

# *Second Sunday in Lent*

## *February 25, 2018*

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

### **- Gathering -**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

Lenten Stewardship Focus: Health and Wellness in Malawi and Dickinson

Invitation to Worship

Lent is not a time to be miserable, but to reflect on our lives. **Loving God, stop us from fooling ourselves.**

Lent is an opportunity for healthy repentance from our indifference in the face of pervasive evil in the world, and repentance from our own sins which are often a comfortable way of life. **According to your lovingkindness, remember us, God of goodness and saving grace.**

Lent is a time for joy; the exhilaration that comes from defying temptations, from walking into adverse winds and enjoying small victories day by day. **Make us to know your ways, O God, teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation and our true happiness.**

Confession and Forgiveness

During Lent you are called to return to the Lord with all your heart. Let us confess our sin and seek renewal and healing with God and neighbor. (*Silence for reflection.*)

Merciful God, **you sent Jesus Christ to bring healing to the brokenness of the world. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your truth. Have mercy on us and wash away our sin. Create in us clean hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

People of God, look to the † Son, given to heal you and set you free because God loved the world so much. Be well, and receive God's eternal mercy. **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn – #324 In the Cross of Christ I Glory**

Greeting and Kyrie – Page 203

Prayer of the Day

## - Word -

*God speaks to us in Scripture, reading, preaching and song.*

Scripture Readings – see insert (*Response: Thanks be to God.*)

Gospel Acclamation (*We are turning...*) – Page 205

Sermon

### **Hymn of the Day – #808 Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song**

(10:30 a.m.) Sacrament of Holy Baptism – Page 227 (*Crew Michael Gayda*)

### **Hymn – #677 (V.1) This Little Light of Mine**

Apostles' Creed – Page 105

Prayers of the People

Sharing the Peace (*Response: And also with you.*)

## - Meal -

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

Offering *Special Music by the Senior Choir: "Beneath the Shadow" (Mark 8:31-38)*

### **Offertory Hymn – #802 (V. 1) Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus**

Offering Prayer

Great Thanksgiving and Holy, Holy, Holy – Page 206-207

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Distribution of Bread and Wine

*All who believe in the redeeming power of Christ's love are welcome at the Lord's Table.*

Lamb of God – Page 208

### **Hymns – #465, #803, #328**

Blessing and Post-Communion Prayer

## - Sending -

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

Blessing

### **Sending Hymn – #513 Listen, God is Calling**

Dismissal (*Response: Thanks be to God!*)

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Dickinson, North Dakota*

[www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org)

(701)225-6747

Mission Statement: "Living in Service to Christ"

## Welcome to Worship at St. John!

If you are worshipping for the first time, we hope you feel joyfully welcomed! Worship is the most important thing we do together: Gathering in God's Name, Hearing God's Word, Sharing in the Holy Meal, and then Sending You to Shine Christ's Light in the World.

We believe worship brings abundant life and freedom to you and to your neighbor. There are four worship services offered each week at St. John, providing a variety of ways to worship. We encourage you to try them all to find the right fit for you.

**To learn more about worship and St. John's story,  
click on the GET TO KNOW US page at [www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org)**

### ~ To Assist You at Worship ~

- If you are considering becoming a member at St. John, we ask that you begin by visiting with a pastor and attending a new member coffee, held four times each year. For details, click on the MEMBERSHIP link on the GET TO KNOW US page at [www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org).
- Personal amplifiers for the hearing impaired are available. Please ask an usher.
- Children's worship bags are in the narthex and the Commons Area.
- Childcare: Children are always welcome in worship, but if a parent feels that little hands, feet and voices are making it difficult for others to worship, the nursery is staffed during the 10:30 a.m. service. If a child needs a shorter break, there is wiggle room and a glider chair in the narthex.
- Holy Communion is celebrated at each worship service. The table is open to all who believe in the redeeming power of Christ's love. You may stand or kneel and receive the bread and wine. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer or grape juice, simply ask the person serving.
- The decision about when a child should commune is made by the parent. We encourage families to visit with a pastor to learn about the sacrament before communing for the first time. Children communing should extend their hands. Children not communing are invited to fold their hands.
- Coffee is served in the Commons Area before Sunday worship services.
- St. John is a member congregation of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** and part of the **Western North Dakota Synod**. St. John is a corporate member of Badlands Ministries Bible Camp and St. Luke's Nursing Home. ELCA and LCMS congregations in western and eastern North Dakota own Lutheran Social Services of N.D., a private, nonprofit social services agency.
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~ Introductions to the Readings ~

**Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16** - As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's old womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

**Romans 4:13-25** - Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

**Mark 8:31-38** - After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

~ Worship Leaders ~

Preaching Minister .....	Pastor Joe Natwick	
Presiding Minister .....	Pastor Lisa Lewton	Sunday
Assisting Ministers .....	Tanna Reopelle	Thursday
	Dream O'Brien	8 AM Sunday
	Russ Murphy	10:30 AM Sunday
Deacons.....	Susan Moberg	8 AM Sunday
	Jesse Kilwein	10:30 AM Sunday
Organists .....	Barb Arneson	Thursday
	Michael Stevenson	Sunday
Servers .....	Amy Fridley	Thursday
	Courtney Roller, Beau Krueger	8 AM Sunday
	McKenna Skaare, Weston Klatt	10:30 AM Sunday



During Lent, you are encouraged to slow down and reflect. As Lutherans, we set aside 40 days to let go of our unhealthy attachments and renew a right relationship with God. The season of Lent reminds us to say no to things that do not nurture our relationship with Christ, and to say yes to things that do.

**MIDWEEK LENT ON WEDNESDAYS – Telling Stories of Faith**

Throughout Lent, Feb. 21 through March 21, we will engage in stories. We will study stories told in Scripture in the weekly class at 5:45 p.m., and we will hear stories of faith from some of our members at worship. The service is about 40 minutes and includes Holy Communion and Holden Evening Prayer. Thank you to the speakers who will share their stories, hoping to draw you deeper into your own story of faith in Jesus Christ.

February 28 – Sharon Kadrmas

March 7 – Abigail Moberg

March 14 – Alexis Meduna

March 21 – Taylor Krieg and Mort Krieg

\*There is no Church School, Confirmation, or Mentor Groups on Wednesdays during Lent.

~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, Feb 26	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Scouts Scouts
Tuesday, Feb 27	8:30 AM 7:00 PM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting FPU (Financial Peace University) Theology on Tap at Fluffy Fields
Wednesday, Feb 28	9:30 AM 5:30 PM 5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Monthly Staff Meeting Lenten Supper Adult Study 2nd Grade Milestone Ministry Class Lenten Worship
Thursday, Mar 1	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Backpack Prep Worship
Friday, Mar 2	6:30 AM 9:00 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins Backpack Delivery
Saturday, Mar 3	9:00 AM	Altar Guild
Sunday, Mar 4	8:00 AM 9:15 AM  10:30 AM 1:00 PM 3-5:30 PM  6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Worship Senior Choir practice Adult Education- <i>Learning in Service to Christ</i> Worship Handbells United Methodist Church – Lent Worship In Fellowship Room Scouts Sr. High Youth Group

**WORSHIP LIFE**

At worship services this past week, these numbers reflect how many people were sent to *Live in Service to Christ*:  
Ash Wednesday **364**, Thursday **No Service**, and Sunday **209**.

**BAPTISM**

On Sunday, we celebrate the baptism of **Crew Michael Gayda**. His parents are Michael and Kristine Gayda. The sponsors are Matthew Raymond and Kayle Olson.



**LENTEN SCHEDULE:**

Sunday Worship	8:00 & 10:30 am
Thursday Worship	7:00 pm
Wednesdays	5:30 pm Lenten Supper (Puerto Rico FUNdraiser) 5:45 pm "What is the Bible?" Adult Lenten study Milestone Ministry classes as scheduled 7:00 pm Lenten Worship

## ~ SERVE & CONNECT ~

### WALK TO MALAWI!

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>



To encourage you to be well, St. John will walk 9,038 miles to Malawi, Africa as a community. You are encouraged to track the miles you walk, run, and bike during Lent, and if none of those are your things, track each 15 minutes of physical activity to equal one mile. Submit your miles by

- 1) Entering them online at [www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org) by clicking on the Malawi slide
- 2) emailing them to Amy Graves at [agraves@stjohnelc.org](mailto:agraves@stjohnelc.org), or
- 3) write them on the bulletin board in the Commons Area.

### “WHAT IS THE BIBLE?” - Adult Lenten Study

Sundays @ 9:15 am

Wednesdays @ 5:45 pm

Come & explore how an ancient library of poems, letters and stories can transform the way you think and feel about everything.

Feb. 25/28 – High Altitude Reading:

*How the Bible interprets itself*

Mar 4/7 - Looking Back:

*How History Opens a Whole New World*

Mar 11/14 – Literally vs Literarily:

*Was There Really a Whale?*

Mar 18/21 – Being American:

*How to Read Ancient Jewish Books Today*

Mar 25 - Asking the Right Questions:

*Why Genesis Never Asked “When?”*

### MILESTONE MINISTRIES

Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> @ 5:45 pm – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

*“Kids & Money”*

Milestone classes are designed for the student and parent(s) or guardian(s) to participate together. Classes will be held in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Fellowship room. Come at 5:30 pm and bring your Lenten supper with you to class!

### THEOLOGY ON TAP

Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm (Fluffy Fields)

Let's talk about everyday topics that Christians wrestle with - in a casual and fun atmosphere! Everyone is welcome and encouraged to bring a friend (*this is not a “Lutheran-based” group*).

### IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD – Benefit Concert

Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm (note time change!)

This is the 4<sup>th</sup> in a series of concerts that bring DSU and other area musicians together to benefit the food pantry! The concert is open to the public. Admission: non-perishable food item or cash donation for the food pantry.



### BECOME A STEPHEN MINISTER!

March 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm

Training for Stephen Ministers will begin March 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Church

Basement. Stephen Ministers work alongside our pastors to care for people going through difficult times. If this interests you, please prayerfully consider whether you might want to be part of this ministry. Contact the church office with questions or to register for the training (701.225.6747).

### AMEN FOOD PANTRY

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Time commitment: An occasional Tuesday or Thursday from 2-4 p.m. and arriving about 15 minutes prior to work time.

On the job training. No lifting required. Come with a desire and willingness to help people. If this speaks to you, please contact Peggy Fadness, St. John Volunteer Coordinator, at 701-483-0809 with any questions or to volunteer.

Visit us at [www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org) for updates on activities & schedules!