

# *1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent*

## *March 10, 2019*

*These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues; to receive the gifts of God's grace; to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus; and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.*

### **- Gathering -**

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

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

Litany of Partnership with Central African Republic (C.A.R.)

In baptism, we are made members of the body of Christ and joined in God's mission for the life of the world. **We are church that reaches around the globe.**

We are connected to Christians of every time and place and are partners with them in mission and ministry. **Even though we may never meet, we walk together.**

We give thanks for the partnership shared between the people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic, and the people of the Western North Dakota Synod of the ELCA. **We rejoice at the diversity of songs and prayers that praise the same God.**

We pray for our siblings in Christ in C.A.R. who are experiencing violence, displacement, and terror. **We build bridges of mercy when pray for one another.**

We walk alongside them as they seek healing and restoration. **We are one church.**

We re-commit to accompanying our neighbors, including sharing our resources for the sake of God's work of healing and wholeness. **We make this promise in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new. **Amen.** In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and embrace God's promise of mercy. *(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

God at the margins, **we have wandered far from our home with you; again and again, we lose our way. We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen.**

Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the sake of † Christ, leading you from death into life. **Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn – #769 If You But Trust in God to Guide You

Greeting and Kyrie – Page 138

Prayer of the Day

### **- Word -**

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

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

Gospel Acclamation – Page 142 (Return to the Lord...)

Gospel (Before reading: **Glory to you, O Lord.** After: **Praise to you, O Christ!**)

Sermon

## Hymn of the Day – #325 I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Apostles' Creed – Page 105

Prayers of the People and Sharing the Peace (Response: **And also with you.**)

### **- Meal -**

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

Offering Senior Choir Anthem at 10:30 a.m. "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

## Offertory Hymn – #328 (V. 1-3) Restore in Us, O God

Offering Prayer, Great Thanksgiving and Holy, Holy, Holy – Page 144

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name...**

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 146

## Hymns – #479, #322, #496

Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

### **- Sending -**

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

Benediction

## Hymn – Deep Peace

**Deep peace of the running waves, deep peace of the flowing air,  
deep peace of the shining stars to you, deep peace of the quiet earth.**

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

# Welcome to Worship at St. John!

If you are here for the very first time, or if you are a regular visitor, we are excited you found St. John. Walking into a church building for the first time can be intimidating. Now that you are here, sit back and relax. Everything you need to know about the service is in your bulletin or on the projector screen. You do not need to know stuff about the Bible or Lutheran liturgy.

You need only to be curious about what God might up to in this service and in your life. Through the mysterious work of the Spirit, you will be fed with God's Word in song, Scripture and sermon, and then we will set the table with our best dishes and welcome you to the feast of Holy Communion. You may be new to St. John, but we have been expecting you and waiting to welcome you on this day.

**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 or meal*, 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. It is not a requirement to be Lutheran or a member of this congregation. 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.
- Fair Trade Coffee is served in the Commons Area before Sunday worship services.
- About St. John: 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 congregations in western and eastern North Dakota own Lutheran Social Services of N.D., a private, nonprofit social services agency.

## ~ Introductions to the Reading ~

Deuteronomy 26:1-11- *The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.*

Romans 10:8b-13- *Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.*

Luke 4:1-13- *After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called "the Son of God."*

## ~ Worship Leaders ~

Preaching.....	Pastor Lisa Lewton	
Presiding Minister.....	Pastor Joe Natwick	
Assisting Ministers.....	LaRae Tschetter	Wednesday
	Rasia Mackey	8:00 AM Sunday
	Michele Anderson	10:30 AM Sunday
Deacons.....	Dan Pender	8:00 AM Sunday
	Alissa Karsky	10:30 AM
Organist.....	Barb Arneson	Wednesday
	Barb Arneson	Sunday
Servers .....	Sofia Mackey & Burkley Luchi	8:00 AM
	Nathan Klein & Ian Homiston	10:30 AM

## WORSHIP LIFE

At worship services this past week, these numbers reflect how many people were sent to *Live in Service to Christ*: Wednesday **168**, Thursday **53**, Sunday **258**.



## **MIDWEEK LENTEN SERIES - "The Walk Where God Showed Up"** **March 13 – April 10**

Walking through this life, God shows up through people. Look back and wonder who has walked with you along the way to encourage you in your life and faith in Jesus. Look ahead and know God will continue to show up and walk alongside you. Come and hear when "God showed up" in stories from the following St. John members: March 13<sup>th</sup> – Bruce Pier, March 20<sup>th</sup> – Kris Pederson, March 27<sup>th</sup> – Rasia Mackey, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Rachael Sisson, April 10<sup>th</sup> – Trevor Conrad.

## ~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, March 11	4:30 PM	Lutheran Social Services
	5:00 PM	Scouts
	7:00 PM	Scouts
Tuesday, March 12	8:30 AM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting
	6:15 PM	Lutheran Social Services
Wed., March 13	9:30 AM	Monthly Staff Meeting
	5:30 PM	Lenten Supper
	5:45 PM	Adult Study
	7:00 PM	Lenten Worship
Thursday, March 14	6:00 PM	Backpacks
Friday, March 15	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins
	9:00 AM	Backpack Delivery
Saturday, March 16	9:30 AM	Circle 6
Sunday, March 17	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Adult Education
		Senior Choir
	10:30 AM	Worship
	3:15 PM	Handbells
	7:00 PM	Senior High Youth



## LENTEN SCHEDULE

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### March 13<sup>th</sup> – April 10<sup>th</sup>: LENT

<b>SUNDAYS</b>	<b>8:00 &amp; 10:30 am Worship</b>
	<b>9:15 am Adult Lenten Study – Confirmation 2.0 “The Bible”</b>
<b>WEDNESDAYS*</b>	<b>7:00 pm Lenten Worship – “The Walk Where God Showed Up”</b>
	<b>5:30 pm Lenten Supper (Mystery Mission Trip FUNdraiser)</b>
	<b>5:45 pm Adult Lenten study - “Confirmation 2.0 – The Bible”</b>
<b>THURSDAYS</b>	<b>No Worship</b>

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.

***\*There is no Church School, Milestone Ministry classes or Confirmation activities during Lent. Families are invited to participate in Lenten worship together.***

## ~ SERVE & CONNECT ~

### **MEET YOUR PAKISTANI NEIGHBORS**

**March 31<sup>st</sup> @ 9:15 am (Fellowship room)**



Did you know DSU hosts exchange students from all over the world?

Through a highly competitive process, a small group of students are selected to travel to the United States for one semester of study.

On Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, three exchange students from Pakistan will give a presentation about life in their country. Anusha, Narmeen, and Rabia will cover a range of topics related to the politics, religion, and culture of Pakistan. They will also share about their experiences in the United States beyond just the freezing temperatures and the piling snow!

You are invited to come learn more about your neighbors and their experience in Dickinson!

### **LILY MEMORIAL FUND**



An Easter Memorial Fund has been established for your gifts *in memory* or *in honor* of loved ones. Funds will be used to purchase several lilies to decorate the chancel area, with most of the money going to the

#### **Western ND Synod—Accompaniment Fund.**

The Accompaniment Fund was established in 2017 to provide for the increasing costs of human resources and physical assets necessary to work one-on-one with people discerning their calls and congregations in need of assistance.

Forms are located on the Sanctuary entrance tables and online (click on GIVE \ Memorial Gifts).

### **IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD – Benefit Concert**

**March 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm (St. John)**

This concert will feature nationally renowned opera singers Andrew and Megan Potter. We are excited to host these fantastic singers and to share their talents with the community! Other musical selections will be provided by members of the Dickinson State University music faculty.

#### **The event is FREE and open to the public.**

Non-perishable food items and cash donations are encouraged and accepted. All proceeds will go directly to the Amen Food Pantry. Click on the homepage slide on our website for more info!

### **IT'S BUTTER BRAID TIME!**

**Sale dates: Feb.25-Mar 25**

**Delivery date: April 17<sup>th</sup>**

Campers who are anxiously awaiting Summer Bible Camp are encouraged to participate in this great FUNdraiser! Kids earn \$4.50 / braid sold as a campership! Forms are located on the Commons area and basement bulletin boards, and available online through the weekly E-News.

### **SWEET DEAL FOR C.A.R.**

**(Central African Republic)**

The WND Synod is raising money for our companion synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Central African Republic, through the Sweet Deal for CAR project.

#### **Here is how you can help!**

Take a tube of M&M Minis (located on the Sanctuary entrance tables), enjoy a chocolate treat, and return the tube to church office filled with quarters by Easter Sunday (April 21). Each tube holds approximately \$14.

#### **Where does the money go?**

Funds raised will support the work of our brothers and sisters of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Central African Republic. In past years, monies raised have supported hospitals, primary schools, educational scholarships, women's empowerment programs, clean water projects, and humanitarian aid during political unrest. Though civil war persists in CAR, the church continues to be at work, proclaiming the life, light, and peace of Christ.