



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

First Sunday in Lent
March 10, 2019

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00am-4:00pm
churchoffice@stjohnnt.com
www.stjohnnt.com

6950 Ward Road
North Tonawanda, NY 14120
(716) 693-9677

Welcome to Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME & GREETING

Please take a moment to fill out the Connection Card

OPENING PRAYER & INVOCATION

P We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

HYMN: “Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

LSB 440

I Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
 With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
 Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
 Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.

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RESPONSIVE READING

- P** You are the salt of the earth.
C **Our faith in Christ flavors all we do and say.**
P You are the light of the world.
C **Our light sent and sustained by Christ cannot be hidden.**
P You are the lamp that lights the house.
C **Our reflection of the light of Jesus drives away darkness.**
P Do good works that others may see
C **and give glory to the Father.**
P You are the salt of the earth and the light of the world.
C **May we never lose our flavor or dim the light.**

HYMN: “Jesus, I will Ponder Now”

LSB 440



6 Gra - cious - ly my faith re - new; Help me bear my cross - es,



Learn - ing hum - ble - ness from You, Peace mid pain and loss - es.



May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,



That I may in heav'n a - bove Sing Your praise for - ev - er.

Tune and text: Public domain

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** We are created by God to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Too often we are neither. Forgive us, O Lord.
- C** **Most merciful God, when we fail to salt the earth with your love, forgive us. When we fail to shine the light of your peace, forgive us. When we place the light of Christ under a basket, forgive us. When we hide Jesus, deny him, or cover up our Christianity, forgive us. We are sinful from birth and sin against you in thought, word and deed. Our neighbors are too often shielded from your light because we are sinners. Forgive us of all of our sins and grant us your mercy.**
- P** Jesus is the true salt of the earth and the light of the world from all eternity. For you he hung on the cross on earth's darkest day and rose again from the dead to shine the light of eternity. Therefore, I announce to you that all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

HYMN: “On My Heart Imprint Your Image”

LSB 422



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-raise;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **O Lord, I have again come to worship in Your presence and receive the gift of forgiveness of all my sins. Help me hear, through Your Word, the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ for me and all people. May Your Word pass from my ear to my heart, from my heart to my lips, and from my lips to the ears of others, so that it may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 6:6-8

“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 5:1-8

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5:13-16

[Jesus said,] You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

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

APOSTLE'S CREED

A Statement of Our Shared Faith

C 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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Little Lambs Choir – St John School
Oh, He's King of Kings

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN: "The People That in Darkness Sat"

LSB 412



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious
2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, The gath - 'ring
5 His righ - teous gov - ern - ment and pow'r Shall o - ver
△ 6 Lord Je - sus, reign in us, we pray, And make us



light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In
na - tions come; They joy as when the reap - ers bear Their
all ex - tend; On judg - ment and on jus - tice based, His
Thine a - lone, Who with the Fa - ther ev - er art And



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
har - vest trea - sures home, Their har - vest trea - sures home.
reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.
Ho - ly Spir - it, one, And Ho - ly Spir - it, one.

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TEACHING FROM GOD'S WORD

Salt & Light

OFFERING

Using our God-given resources to connect people to Jesus.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Lord Jesus, you are the salt of the earth. So flavor this world with your love and forgiveness that presidents, kings and princes would act justly and love mercy and, as a result, see to it that all people would have the opportunity to hear about and experience your grace. In your mercy,
- C** **make us to be salt and light.**
- P** Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world. You shine your light through your Church and have called and created us to be living examples and loving people. Forgive us when we fail to shine the light of your love. Then shine your light in us and through us that everyone we meet would see your glory. In your mercy,
- C** **make us to be salt and light.**
- P** Lord Jesus, you are the lamp that lights the house. Bring your light into all of our households that mothers, fathers, children and all family members live in love and harmony. Make our homes the places where your salt and light are passed on from one generation to the next. In your mercy,
- C** **make us to be salt and light.**
- P** Lord Jesus, you do all things well. When we are ill, you are the one who has the ability to make us well. Lay your healing hand on all who are hospitalized, suffering from chronic illness or nearing the end of earthly life. Make them well in your own way and according to your good pleasure. In your mercy,
- C** **make us to be salt and light.**
- P** Into your hands, Lord Jesus, we place all of our needs, knowing that you are the salt of the earth and the light of the world.
- C** **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

- 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.**

BENEDICTION

- P** The God of all grace who is the salt of the earth and the light of the world, bless you to be salt and light in your family, your church and your community. Rejoice and be glad!
- C** **Amen.**

HYMN: "O God of God, O Light of Light"

LSB 810



1 O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death so steeped in
4 Then raise to Christ a might - y song, And shout His name, His



King of kings: To You in heav-en's glo - ry bright The song of
hate and scorn— These all are past, and now a - bove He reigns, our
mer-cies tell! Sing, heav'n-ly host, your praise pro-long, And all on



praise for - ev - er rings. To Him who sits up - on the throne,
King once crowned with thorn. Lift up your heads, O might - y gates!
earth, your an - them swell! All hail, O Lamb for sin - ners slain!



The Lamb once slain but raised a - gain, Be all the glo - ry
So sang that host be - yond our ken. Lift up your heads, your
For - ev - er let the song as - cend! Wor - thy the Lamb, en -



He has won, All thanks and praise! A - men, a - men.
King a - waits. We lift them up. A - men, a - men.
throned to reign, All glo - ry, pow'r! A - men, a - men.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING TODAY/NEXT WEEK

Liturgist/Preacher:	Rev. Michael Borgstede	Organist: Doreen Sutherland
Elders for March:	Bruce Sutherland, Jim Oliver	
Acolyte:	Luke Sutherland	Next Sunday: Maya Reynolds
Reader:	Frank Wendt	Next Sunday: Herb Meissner
Counting Team:	Bill Nelson, Marv Werth, Bev Harder, Lorrie Weir, Randy DeVantier	
Next Week:	Winston Moeller, Lori Argo, Don Schroeder, Lynn Willis	
Altar Guild for March:	Donna Carr, Ann Kelly	



Message Notes

Main Points:

Bible Passages:

What can I apply to my life?

In this service for Week 1 of Lent, we remember that Christ calls us to be salt and light in this world of sin (*Matthew 5:13-16*). We who have tasted and seen his great love for us on the cross can spend our Lent savoring his salvation and shining with his glory and grace in the places where he has put us.

- Lent is a time of thoughtful reflection on God’s loving sacrifice in Christ for all of us. What do you do differently in Lent to reflect on Jesus’ suffering, death, and resurrection out of love for you?
- We not only remember what God did for us in Jesus, but we are called to share His love with the world – to be “salt and light.” What can you do this week to be salt & light at work/school, in your family, or in our community?

SERMON *on the* MOUNT

Lent at St John's 2019



This series for Lent takes us through some of the most familiar teachings of Jesus from his Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7 and relates them to the events surrounding Christ's life, death and resurrection. Each service will reveal to us that the cross itself is the ultimate sermon on the mount for our journey of faith in this sacred season.

Worship

Sundays at 9:00 AM

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

Holy Week

Palm Sunday – April 14, 9:00 AM

Maundy Thursday - April 18, 7:00 PM

Good Friday – April 19, 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday – April 21, 8:00 & 10:30 AM