



Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021

Welcome to St. John

St. John Lutheran Church 1802 Skippack Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422

www.stjohnbluebell.org www.facebook.com/stjohnbluebell

Nursery School website: www.stjohnsns.com

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Our Council Members are listed on our website.

Celebrating 250 years of mission and ministry, 1769-2019.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Order for Worship

Prelude ~ “Jesus, So Lowly”

Quartet

Jesus, so lowly, child of the earth:
christen me wholly, bring me new birth.

Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad;
teach me that only Love maketh glad.

Jesus, so broken, silent and pale;
be this the token, Love will not fail.

Jesus, victorious, mighty and free;
teach me how glorious death is to be.

Text: Edith Williams
Music: Harold Friedell

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

C: **Amen.**

P: God hears us when we cry and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Fountain of living water,
pour out your mercy over us.
Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood.
Make us alive in the Spirit
to follow in the way of Jesus,
as healers and restorers of the world you so love.
Amen.

P: Beloved, God's word never fails.
 The promise rests on grace:
 by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
 the wisdom and power of God,
 your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
 Journey in the way of Jesus.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn ~ "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Greeting

P: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Kyrie



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



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927
Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Prayer of the Day

P: O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Children's Message

Word

First Reading: Romans 4:13-25

A: The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null, and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

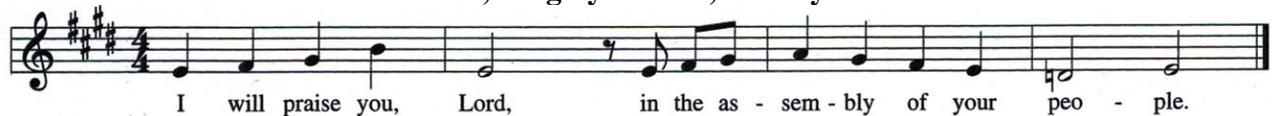
For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore, his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22

Refrain, sung by Cantor, then by ALL



My vows I will pay before those who fear God.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
Those who seek the Lord shall praise the Lord.
May their hearts live forever and ever! **Refrain**

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations shall bow down in awe.
They shall bow down in awe, all the mighty of the earth,
all who must die and go down to the dust. **Refrain**

My soul shall live for God and my children too shall serve.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come;
declare to those unborn, the faithfulness of God.
“These things the Lord has done.” **Refrain**

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Rachel Manke

Hymn of the Day ~ "Take Up Your Cross"

1 "Take up your cross," the Sav - ior said,
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight
 3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
 4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ,

"if you would my dis - ci - ple be;
 per - vade your soul with vain a - larm;
 nor let your fool - ish heart re - bel;
 nor think till death to lay it down;

for - sake the past, and come this day,
 his strength shall bear your spir - it up,
 for you the Lord en - dured the cross
 for those who hum - bly bear the cross

and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."
 sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.
 to save your soul from death and hell.
 one day will wear the glo - rious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814-1877, alt.
 Music: BOURBON, W. Hauser, *Hesperian Harp*, 1848; arr. hymnal version
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Apostles' Creed

P: *Together, let us confess our faith:*

**C: 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

A: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all your children, that they may follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: All the ends of the earth worship you. From galaxies to microorganisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to wonder at your works and to join you in tending to creation's well-being. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: You rule over the nations. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Restore all who are sick or grieving especially Eleanor, Joe, Barry, Jean, Alethia, Martyne, Callen, Kate, Ed, Maria, Cheryl, Susan, John, Jenny, Scott, John, Eric, Tom, Jack, Jon, Sue, Lauren, Bill, Dylan, Randy, Dorothy, Judy, Gerry, Hadley, Robert, Abby, Laura, and Donna. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: You made Abraham and Sarah the ancestors of a multitude of nations. Bless grandparents, parents, and foster parents, and the children who look to them for care and guidance. Console those who deal with infertility, parents who have entrusted their children to adoption, and children longing to be adopted. Equip ministries and services to families. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for all victims of disasters, for the people of Texas and surrounding areas that they may have heat, water and safety. We pray for the communities and families of the more than 500,000 lives lost to Covid in this country, and for the many, many more throughout the world. We pray for peace and healing, resting in the confident hope that you give. Hear us O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Anthem~ “Come, Ye Sinners”

Quartet

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore,
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love and power.
He is able, he is willing, doubt no more.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream,
all the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him.
This he gives you, ‘tis the Spirit’s rising beam.

Text: Joseph Hart

Music: Traditional, arr. Kile Smith

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

During our time away, we will not be passing the offering plates. We are grateful for all who are able to continue their support of St. John. There are three ways to share tithes and offerings:

- 1. Simply giving - You can arrange for a regular gift (weekly, monthly, quarterly) to be deducted from a bank account. Please contact Marcie Godby, our bookkeeper, to arrange for this (stjohn1802bookkeeper@gmail.com).*
- 2. You may go to St. John's website, <https://www.stjohnbluebell.org/>, and under "Quick Links" hit the "Online Giving and Donations" button.*
- 3. You may put your offering envelope (checks are preferred) in another stamped envelope and mail it to St. John: 1802 Skippack Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422 (Attn: Marcie).*

Take a moment and reflect on the gifts we have received – even in these difficult days.

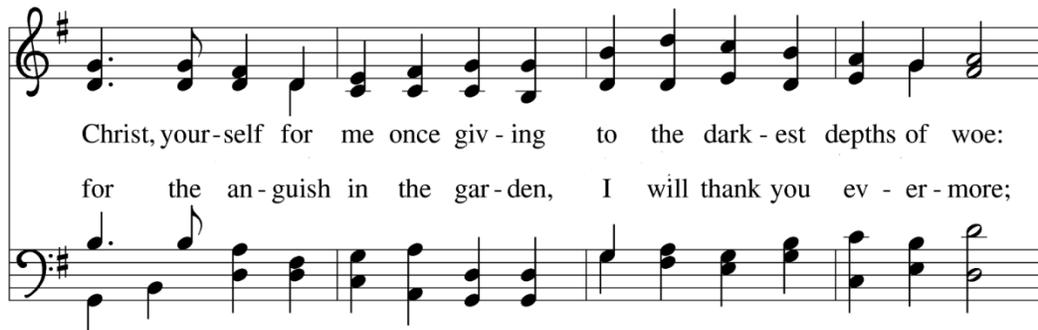
Voluntary~ “Jesu, meines Lebens Leben”

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachow

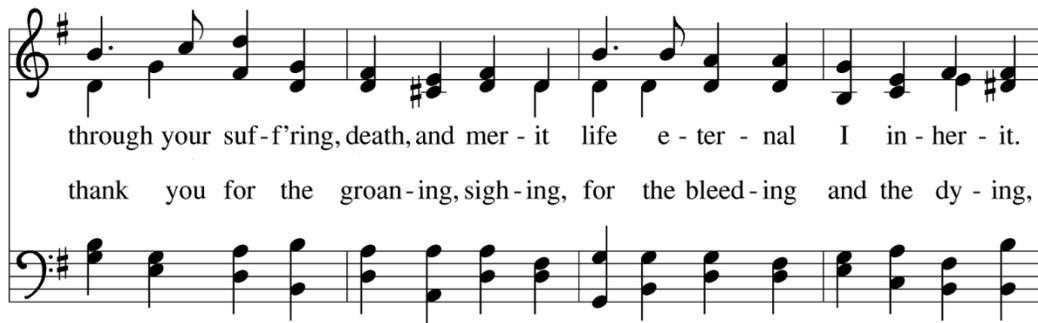
Offertory Hymn~ “Christ, the Life of All the Living”



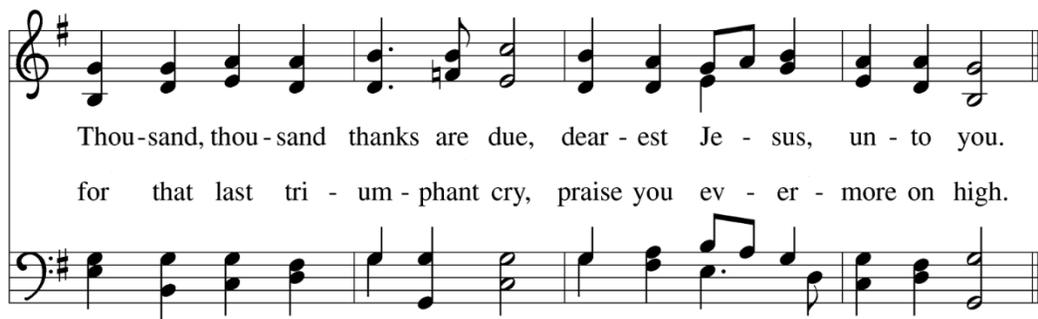
1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your-self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

Offertory Prayer

P: Faithful God,
you walk beside us in desert places,
and you meet us in our hunger.
Accompany us in this journey,
that we may pass over from death to life
with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**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

P: You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you ✠ that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

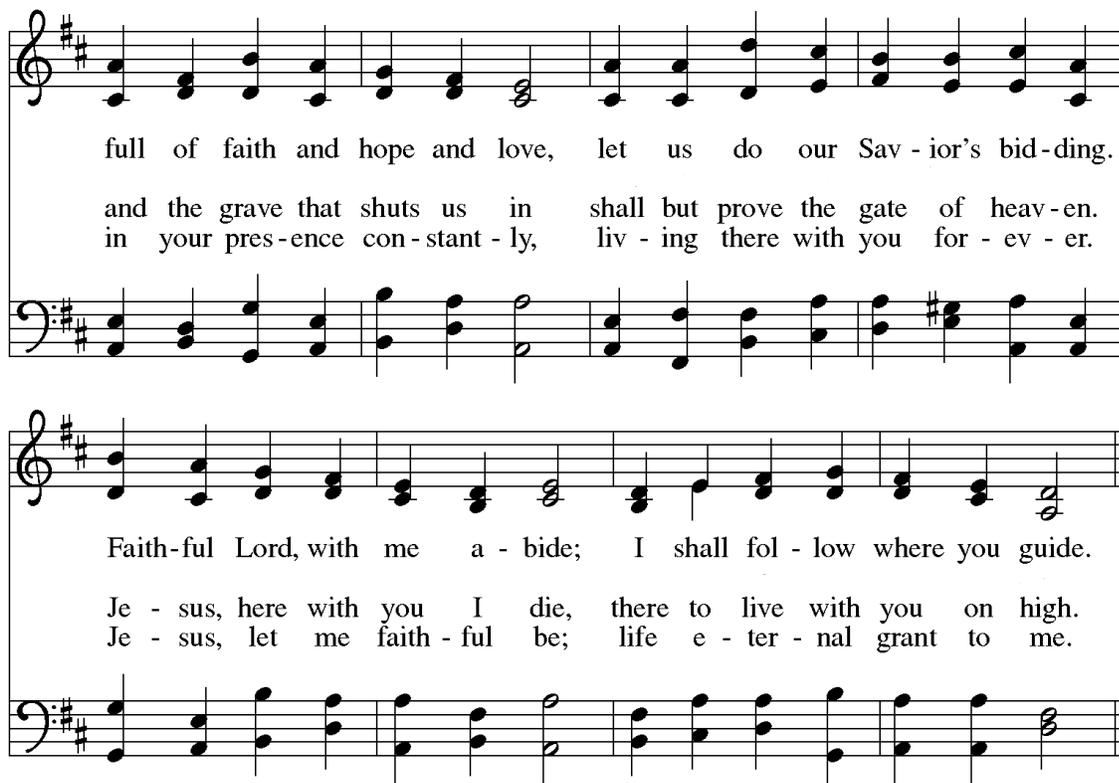
C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn~ "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead

through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,

On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.

Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.
Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Additional music links:

“Ich folge dir gleichfalls”

<https://youtu.be/nhqIOI-WSxU>

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

<https://youtu.be/TO1a6yiAdrM>

“Lord of the Dance”

<https://youtu.be/YV15StV6TK0>

Assisting with Worship

Pastor
Director of Music
Quartet

Pastor Rachel Manke
Lawrence Baker
Deborah Swider, Maja Lisa Fritzhuspen,
Kurt Klinger-Wilensky, Jonathan Oehler

Announcements

-**Annual Meeting** this Sunday at 10:30 a.m. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom. You can find the link on our website.

-**Easter flowers** can be sponsored to beautify the altar for Easter. You can sign up on our website.

-**Mid-week Lenten devotions** take place each Wednesday in Lent at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Details are on our website.

-**Sunday Coffee Hour** via Zoom takes place the first Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. The next one will be on March 7.

