

St. Johns Lutheran Church

“As Moses lifted up the serpent
in the wilderness,



so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

AS WE GATHER

Look out! There were snakes biting the Israelites, sent by God as punishment for complaining about the manna, that miraculous food He gave on the way to the Promised Land. But look up! See the bronze serpent Moses put on a pole. Everyone who looked up at the serpent will live. The serpent was a type of Christ, a parallel symbol in the Bible. We, too, have snakes—our discontent with God’s daily blessings and lack of faith in His promises. But as we look up in faith to Jesus, the Christ on the cross, we shall be saved. That faith is a gift of God in His grace. Jesus is the center of the gracious Good News. We are God’s workmanship, and now He holds the door open as we walk through, looking up to Jesus.

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. . Our service today includes the celebration of God’s presence, as He comes in the true body and blood of Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. **Any who are not yet instructed or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain** from receiving the sacrament until they have spoken with the pastor.

PREPARATION

**My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away;
Oh, let me from this day
Be wholly Thine!**

**May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart;
My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me,
Oh, may my love to Thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!**

**While life's dark maze I tread
And griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray
From Thee aside.**

**When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul!**

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES

Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone,

he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

But God, . . . even when we were dead in our trespasses,

made us alive together with Christ.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,

that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Having heard the Word of God, as we prepare to receive the body and blood of our Lord in, with, and under bread and wine, let us confess our sins to our gracious heavenly Father.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Although we are on the way to the heavenly promised land,
like the Israelites in the desert, we complain about many things. We are sinful and unclean at heart and often follow the desires of the body and the mind.

God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us,

made us alive together with Christ.

God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world,
but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ is given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

WORD

INTROIT *Psalm 27:3–5; antiphon: v. 1*

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom * shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

of whom shall I * be afraid?

**Though an army encamp against me, my heart * shall not fear;
though war arise against me, yet I will be * confident.**

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek * after:

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 inquire in his * temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of * trouble;

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will

lift me high up * on a rock.

Glory be to the Father and * to the Son

and to the Holy * Spirit;

as it was in the be * ginning,

is now, and will be forever. * Amen.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom * shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

of whom shall I * be afraid?

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul.

Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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

⁵Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Numbers 21:4–9*

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” ⁶Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” ⁹So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

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 *Ephesians 2:1–10*

¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³among whom we all once lived in the passions of

our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE *John 3:16*

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,
that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 3:14–21*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁴[Jesus said:] “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the

darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God.”

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN “God Loved the World So That He Gave” *LSB 571*

**God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive.**

**Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone.**

**God would not have the sinner die;
His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.**

**Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus' blood,
Your Baptism grants the highest good.**

**If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.**

Stand

**Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To Thee, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!**

SERMON

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. 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

Let us pray.

for all who are in positions of authority in our nation and others, that God would give them wisdom to seek ways to meet the needs of their citizens, providing for equal justice and stability for everyone within their borders. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

for people who influence our culture and society but without faith in our Savior, that God would open their eyes to look up to Christ on the cross, working faith in their hearts, and making them alive together with Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

for all who lack adequate food, clothing, and shelter, that He would provide opportunities for individuals and organizations to channel the resources He provides to where they are most needed. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

for all who are troubled in body, mind, or spirit, both those near and dear to us, [*especially . . .*], and those known only to God, that He would bring about healing, relief, comfort, and peace as fits His gracious plans for them. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 195

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He
that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T BE WITH US

Many Lord, desire to be here at your altar today, but since they cannot at this time receive You sacramentally, Grant them Your Holy Spirit and come into their hearts through your Holy Word and promises so that they are assured of your personal embrace and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Never permit them to doubt being separated from You. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ on the cross.
Amen.

THE 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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 198

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us Thy peace.**

Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross *LSB 426*

In the Cross of Christ I Glory *LSB 427*

NUNC DIMITTIS...SONG OF SIMEON

LSB 199

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace
According to Thy word,
For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,**

**a light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end.
Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament,

and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You;

through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer *LSB 918*

**Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield;
Be Thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.**

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

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Announcements

Saved to Share Called to Care

Our Response to God's Love Last Week

Attendance Sunday: 29

Offering (2 weeks): \$6,642.00

Lent Midweek 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 Romans. All are invited to learn the overview of each Gospel and letter of the New Testament with its major themes.

SHINE: The Missouri District's first ever state wide servant event. April 16-25 We will be participating.

The first opportunity will be Thursday, April 22nd from 9am-2pm. The District staff will work side by side with us.

LENT MIDWEEK 4 Join us for the **Places of the Passion** special service for Week 4 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 head toward The Courtyard, outside of where Jesus is put on trial before the high priest and where Peter denies Jesus. We are called to confess that we often tend to distance ourselves from Christ, when we should be drawing closer to Him.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL There will be an EC meeting today, March 14th @ 11:30am after Bible Study.

PASTOR AWAY Pastor will be on vacation from March 18th to March 23rd. In case of an emergency, contact Al Bohannon @ 314-401-0628.

ST. JOHNS SINGS: and plays! A big Thank You to Lydia Hampel for enhancing last Sunday's service with her flute playing. We cautiously hope to hear more ministry in music as time goes on. Meanwhile, consider meditating on a Lenten hymn in your home devotions. You will find these in hymn numbers 418 to 440 in the Lutheran Service Book.

Prayers

Special Prayer Petitions – **Carmen** Hobson for possible back surgery; Ray for thanks as he goes through treatment; **Irene** for thanks as she is feeling better; **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 & ESL** 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

March 14-March 21

Sunday	9:00am Worship w Communion 10:30am Bible Study/Nepali Worship 11:30 am Executive Council Meeting 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	7:30am-5:30pm Virtual Learning Center 8am-2pm Office Open NO NT Class 6:30 pm ESL
Friday	Office Closed NO Bible Class 7:30am-5:30pm Virtual Learning Center
Saturday	8:30am Food Pantry NO Vicar Class
Next Sunday	9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Study/Nepali Worship 12:30pm African Worship