



We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**,
welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

AS WE GATHER

Week 3: "Cross Walk" – In this service for the third week in Lent we remember that we are called to follow Christ on his cross walk, stepping out into a life of suffering and service in the name of the Lord.

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Matthew 16:24

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalms 1

- P** Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
C Nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
P But his delight is in the law of the Lord,
C And on his law he meditates day and night.
P He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season,
C And its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, imploring Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins 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 sts. 1, 4-6

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Let us pray together:
C Merciful Father, Your Son, Jesus Christ, was lifted high upon the cross that He might bear the sins of the world and draw all people to Himself. Grant that our eyes may ever behold our Savior and His cross, that we may not fear the power of any adversaries but rather rejoice in His victory for us; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God

will come with vengeance,

with the recompense of God.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,

and the thirsty ground springs of water;

in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every

weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us

run with endurance the race that is set before us,

²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Isaiah 35:4–10

the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸And a highway shall be there,

and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;

the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way;

even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

⁹No lion shall be there,

nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,

but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return

and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;

they shall obtain gladness and joy,

and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Hebrews 12:1–3

endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

³Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

Matthew 16:24–26

his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life?



NICENE CREED

C 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY *Tune: "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"*

LSB 524 sts. 7, 14–15

7 The Father's purpose on the cross
Our Savior has fulfilled;
The love revealed, the promise kept
In everything God willed.

14 Our Savior, Christ, the Word made flesh,
His glory laid aside,
In humble weakness took his cross
And for us bled and died.

15 "All who would follow me," Christ said,
"The cross with me must take.
To lose your life for me will mean
To find it for my sake."

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.
Text: Public domain

SERMON

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12, LSB 192



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 Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life, for us you took up your cross to suffer and die for the sins of the world, for our sins, so that we will live forever in your presence. Jesus, as you took up the cross for us,
- C** **Teach us to take up the cross and follow you.**
- P** Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life, strengthen and preserve your faithful servants who suffer shame, imprisonment and even death for the sake of your Name. Jesus, as you took up the cross for us,
- C** **Teach us to take up the cross and follow you.**
- P** Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life, help us to walk in love as you walked. Let us deny ourselves and live in service to you by serving others. Jesus, as you took up the cross for us,
- C** **Teach us to take up the cross and follow you.**
- P** We lift to You Lord all those in need of prayer . . . Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136, LSB 194

- P** The Lord be with you.



- C** And with thy spir - it.

- P** Lift up your hearts.



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

- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



- C** It is meet and right so to do.

- P** It is truly meet, 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 saying:

To our visitors: The **Lord's Supper** is celebrated at St. John in the confession that not only bread and wine, but Jesus Christ's very body and blood are given to us to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our faith in Him and our union (*communion*) with one another. Our Lord invites to His table all those who believe His words, repent of all sin, and set aside all refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. *If this is your first time at St John or if you have not been instructed about the Lord's Supper, we ask that you speak to the Pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper*

For those who wish to take communion in their seat, please notify an usher or elder, and be seated near the center aisle. We offer either individual or common cup for the wine.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9, LSB 195



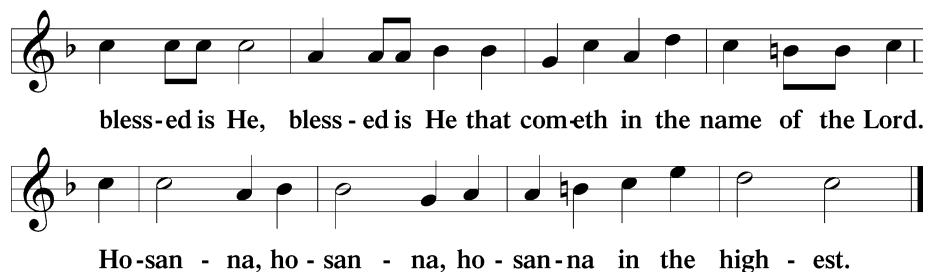
- C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



- heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



- ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

- [P]** 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."

PEACE OF THE LORD - PAX DOMINI

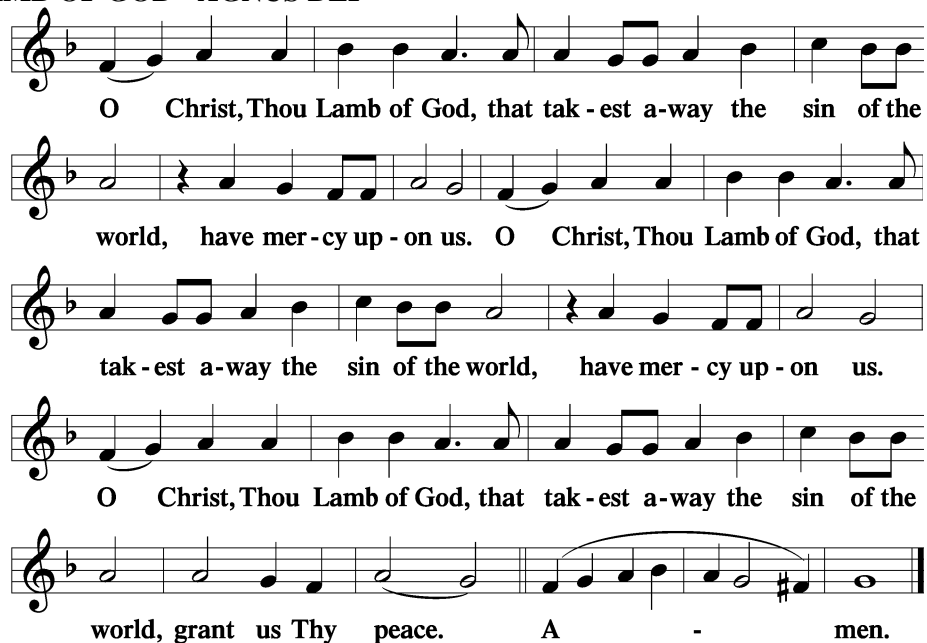
John 20:19, LSB 197

- [P]** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



LAMB OF GOD - AGNUS DEI

John 1:29, LSB 198



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“JESUS, GRANT THAT BALM AND HEALING”

LSB 421



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing In Your ho - ly
2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion Fas - ci - nate my
3 If the world my heart en - tic - es With the broad and
4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me By Your wounds, Lord,
5 O my God, my rock and tow - er, Grant that in Your



wounds I find, Ev - 'ry hour that I am feel - ing Pains of
sin - ful mind, Draw me to Your cross and pas - sion, And new
eas - y road, With se - duc - tive, sin - ful vi - ces, Let me
is made whole; When I'm faint, Your cross re - vives me, Grant - ing
death I trust, Know - ing death has lost its pow - er Since You



bod - y and of mind. Should some e - vil thought with - in
cour - age I shall find. Or should Sa - tan press me hard,
weigh the aw - ful load You were will - ing to en - dure.
new life to my soul. Yes, Your com - fort ren - ders sweet
crushed it in the dust. Sav - ior, let Your ag - o - ny



Tempt my treach - 'rous heart to sin, Show the per - il, and from
Let me then be on my guard, Say - ing, "Christ for me was
Help me flee all thoughts im - pure And to mas - ter each temp -
Ev - 'ry bit - ter cup I meet; For Your all - a - ton - ing
Ev - er help and com - fort me; When I die be my pro -



sin - ning Keep me from its first be - gin - ning.
wound - ed," That the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.
ta - tion, Calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.
pas - sion Has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.
tec - tion, Light and life and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–
1647; tr. composite, alt.
Tune: Johann Balthasar König,
1691–1758
Text and tune: Public domain

“WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS”

LSB 426



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
Tune: Second Supplement to
Psalmody in Miniature, 1778,
London; adapt. Edward
Miller, 1731–1807
Text and tune: Public domain

SONG OF SIMEON - NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29–32, LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P For this purpose Christ came and for this purpose he died: to bring salvation to all. May the Lord who brought salvation to all through the cross bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you his peace.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: “‘COME, FOLLOW ME,’ THE SAVIOR SPAKE”

LSB 688

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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LBW
LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS

Join Us

Sunday, March 10, 2024

10:15am — 11:00am

(If You Want to Visit for Worship, Join Us At 9:00am)

Saint John Lutheran Church and School
6950 Ward Rd, North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Contact Person: Bruce Sutherland

Phone: (716) 998-0225 Email: BruceLCMSSED@gmail.com

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