

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

## March 17, 2019

*Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek the face of the Lord again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."*

### - Gathering -

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

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

(10:30 a.m.) Installation of New Council Members and Officers

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 receive 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 – #697 Just a Closer Walk with Thee

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 – #815 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**

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

**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, 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 146

**Hymns – #479, #666, #770**

Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

**- Sending -**

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

Benediction

**Hymn – Deep Peace** (*sing twice*)

**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.stjohnecl.org](http://www.stjohnecl.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.stjohnecl.org](http://www.stjohnecl.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 ~

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18- God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a son, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

Philippians 3:17--4:1- Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

Luke 13:31-35- Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

~ Worship Leaders ~

Preaching.....	Pastor Joe Natwick	
Presiding Minister.....	Pastor Lisa Lewton	
Assisting Ministers.....	Hailey Graves	Wednesday
	LaRae Tschetter	8:00 AM Sunday
	Kris Fehr	10:30 AM Sunday
Deacons.....	Jennifer Jung	8:00 AM Sunday
	Mary Ann Marsh	10:30 AM
Organist.....	Cheryl Hewson	Wednesday
	Cheryl Hewson	Sunday
Servers .....	Ian Homiston & Thomas Lewton	8:00 AM
	James Reger & Dylan Smith	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*: Ash Wednesday **427** and Sunday **262**.



**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).

**CONGREGATION COUNCIL INSTALLATION**

After new Council members and officers are elected, a congregation “installs” them, meaning they are formally put in place to lead. Installed today are new Council members: Kent Anderson, Alissa Karsky, Mary Anne Marsh, and Claire Schlabsz; and new officers: President Dan Pender, Vice President Linda Spichal, Senior Deacon Jesse Kilwein, and Senior Trustee Richard Benz. Their photo, along with Council Minutes, can be found at [www.stjohnc.org](http://www.stjohnc.org) under the “GET TO KNOW US” tab. Click on “Staff & Leadership Committees”.

~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, March 18	4:30 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Lutheran Social Services Scouts Scouts
Tuesday, March 19	8:30 AM 12:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting Alzheimer Support Group Personnel Committee Meeting Stephen Ministry Executive Council Meeting Council Meeting DSU-If Music Be the Food
Wed., March 20	9:30 AM 5:30 PM 5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Staff Meeting Lenten Supper Adult Study Lenten Worship
Thursday, March 21	12:00 PM 6:00 PM	Circle 4 Backpacks
Friday, March 22	6:30 AM 9:00 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins Backpack Delivery
Saturday, March 23	8:30 AM	Lutheran Social Services-Child Care Aware
Sunday, March 24	8:00 AM 9:15 AM  10:30 AM 3:15 PM 7:00 PM	Worship Adult Education Senior Choir Worship-Prayground Handbells Senior High Youth



**LENTEN SCHEDULE : MARCH 13<sup>th</sup> – APRIL 10<sup>th</sup>**

<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>

\*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 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.

***\*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 (basement)**



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!

### **SOMETHING NEW IS COMING!**

In the near future, there will be a tablet located in the Commons area for everyone to access Confirmation pictures (along with other archived photos), and the St. John website. You will be able to complete registrations, make online donations, etc. from this device.

Thank you to Kris Brugamyer for digitizing the Confirmation pictures to help make this possible.



### **CARING MINISTRY**

**Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm**  
**Main Fellowship Room**

St. John's Visitation Team ensures that those who are hospitalized or homebound see a friendly face from St. John. Please come to this meeting if you are interested in learning more about the visitation ministry!

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



The WND Synod is raising money for our companion synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in the **Central African Republic**, through the Sweet Deal for C.A.R 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.

### **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!

### **REMINDER! BUTTER BRAID ORDERS ARE DUE SOON!**

All Butter Braid order forms must be received in the church office **no later than Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**. Braids will be delivered on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> (just in time for Easter)!