

St. Johns Lutheran Church

He was in the wilderness forty days,



Being tempted by Satan

AS WE GATHER

Today we hear of God testing Abraham and of Satan tempting Jesus. James reminds us that God tempts no one. So, how can we know whether God is testing us or Satan is tempting us? James reminds us that “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change” (James 1:17). As we go through life, striving to live out our calling as God’s people, we will hit obstacles and face tests to our faith and to how we live that faith. God can work through these tests to draw us closer to Him. On the other hand, Satan wants to lure and entice us away from the path God would have us walk.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME GUESTS

We’re glad you are here! Make it a point to introduce yourself to the pastor. *(Please keep your distance though)* Please take time to fill out an attendance card and drop it in the basket during the offering.

PREPARATION

HYMN

The Lamb *LSB 547*

**The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where’s the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!**

Refrain:

**Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.**
Refrain

**The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill.
So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill.**
Refrain

**He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness.**
Refrain

**He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong 'Till ev'ry heart to Him belong**
Refrain

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES

Jesus said, "Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."
Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man.
God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

God's Word reminds us that when we were slaves of sin, we were not free in regard to righteousness.
But now that we have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit we get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.

For the wages of sin is death,
but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Let us confess our sins to God, who has brought us out of slavery
and promises to lead us to the promised land of heaven.

A moment for silent confession.

Heavenly Father, we know we are blessed when we remain
steadfast under trial, yet we fall prey to the devil's schemes and
give in to temptation. We are lured and enticed by our own evil
desires—desires that contradict your good and gracious will.

**For Jesus' sake, forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.**

As Jesus began His ministry, He said, "The time is fulfilled, and
the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."
As you have repented of your sins, believe these words of Jesus, "I
forgive you" and so it is, our sins are forgiven in the name of the
Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

WORD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS...Glory to God in the Highest *LSB 187*
Glory be to God on high:

and on earth, peace, goodwill toward men.

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.**

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

You promised Abraham that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky, and then you asked him to sacrifice his only son. You provided a ram as a substitute sacrifice.

Open our eyes to how You provide for us, especially in tough times when everything looks so wrong.

Empower us to hold tightly to the promises that are “yes” for us through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

MEMORIZED WORD

But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him” 1 Corinthians 2:9

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Genesis 22:1–18*

¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” ²He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” ⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He

said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"⁸ Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.⁹ When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I."¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."¹³ And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.¹⁴ So Abraham called the name of that place, "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."¹⁵ And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven¹⁶ and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son,¹⁷ I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies,¹⁸ and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Hebrews 12:2*

**O come, let us fix our eyes on * Jesus,
the founder and perfecter * of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross,
despise * ing the shame,
and is seated at the right hand of the * throne of God.**

EPISTLE *James 1:12–18*

¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. ¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Ephesians 6:11*

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 1:9–15*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” ¹²The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled,

and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY A Mighty Fortress Is Our God *LSB 657*

**A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor’s rod
And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might
He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**

**No strength of ours can match his might.
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
Whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God’s only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**

**Though hordes of devils fill the land
All threat ’ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot over pow’r us.
Let this world’s tyrant rage;**

**In battle we'll engage.
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.**

**God's Word for ever shall abide,
No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God himself fights by our side
With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!**

SERMON

APOSTLE'S 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

OFFERTORY LSB 192

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Psalm 25:4–6, adapted*

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, You are the Lord of the Church.

Bless the work of our congregation and all who bear Your name.

Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Lord Jesus, the government is on Your shoulders.

Watch over all in this world. Guide the world's leaders with Your wisdom, as well as our elected officials—our president, our governor, and our local authorities—that we may live peaceful and quiet lives.

Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Lord Jesus, You are our Teacher.

Make us to know Your ways, O LORD; teach us Your paths.

Lead us in Your truth and teach us, for You are the God of our salvation; for You we wait all the day long.

Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Lord Jesus, You are the God of our salvation.

Guide us, Lord, in living lives that bear witness to Your truth.

Lead us to connect with those who are wandering or who do not know You.

Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Lord Jesus, You are the Great Physician.

Bind up the brokenhearted, give sight to the blind, make the lame to walk and the deaf to hear.

We name before You those who are struggling in body, mind, and spirit and ask You to heal them: *[names]*.

Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your great mercy to hear and answer us.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Prayed by Leader:

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.

(sung by congregation) **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon us and ✠ give us peace.

(Sung by congregation) **Amen, amen, amen.**

HYMN Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways *LSB 707*

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways

To keep His statutes still!

Oh, that my God would grant me grace

To know and do His will!

Order my footsteps by Thy Word

And make my heart sincere;

Let sin have no dominion, Lord,

But keep my conscience clear.

**Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
A stricter watch to keep;
And should I e'er forget Thy way,
Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.**

**Make me to walk in Thy commands--
'Tis a delightful road--
Nor let my head or heart or hands
Offend against my God.**

Preacher	Pastor Michael Tanney
Liturgist	Dan Reh
Lector	Allen Dass
Elders	Al Bohannon
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Ushers	Don Osiek, Ben Thomas, and Roger Schmidt
Children's Message	Allen Dass
Acolytes	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
Greeter	Roger Schmidt
Worship Screen	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy

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Announcements

Saved to Share Called to Care

Our Response to God's Love Last Week

Attendance Sunday: 16

Communion: 28 (13 from home visit)

Ash Wednesday Attendance: 33

ATTENTION: PLEASE TAKE A HYMNAL from the rack nearest to you and leave it on the pew where you are sitting prior to leaving the sanctuary today. This will enable us to be more efficient when we sanitize the pews this week. Thank you.

NT CLASS is at 6:30pm on Thursday nights. This week will be about Acts. All are invited to learn the overview of each Gospel and letter of the New Testament with its major themes.

ST. JOHNS SINGS: From the service of Evening Prayer, we offer this paraphrase of Psalm 141 - Let My Prayer Rise Before You as Incense. It begins on the bottom of page 245 in the hymnal and continues on following pages. As you follow and pray this Psalm, may your evening be refreshed by the Holy Spirit. A special thanks to Jolene Reh for enhancing our singing with her flute playing!

LENT MIDWEEK 1 Join us for the **Places of the Passion** special service for Week 1 of Lent (this Wednesday) @ 6pm, as we follow in the footsteps of our Savior, contemplating the places where Jesus stood on his path to salvation. In this service, we go to Bethany to remember that Jesus is anointed for burial by His friend Mary, at her home in this small town. We are called to prepare our hearts for Christ's death as well, while still looking toward the fragrant surprise of the empty tomb.

DAL SAMAL would like to thank us and CFNA for the financial assistance he received.

MEET THE MISSIONARIES The Missouri District cordially welcomes everyone to attend our next "Meet the Missionaries" virtual gathering on Tuesday, February 23, at 7pm. The evening will spotlight Black Ministry and the work happening at Bethlehem Lutheran in north St. Louis. Hear how you can be involved through prayers and gifts. For more information and the Zoom link, visit: <https://mo.lcms.org/missionaries>.

Prayers

Special Prayer Petitions – **Carmen** Hobson with back pain and possible surgery; **Irene** as she recovers from a stroke; **Ray** as he goes through treatment and struggles with severe arthritis in hip; **Joan** as she struggles with eye problems; **For** those infected by the corona virus for quick healing and recovery. **Field-workers** and **Vicars** for their class work; **St. Johns** for blessings on our virtual learning center; **Nepali & African Congregation** blessings; **Food Pantry** for blessings on what they do.

Shut Ins – Jeanette Creamer, Carmen Hobson, Bobbie Kepford, Dennis Solomon, Jerry Schmaltz, Carol Carr

Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week

February 21-February 28

Sunday	9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Study 12:30pm African Worship
Monday	8am-2pm Office Open 3:00pm-5:30pm Virtual Learning Center
Tuesday	(No Secretary) 3:00pm-5:30pm Virtual Learning Center 6:00pm Seminary Class
Wednesday	8am-2pm Office Open 7:30am-5:30pm Virtual Learning Center 3:30pm Passion Places: Passport Devotion 6:00pm Lenten Service
Thursday	(No Secretary) 7:30am-5:30pm Virtual Learning Center 6pm NT Class 6pm ESL
Friday	8am-2pm Office Open 8am Bible Study NO Virtual Learning Center
Saturday	8:30am Food Pantry 1:30pm Vicar Class
Next Sunday	9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Study 12:30pm African Worship