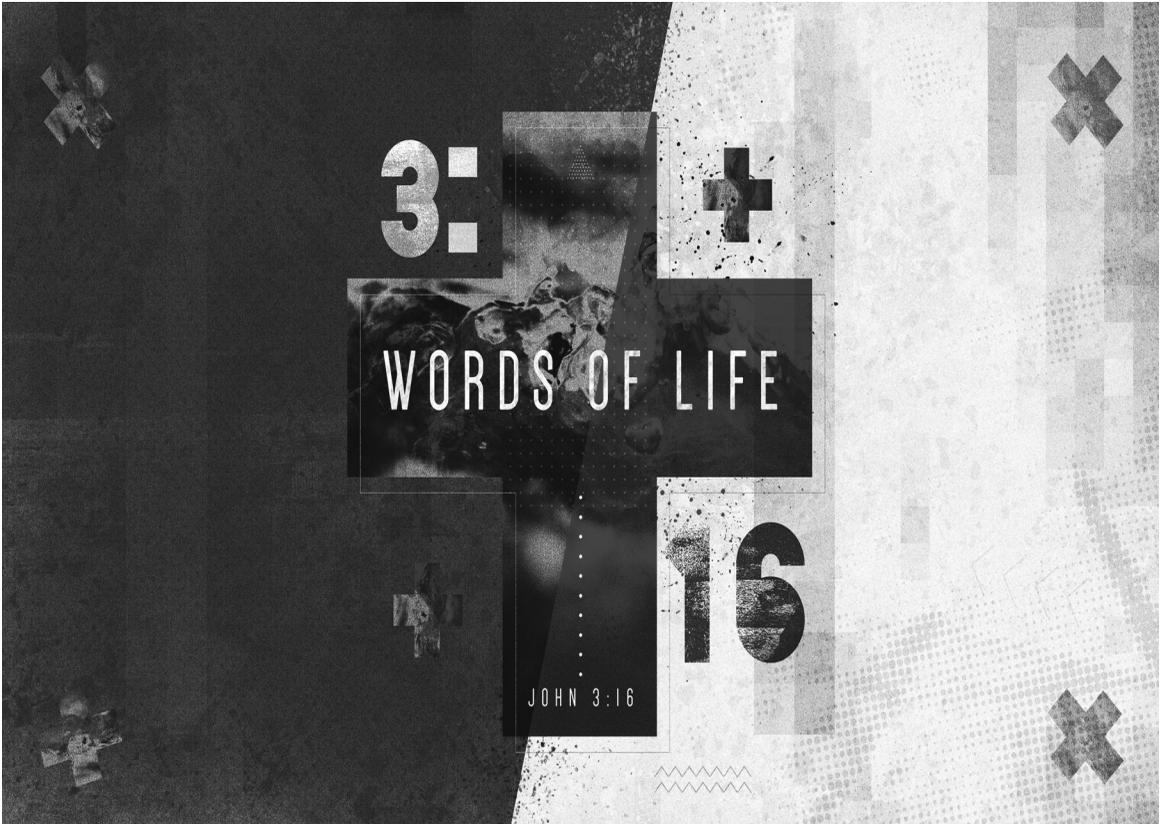


Lent 3



March 7, 2021

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church

401 16th Ave. N | Bangor, WI 54614

www.stpaulsbangor.com

Vacancy Pastor: Rev Galen Riediger

Today's Pastor: Pastor Don Frelitz

Office: 608-786-1250 x 113 Cell: 608-512-0028

Email: griediger@christlutheranwestsalem.com

Principal: Mr. Richard Bakken

School: 486-2641

Email: dbakken@stpaulsbangor.com

Luther High School

608-783-5435

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

∞ **Prayer before worship**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your might power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin, nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

103

Glory Be to Jesus



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;
3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream



Poured for me the life - blood From his sa - cred veins.
Blest be his com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind.
Which from end - less tor - ments Did the world re - deem.

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

Text: Italian hymn, 18th century, abr.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.
Tune: WEM IN LEIDENSTAGEN (65 65) Friedrich Filitz, 1804–76.

STAND

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

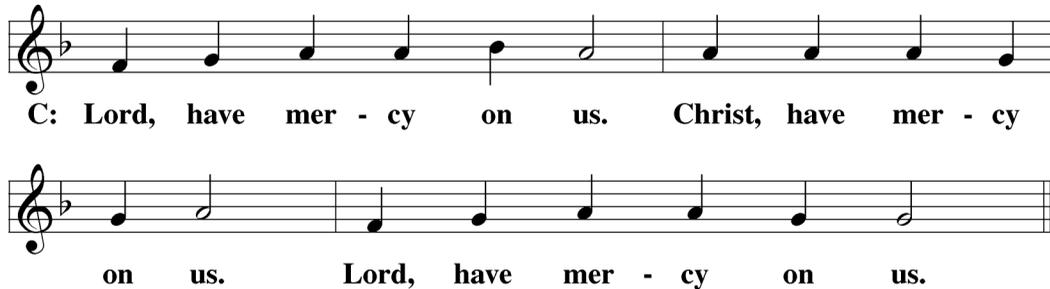


CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Let us pray. (*Pastor says prayer of the day*)



C: A - men.

BE SEATED

THE WORD



FIRST LESSON

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴They set out from Mount Hor along the road to the Red Sea to go around the land of Edom, but the people became very impatient along the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? Look, there is no food! There is no water! And we are disgusted by this worthless food!" ⁶The LORD sent venomous snakes among the people, and the snakes bit the people. As a result many people from Israel died. ⁷The people went to Moses and said, "We have sinned, because we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD to take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed on behalf of the people. ⁸The LORD said to Moses, "Make a venomous snake and put it on a pole. If anyone who is bitten looks at it, he will live." ⁹Moses made a bronze snake and put it on the pole. If a snake had bitten anyone, if that person looked at the bronze snake, he lived.



SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 2:4-10

⁴ But God, because he is rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in trespasses. It is by grace you have been saved! ⁶ He also raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. ⁷ He did this so that, in the coming ages, he might demonstrate the surpassing riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Indeed, it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared in advance so that we would walk in them.

VERSE OF THE DAY

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

(John 3:16)

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Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.

STAND



GOSPEL

M: The Gospel according to John 3:14-21



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

¹⁴ "Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ The one who believes in him is not condemned, but the one who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only-begotten Son of God. ¹⁹ This is the basis for the judgment: The light has come into the world, yet people loved the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ In fact, everyone who practices wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, or else his deeds would be exposed. ²¹ But the one who does what is true comes toward the light, in order that his deeds may be seen as having been done in connection with God."

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY

391 God Loved the World So that He Gave



1 God loved the world so that he gave His on - ly
3 God would not have the sin - ner die— His Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives the



Son the lost to save That all who would in
sav - ing grace is nigh. His Spir - it in the
sins that you have done. You're ius - ti - fied by



him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Word does teach How we the bless - ed goal may reach.
Je - sus' blood; Bap - tized, you are a child of God.

SERMON: *Ephesians 2:4-10*

God's Grace Makes All the Difference



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

OFFERING *(Thank you all who have mailed, dropped off or electronically given your gifts to our Lord. Offering baskets are in the back of Church for your convenience. May God continue to bless you with all you need, just as he promised.)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

M/C: 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 SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *Sanctus*



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

LAMB OF GOD *Agnus Dei*



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

Thank you for Respecting our Communion Practice. The Bible teaches that partaking of the body and blood of Christ is a special assurance of forgiveness to penitent believers in Christ. It is also an expression of our oneness in the doctrines we teach and believe. Christ wants us to administer this blessed sacrament responsibly. We would ask that if you are not a communicant member of Christ Lutheran and desire the sacrament, please kindly speak with one of the pastors before the service. Pamphlets are available in the narthex which explain our communion practice according to the Holy Scriptures.



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

313

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way
2 As his pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre -
3 Je - sus here him - self is shar - ing; Take heed how
4 Use - less would be Je - sus' pas - sion If sal - va -
5 Christ says, "Come, all you that la - bor, And re - ceive



God's wrath for - ev - er; By his bit - ter grief and
cious food sup - ply - ing, Gives his bod - y with the
you are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be -
tion you could fash - ion. Do not come if you sup -
my grace and fa - vor; Those who feel no pain or



woe He saved us from the e - vil foe.
bread And with the wine the blood he shed.
lieve, Judg - ment in - stead you shall re - ceive.
pose You need not him who died and rose.
ill Need no phy - si - cian's help or skill."

6 Then hold fast with faith unshaken
That this food is to be taken
By the souls who are distressed,
By hearts that long for peace and rest.

7 Praise the Father, who from heaven
Unto us such food has given
And, to mend what we have done,
Gave into death his only Son.

8 If your heart this truth professes
And your mouth your sin confesses,
Surely you will be his guest
And at his banquet ever blest.

Text: John Hus, 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: JESUS CHRISTUS, UNSER HEILAND, DER VON UNS (88 78) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert*, Wittenberg, 1535, alt.

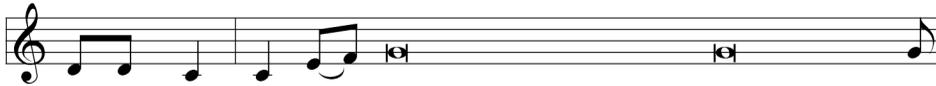
THANKSGIVING

STAND

SONG OF SIMEON *Nunc Dimittis*



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing



to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-

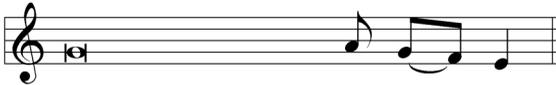


pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the



Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

380 Lord, 'Tis Not that I Did Choose You



1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose you; That, I
3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion; Praise the



know, could nev - er be, For this heart would
Fa - ther's bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our



still re - fuse you Had your grace not cho - sen me.
ex - pi - a - tion, Priest and King en - throned a - bove.



You re - moved the sin that stained me, Cleans -
Praise the Spir - it of sal - va - tion, Him



ing me to be your own; For this pur - pose
by whom our spir - its live. Un - di - vid - ed



you or - dained me, That I live for, you a - lone.
ad - o - ra - tion To the great Je - ho - vah give.

Text: Josiah Conder, 1789–1855, alt.

Tune: O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE (87 87 D) *Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz*, Basel, 1745, alt.