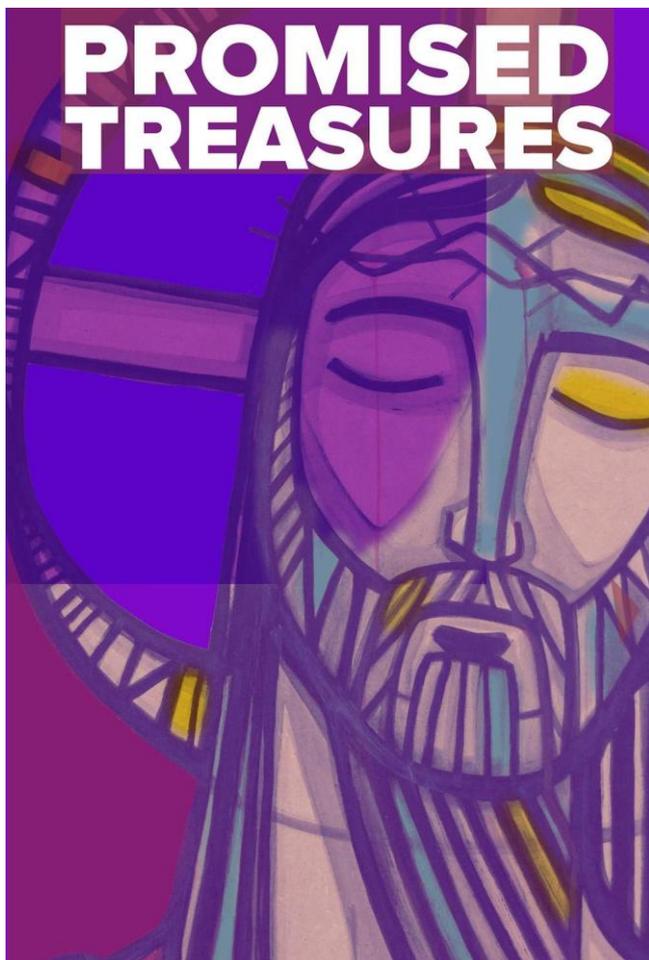


# St. Johns Lutheran Church



## Water Gives Me Life

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St. Johns Lutheran Church

3738 Morgan Ford Rd. St. Louis, Missouri 63116

Lent Midweek 2

March 4th, 2026

Promised Treasures: Water Gives Me Life

## **AS WE GATHER**

Water is life. Water is everywhere. Not only is this true in the world around us, but it is also true in the Scriptures. Throughout the Bible, we witness our Creator giving us new life—cleansing, reshaping, even re-creating—through the water of the Spirit and through the living and active Word of Jesus. Today our attention is drawn to the promised treasure of the life-giving water that God uses to claim us as His children and unite us to His Son’s death and resurrection. With the Savior, who steps into the water with us, we “daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever” (Small Catechism, Baptism, Fourth Part).

**OPENING** - Holden Evening Prayer (*Stand as you are able*)

Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,

**The light no darkness can overcome.**

Stay with us now, for it is evening,

**And the day is almost over.**

Let you light scatter the darkness,

**And shine within your people here.**

**Joyous light of heav’nly glory, loving glow of God’s own face,  
you sing creation’s story, shine on ev’ry land and race. Now as  
evening falls around us, we shall raise our songs to you. God of  
daybreak, God of shadows, come and light our hearts anew.**

**In the stars that grace the darkness, in the blazing sun of  
dawn, in the light of peace and wisdom, we can hear your quiet  
song. Love that fills the night with wonder, love that warms the  
weary soul, love that bursts all chains asunder, set us free and  
make us whole.**

**You who made the heaven's splendor, ev'ry dancing star of night, make us shine with gentle justice, let us each reflect your light. Mighty God of all creation, gentle Christ who lights our way, loving Spirit of salvation, lead us on to endless day.**

May God be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us sing our thanks to God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Creator of the universe, from old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.

**Amen.**

## PSALMODY

**PSALM**      Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.**

He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

**Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,**

for You are with me;

**Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

**You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, **and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**HYMN**

“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain” LSB 435

**Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain,  
Sinners, ruined by the fall;  
Here a pure and healing fountain  
Flows for you, for me, for all,  
In a full, perpetual tide,  
Opened when our Savior died.**

**Come in poverty and meanness,  
Come defiled, without, within;  
From infection and uncleanness,  
From the leprosy of sin,  
Wash your robes and make them white;  
Ye shall walk with God in light.**

**Come in sorrow and contrition,  
Wounded, impotent, and blind;  
Here the guilty, free remission,  
Here the troubled, peace may find.  
Health this fountain will restore;  
They that drink shall thirst no more.**

**They that drink shall live forever;  
'Tis a soul-renewing flood.  
God is faithful; God will never  
Break His covenant of blood,  
Signed when our Redeemer died,  
Sealed when He was glorified.**

**READINGS**

**READING** Genesis 7:11–23 (*Sit*)

<sup>11</sup> In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of

the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. <sup>12</sup> And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. <sup>13</sup> On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, <sup>14</sup> they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. <sup>15</sup> They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. <sup>16</sup> And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the Lord shut him in. <sup>17</sup> The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. <sup>18</sup> The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. <sup>19</sup> And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. <sup>20</sup> The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. <sup>21</sup> And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. <sup>22</sup> Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. <sup>23</sup> He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

**Thanks be to God.**

**READING** 1 Peter 3:17–22

<sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which He went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison,

<sup>20</sup> because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. <sup>21</sup> Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to Him.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

**Thanks be to God.**

**READING** John 3:1–8 (*Stand as you are able*)

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

O Lord, have mercy on us.

**Thanks be to God.**

**LENT RESPONSORY**      LSB, p. 231

Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

**Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

**Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

**Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

**SERIES HYMN**      “One House Abides Unending” (*Sit*)

**One house abides unending,  
One Master fears no fall,  
One Lord provides, attending  
The daily want of all.  
When ruin would allure them  
Whose one estate was need,  
One Father would secure them  
In will, in trust, in deed.**

**The wealth of all creation  
We squandered at our birth.  
The heirs of condemnation  
Sowed tears in blighted earth.  
But light, the world’s first treasure,  
The Master worked anew  
In promise, and in measure  
No mortal eye could view.**

**With endless hunger driven  
The grave cried out for more,  
But Jesus Christ has given  
Safe passage through its door:**

**His flowing blood our raiment,  
The flood to purge our shame;  
The living God the payment  
That buys for us His name.**

**Exchange our ash for beauty,  
Anoint our grief with joy;  
Dear Lord, who paid our duty,  
All grace for us employ.  
Feed us the saving manna  
Lest on the way we fail  
And sweeten our Hosanna  
To holy Easter's hail.**

**SERMON**

**CANTICLE**

**ANTIPHON** LSB, p. 231

**Let my prayer rise before You as incense,  
and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

**MAGNIFICAT** - *Holden Evening Prayer*

**My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit  
rejoices in You.  
You have looked with love on your servant here, and blessed  
me all my life through.  
Great and mighty are you, O Holy One, strong is your  
kindness evermore. How you favor the weak and lowly one,  
humbling the proud of heart!**

**You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, and  
uplifted the humble of heart.**

**You have filled the hungry with wondrous things, and left the wealthy no part.**

**Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One, strong is your justice, strong your love,  
As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forevermore.**

**My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in You.**

**You have looked with love on your servant here, and blessed me all my life through.**

**Great and mighty are you, O Holy One, strong is your kindness evermore. How you favor the weak and lowly one, humbling the proud of heart!**



**OFFERING**

*(Scan this code with your phone if you would like to give online)*

**PRAYER**

**KYRIE**      LSB, p. 233 *(Stand as you are able)*

**Lord, have mercy;**

**Christ, have mercy;**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

## COLLECTS

O Lord, hear my prayer.

**And let my cry come to You.**

Lord Jesus Christ, through water You reshape and restore Your fallen creation, entering our lives in Baptism so that we may be cleansed by Your Spirit. Renew our hearts and minds during this Lenten season as we receive the promised treasures of Your Word; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for blessing us with the opportunity to meditate again on the cross of Christ and receive Your promised treasures.

**Grant that the message of the Lamb of God slain for our salvation bring us the riches of Your pardon and peace.**

Lead us to see that our sins caused Jesus' great agony in the garden, that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary, **that He was forsaken by His Father so that we might never be forsaken, and that He died so that we may live.**

Lord Jesus, grant that especially during this sacred season the treasured story of Your wondrous love for us would draw us closer to You.

**Enable us to see the blessings You have poured out into our lives through the washing of water with the Word.**

Holy Spirit, lift up troubled souls everywhere. Grant wholeness to those hurting in heart, body, and mind. Work Your healing power in the lives of those in need, [especially . . .], and in the lives of all we name before You in our hearts.

**All glory, honor, and praise be to You, with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of

our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**BENEDICAMUS** LSB, p. 234

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTION** LSB, p. 234

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

**Amen.**

**HYMN** “Glory Be to Jesus” LSB 433

**Glory be to Jesus,  
Who in bitter pains  
Poured for me the lifeblood  
From His sacred veins!**

**Grace and life eternal  
In that blood I find;  
Blest be His compassion,  
Infinitely kind!**

**Blest through endless ages  
Be the precious stream  
Which from endless torment  
Did the world redeem!**

**Abel’s blood for vengeance  
Pleaded to the skies;  
But the blood of Jesus  
For our pardon cries.**

**Oft as earth exulting  
Wafts its praise on high,  
Angel hosts rejoicing  
Make their glad reply.**

**Lift we, then, our voices,  
Swell the mighty flood;  
Louder still and louder  
Praise the precious blood!**

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Liturgist	Michael Felten
Elder	Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli

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