNS, HERR
 L M

Greeting

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

C And also with you.

Kyrie

1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
 2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.
 1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
 2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. i - son.
 Chris - te e - lei - son. i - son.
 Lord, have mer - cy. cy.
 Christ, have mer - cy. cy.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray:

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

¹"When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ³And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.' ⁴Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God.

⁵"And you shall make response before the LORD your God, 'A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. ⁶And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. ⁷Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. ⁹And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me.' And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God. ¹¹And you shall rejoice in all the good that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

'You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord' (WOV 779)

1 You who . . . dwell in the shel - ter of the Lord, who a -
2 Snarcs of the fowl - er will nev - er cap - ture you, and
3 For to the an - gels God's giv - en a com - mand to
bide in this shad - ow for life, say to the Lord: "My . . .
fam - ine will bring you no fear; un - der God's wings your . . .
guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will
ref - uge, . . . my . . . rock . . . in whom I . . . trust!"
ref - uge . . . with . . . faith - ful - ness . . . your . . . shield.
bear you up, lest you dash . . . your foot a - gainst a stone.
bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the
sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1951
Music: Michael Joncas, b. 1951
© 1979 New Dawn Music

ON EAGLE'S WINGS
irregular

Epistle Reading

Romans 10:8b-13

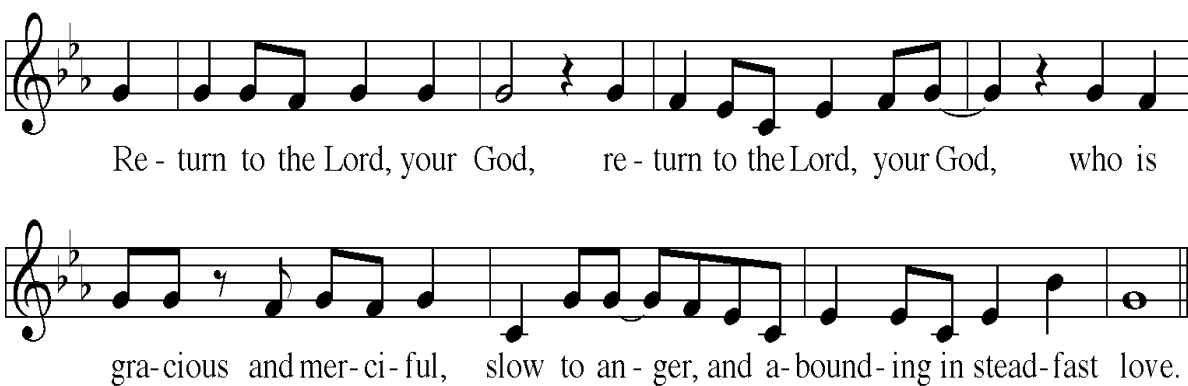
*Please join in reading aloud the **highlighted portion** of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.*

"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³**For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."**

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Lenten Verse



Holy Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

G **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ²for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." ⁴And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" ⁵And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸And Jesus answered him, "It is written,

"You shall worship the Lord your God,
and him only shall you serve."

⁹And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you,
to guard you,'

¹¹and

"On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone."

¹²And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

"Jesus, Tempted in the Desert" (GIA 65)

1. Je - sus, tempt - ed in the des - ert,
 2. Je - sus, tempt - ed at the tem - ple,
 3. Je - sus, tempt - ed on the moun - tain,
 4. When we face temp - ta - tion's pow - er,

Lone - ly, hun - gry, filled with dread:
 High a - bove its an - cient wall:
 By the lure of vast do - main:
 Lone - ly, strug - gling, filled with dread,

"Use your pow'r," the tempt - er tells him;
 "Throw your - self from loft - y tur - ret;
 "Fall be - fore me! Be my ser - vant!
 Christ, who knew the tempt - er's ho - ur,

"Turn these bar - ren rocks to bread!"
 An - gels wait to break your fall!"
 Glo - ry, fame, you're sure to gain!"
 Come and be our liv - ing bread.

"Not a - lone by bread," he an - swers,
 Je - sus shuns such emp - ty mar - vels,
 Je - sus sees the daz - zling vi - sion,
 By your grace, pro - tect, pre - serve us

“Can the hu - man heart be filled.
 Feats that fick - le crowds re - quest:
 Turns his eyes an - oth - er way:
 Lest we fall, your trust be - tray.

On - ly by the Word that calls us
 “God, whose grace pro - tects, pre - serves us,
 “God a - lone de - serves our hom - age!
 Yours. a - bove all oth - er voic - es,

Is our deep - est hun - ger stilled!”
 We must nev - er vain - ly test.”
 God a - lone will I o - bey!”
 Be the Word we hear, o - bey.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, b.1923, © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.
 Tune: EBENEZER, 8 7 8 7 D; Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944

Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

☐ We believe in one God, the Father 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Gathered by the Spirit, let us return to the Lord our God and pray for the church, the world, and all who yearn for new life.

*Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer.
During the season of Lent each petition ends with the phrase: "Lord, in your mercy."
Please respond by saying: "Hear our prayer."*

The prayers end with the words:

- P** Almighty God, you have commanded us to pray, and you promise to hear us. Hear the prayers of your people and grant us all that we need, for the sake of the One in whose name we pray, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

- L** Let us pray. God our provider,
**C 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.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

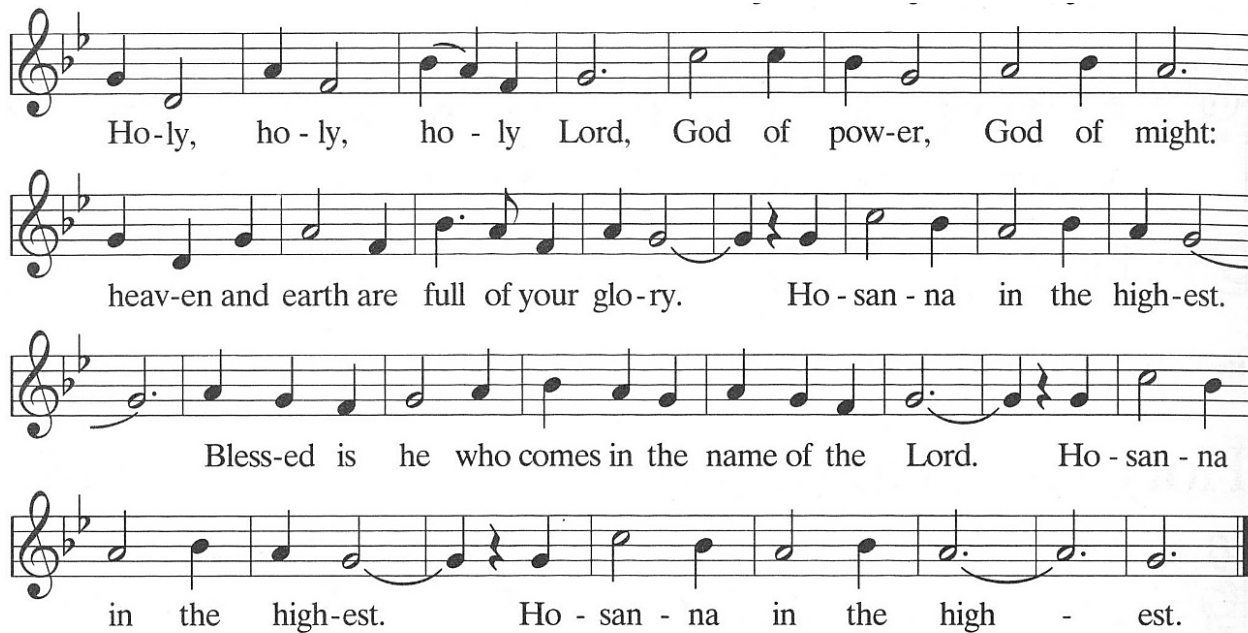
Great Thanksgiving

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them up to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Preface

- P** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of the grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might:
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C** **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.

Agnus Dei



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

Please be seated

Distribution

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the

Sacrament. For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

Music at the Distribution

Distribution Anthem

"A Tree There Grew" (Alfred V. Fedak)

*A tree there grew in Eden's glade
That bore its fruit in season.
"You must not eat of it!" God said,
And gave the strongest reason.*

*How hard we find it to obey!
How close are we to sinning!
Our appetites lead us astray,
And did from life's beginning.*

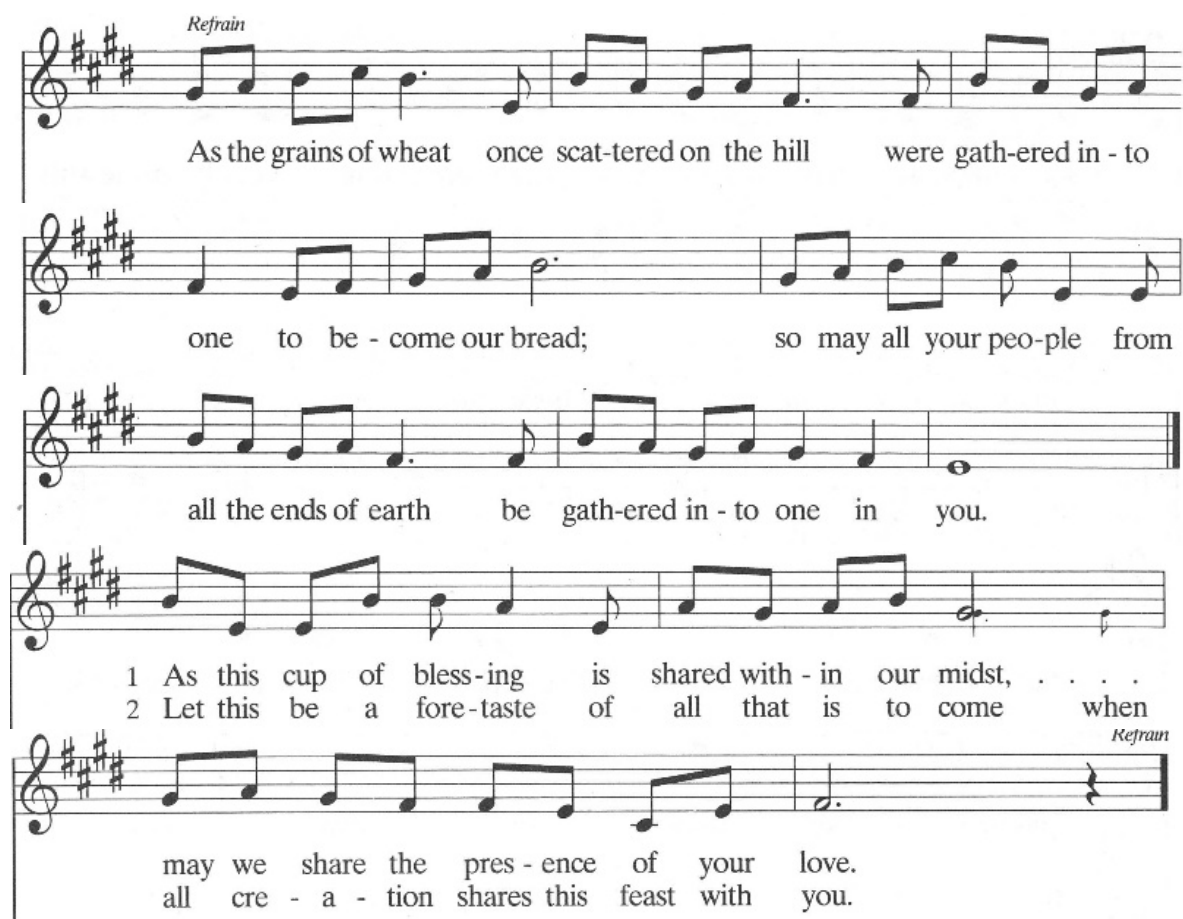
*So Man and Woman, weak or will,
Both yielded to temptation:
This paradox confounds us still-
Their fall was our salvation.*

*If tempted, Lord, may we refuse
All godless ways of living;
Defeated, never may we lose
The fruits of your forgiving.
Kyrie eleison!*

"As the Grains of Wheat"

(WOV 705)

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were gath-ered in - to
one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.
1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
Refrain
may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

(WOV 660)

The musical score is written in C minor (three flats) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The lyrics are provided below the vocal line, and guitar chords are indicated above the guitar line.

System 1:

Chords: Cm, Cm, G⁷, Cm, G⁷, Cm, Gm

Lyrics:

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

System 2:

Chords: Cm, E^b, B^{b7}, E^b, G⁷, Cm/G

Lyrics:

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

System 3:

Chords: G⁷, Cm, Dm^{7(b5)}, B^{b7}, Cm

Lyrics:

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

System 4:

Chords: Adim, B^{b7}, Cm, Fm⁷, Cm, G⁷, Cm, Fm, Cm

Lyrics:

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual

SOJOURNER

Dismissal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

L Let us pray: Merciful God,

C accompany us on our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of Baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sending of the Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Blessing

P 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.

C Amen.

Sending

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

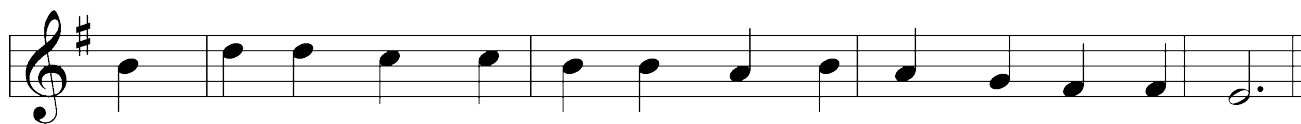
C Thanks be to God.

Sending Hymn

"O Christ, You Walked the Road" (LSB 424)



1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.
2 No bread of earth a-lone Can fill our hun-g'ring hearts.
3 No blind-ing sign we ask, No won-der from a-bove.
4 When lures of eas-y gain With prom-ise bright-ly shine,
5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp-ta-tion's pow'r And fought our an-cient foe.
Lord, help us seek Your liv-ing Word, The food Your grace im-parts.
Lord, help us place our trust a-lone In Your un-swer-v-ing love.
Lord, help us seek Your king-dom first; Our wills with Yours a-lign.
Stay with us through temp-ta-tion's hour To fight our an-cient foe.

Text: Herman G. Stuenkel, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591

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Tune: Public domain

Postlude

"Five-Part Fantasia in C Minor" (J. S. Bach)



Our Ministry Of Worship

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Officiant/Preacher | Pastor Meehan |
| Welcome & Children's Message | Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship |
| Lay Assistant | Stacey Crosson |
| Communion Lay Assistant | Jennifer Hills |
| Organist/Pianist | David Leahey, Director of Music |
| Acolyte | Luke Pflugrad |
| Crucifer | Giulianna Vazquez |
| Ushers | Angela Del Pielago |
| | Arnaldo Del Pielago |
| Altar Care | Karen Kemmet |
| AV Operators | Greg Auld |
| | Andrea Godwin |
| Welcome Host | Debbie Haugan |
| Nursery | Anne Weikart |
| | Andi Hassett |



To **Give** to St. John's
Lutheran Church



This weekend's **altar flowers**
are given in honor of The
Bowers' 63rd wedding
anniversary.



To **download**
our SJLC app



To **view** and **subscribe** to
the Midweek Update



Acknowledgments

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Five-Part Fantasia in C Minor – J. S. Bach, BWV 562 (Public Domain) All rights reserved.

2025 Lenten Worship Schedule

NOTE: livestreaming available for service times with an *

Sundays, Lent Worship Services

10:30AM* - Holy Communion

March 16, 23, 30, and April 6

Wednesdays, Midweek Lenten Worship

Noon* - Holy Communion

March 12, 19, 26, and April 2, 9, and 16

Sunday, April 13

10:30AM* - Palm/Passion Sunday
(Holy Communion)

Thursday, April 17

7:30PM* - Maundy Thursday
(Holy Communion and stripping of the altar)

Friday, April 18

Noon* & 7:30PM - Good Friday
(No Communion)

Saturday, April 19

7:30PM - Holy Saturday/Great Vigil of Easter
(Holy Communion)

Sunday, April 20

8:00AM & 10:30AM* - Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Sunday
(Holy Communion)

Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt between worship services



St. John's Lutheran Church
5952 Franconia Road
Alexandria, VA 22310



A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

St. John's Lutheran Church Staff

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Pastor | Rev. John Meehan |
| Director of Discipleship | Jennifer Hills, DCE |
| Director of Music | David Leahey |
| Office/Facilities Administrator | Michelle May |
| Finance Administrator | Jennifer Smith |

Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) Staff

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Director of ECEC | Amanda Parks |
| ECEC Administrator | Kari Wells |

Contact Us

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