

*The
Season
of
Lent*



Lenten Service

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

1764 Meyersville Rd, Meyersville, Texas 77974

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Pastor John Boor

March 6, 2024

Lent 3

Worship Service 7:00 p.m.

AS WE GATHER

King David's enemies said of him, "When will he die and his name perish?" (Psalm 41:5) Do you have enemies who wish the same fate on you? Regardless of your best efforts to "*lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way*" (1 Timothy 2:2), you are pursued unceasingly by three dread adversaries: the world, the devil, and your own sinful flesh. When will you die? When will your name perish? Christ silences your foes and your fears and will strengthen and keep you firm in His Word and faith unto the end.

THE PRELUDE

Announcements

OPENING SENTENCES

P O Lord, open my lips,

C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C make haste to help me, O Lord.

C 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.

Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

HYMN

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

LBW #104

**In the Cross of Christ I Glory,
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.**

**All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.**

When the woes of life o'er take me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

Please stand

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Based on Philippians 2:1-11

P Lord Jesus, search our hearts and minds that we may receive Your Word, share in Your Spirit, and be renewed in our relationships with You and with one another.

We observe a moment of silence for personal prayers of confession.

P With humble hearts, let us pray together:

C **Lord Jesus, the Father's only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, hear us as we pray.**

P Even though You claimed us as Your own in the waters of Baptism, we often do not walk in the newness of life.

C **Our rebellion against You in thought, word, and action is why You died for us –**

P to forgive our sins, to redeem our lives, and to cancel the debt we owe to God.

C **With hearts that are humble and lives ever grateful, help us to receive Your grace, bow before You in worship, and confess that You alone are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

P Almighty God our heavenly Father shows His mercy to us in the sending of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who blesses us with new birth in the water and the Spirit and assures us that our lives belong to Him. As a called and ordained 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.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You are the light of the world, and no amount of darkness in our world can overcome your presence shining in our lives. 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

Please be seated

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 7:22-26

²²The LORD your God will clear away these nations before you little by little. You may not make an end of them at once, lest the wild beasts grow too numerous for you. ²³But the LORD your God will give them over to you and throw them into great confusion, until they are destroyed. ²⁴And He will give their kings into your hand, and you shall make their name perish from under heaven. No one shall be able to stand against you until you have destroyed them. ²⁵The carved images of their gods you shall burn with fire. You shall not covet the silver or the gold that is on them or take it for yourselves, lest you be ensnared by it, for it is an abomination to the LORD your God. ²⁶And you shall not bring an abominable thing into your house and become devoted to destruction like it. You shall utterly detest and abhor it, for it is devoted to destruction.

PSALM

Psalm 41:3-5

A May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make His face to shine upon us.

**C May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make His face to shine upon us.**

A The LORD sustains him on his sickbed;
in his illness You restore him to full health.

**As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me;
heal me, for I have sinned against You!"**

My enemies say of me in malice,
"When will he die and his name perish?"

SECOND READING

Revelation 19:11-16

¹¹Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹²His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems, and He has a name written that no one knows but Himself. ¹³He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which He is called is The Word of God. ¹⁴And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following Him on white horses. ¹⁵From His mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. ¹⁶On His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

Gospel Verse (sung)

**Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

Please stand

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

Glory to You, O Lord. (*sung*)

¹²Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." ¹³So the Pharisees said to Him, "You are bearing witness about Yourself; Your testimony is not true." ¹⁴Jesus answered, "Even if I do bear witness about Myself, My testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. ¹⁶Yet even if I do judge, My judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent Me. ¹⁷In your Law it is written that the testimony of two men is true. ¹⁸I am the one who bears witness about Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness about Me."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.** (*sung*)

MESSAGE

Pastor John

HYMN

"There Is A Green Hill Far Away"

LBW #114

There is a green hill far away,
 Outside a city wall,
 Where the dear Lord was crucified,
 Who died to save us all

We may not know, we cannot tell,
 What pains he had to bear,
 But we believe it was for us
 He hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiv'n;
 He died to make us good,
 That we might go at last to heav'n,
 Saved by his precious blood.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

PRAYER

- P 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.
- C **Grant that the message of the Lamb of God slain for our salvation bring us the riches of Your pardon and peace.**
- P Lead us to see that our sins caused Jesus' great agony in the garden, that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary,
- C **that He was forsaken by His Father so that we might never be forsaken, and that He died so that we may live.**
- P Lord Jesus, grant that especially during this sacred season the treasured story of Your wondrous love for us would draw us closer to You.
- C **Enable us to see the blessings You have poured out into our lives through the washing of water with the Word.**

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

LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

- C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C **Amen.**

On a hill far away stood an Old Rugged Cross
The emblem of suffering and shame
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain

So I'll cherish the Old Rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
And I will cling to the Old Rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown

To the Old Rugged Cross, I will ever be true
It's shame and reproach, gladly bear
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away
Where His glory forever I'll share

And I'll cherish the Old Rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
And I will cling to the Old Rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown

(The congregation leaves in silence)