

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
229 South Broad Street
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
570-398-1676

Sunday, March 13, 2022

Second Sunday of Lent



Introduction to the day

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: 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.**

P: 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.

GATHERING SONG: *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* 325

GREETING

P: The love of God poured into our hearts,
the saving grace of Jesus Christ,
and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

C: And also, with you.

Kyrie p. 138

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

**God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world.
Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in
the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying

each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

²**When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;**

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;

have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸**My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”**

Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

¹⁰**Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the LORD will take me in.**

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD;

lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

¹²**Subject me not to the will of my foes,**

for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.

¹³This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living!

¹⁴**Wait for the LORD and be strong.**

Take heart and wait for the LORD!

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17--4:1

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P: The holy gospel according to Luke.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you.

And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' ”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Thy Holy Wings 613*

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

the Father, the 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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

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,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: 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.

You gather the church into a community of mercy and grace. Unify Christians around the globe in efforts to proclaim good news even in the face of opposition and to protect those whose lives are imperiled by the gospel. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: You create the entire universe and call it good. Hinder those who would cause further destruction to our planet's fragile ecosystems, and augment the calls of those who advocate for thoughtful stewardship of the earth's resources. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: You raise up leaders committed to love and justice. Nurture in those who govern patience to receive criticism, openness to new ideas, and courage to change course when needed for the sake of the common good. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: You kindle faith that moves us into action. Guide children and adults preparing for baptism or confirmation. Empower Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, and parents who share their faith with younger generations. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Lord, we pray for Seafarers International, that our synod would continue to provide gifts to merchants who are away from home for long periods of time. Help them to know they are not forgotten as they provide a vital service to all of us. Merciful God,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: You welcome us into your heavenly realm. We give thanks for those whose labors on earth are ended and who now rest with you. On the final day, gather all of us, with them, in your loving arms. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

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

The assembly is seated.

Responding in Love

Our Offerings *This is our response to God's grace.*

Our Offering of Music

CHOIR ANTHEM *Present in This Place*

The assembly stands.

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Extravagant God,
you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.
Now we gather at your feast
where you offer us the food that satisfies.
Take and use what we offer here, come among us,
and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,
in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING P.144 *(in the beginning of the hymnal)*

Dialogue

Preface by the Pastor

Holy Holy Holy

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide,
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.
You led your people Israel through the desert,
and provided them water from the rock.
We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,
who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection,
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.
Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:
wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church,
both now and forever. **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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond **Amen.**

Communion Song *Lamb of God You Take Away p.146*

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Jesus, Remember Me*
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: 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

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

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.**

SENDING SONG: *O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate* 722

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

C: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

We welcome our visitors and ask that you sign a Visitor Attendance and Holy Communion Card that is located in the pew rack. We ask that cards be returned via the offering plate during the receiving of the offering. We practice “open Communion” here at St. John meaning that all who believe in the “real presence” of Christ are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We offer two choices for Holy Communion, wine or grape juice. Those worshipers desiring grape juice are asked at the communion rail to place their right hand over their heart after receiving “The Body of Christ”.

Remember in prayer: Rowan Aldridge, Dave Barner, Mary Bower, Mike Cervinsky, Agnes Cryder, Don Delaney, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Charlie Dunne, William Greene, Fred Hoffer, Mick Miller, David Mitchell, Jean Ann Snyder, John Truax, and all of our shut-ins; the safety of our military troops around the world (Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Jake Cordrey, Ben Cramer, Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Kenny Leitch, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Richie Speicher, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, Jenna White); Family Promise. Bishop Eaton, our Presiding Bishop; and Bishop Collins, Bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. For our Companion Synod in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany..

Special thanks to today’s helpers: Lector –Darlene Bilby; Assisting Ministers –Bill Ely Jr and Ken Dougherty; Head Usher –Jim Ely; Teller –Max Dincher; Bulletin Sponsor – Betty Allen; Children’s Church –Molly Hollick

Next week's helpers: Lector –Shane Snyder; Assisting Ministers –Gary Johnson and Karen Aucker; Head Usher –Jim Ely; Teller –Max Dincher; Bulletin Sponsor – Betty Allen; Children's Church –Cathy Eisner; Flowers:

The altar flowers are given in memory of loved ones by Connie Barker.

The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by Gary and Gina Johnson.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE will meet after church next Sunday, March 20, 2022.

Dear Members and friends of St. John,

We are truly grateful and blessed to receive your most recent donation to Luke's Benefit Fund through the purchase of Weis gift cards. Your continued support for Luke during the last eight and a half years since his life altering incident is most humbling and appreciated. Our next big endeavor is to make a wheelchair accessible bathroom for him with a large shower and lifts.

Luke is healthy and happy and we all send our sincere thanks to all!

Love, Lance, Alyson and Luke Antolick

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER brochures are now available in the church office.

Sponsors for the bulletin at \$17 per week are needed! The sign-up sheet is in the downstairs hallway opposite Pastor's office.

The Lutheran Church Women's Prayer Chain is a vital ministry of St. John Lutheran.

Anyone in need of prayers is asked to contact any of the following persons:

Gloria Ely – 570-873-3597 Sarah Davidson - 570-398-0659 Joyce Braucht - 570-398-28

Lent Services

Note the change. We will meet in-person at 6:30 pm

Lent 2 at St. John – Tuesday, March 15, "The Day with Others"

Lent 3 at Garman – Tuesday, March 22, "The Day Alone"

Lent 4 at St. John – Tuesday, March 29, "Ministry"

Lent 5 at Garman – Tuesday, April 5, "Confession and Communion"

Pastors Shumway and Aucker will be covering the book: Life Together by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Life Together is a theme that I have been hearing a lot as congregations struggle to meet in-person in the midst of the pandemic. A copy of the book is available from either Pastor or in the tower at St. John. Donations for the books are appreciated.

Palm Sunday – Sunday, April 10, 9:30 a.m. St. John Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday, April 14, 7:00 p.m., St. John Sanctuary

Good Friday, April 15, 7:00 p.m., St. James Lutheran, "Stations of the Cross"

Easter Sunrise, April 17, 6:00 a.m. with Fairplay Brass and breakfast, and 9:30 a.m., St. John Sanctuary.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, March 13, 2022

2nd Sunday of Lent

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts
- 9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH will meet after worship

Monday, March 14, 2022

- 11:00 a.m. Hymn Picking

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

- 6:30 p.m. Lent 2 at St. John "The Day with Others"

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

- 10:00 a.m. Trinity Episcopal Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time at Shore Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 20, 2022

3rd Sunday of Lent

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts
- 9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service
- 10:30 a.m. Christian Ed meeting
- 2:00 p.m. Catechism

