

# The Fifth Sunday in Lent



**Saint John Lutheran Church**

Hattiesburg, Mississippi

**March 26, 2023**

# Welcome!

*"How great is the Love the Father has lavished on us!" (1 John 3:1).*

We are thankful you are joining in the worship with the people of God this day. We are glad to assist you at any time.

To better your experience while at St. John:

- Please check that cell phones are silenced.
- Restrooms are located on the right in the lobby and down the bell tower hallway to the right towards the fellowship hall.
- Prayer requests may be written on the white cards in the pew rack and given to an usher before worship begins, or as you leave.
- A self-staffed nursery is available to parents as needed, past the wooden double doors on the left.
- Activity bags to help keep young children occupied during the message are provided in the back right corner as you enter the sanctuary.
- If this is your first visit, please sign our Guest Book located in the lobby near the Sanctuary.



## **Saint John Lutheran Church**

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*We are imperfect people and we live in an imperfect world. We are all in this together. So when we believe or act wrongly towards someone, or when we feel that another has wronged us, we commit ourselves to the humble teaching and forgiving pattern of Jesus in Matthew 18.*

# The Fifth Sunday in Lent

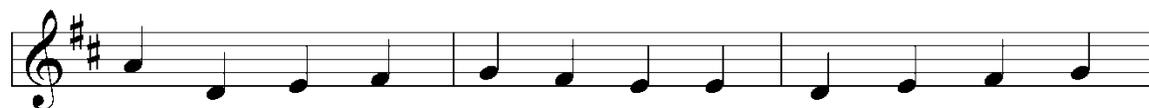
## + GATHERING +

**Prayer As We Begin** — *Please remain seated.*

**☑ Heavenly Father, as we come before you this morning in Jesus' name, we pray all that we say and do in our worship will give you glory. Help us, Lord, to focus our thoughts on you, so your Word will find fertile ground in our minds and hearts. May the worship service today accomplish in us the purpose you desire. Amen.**

### Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

LSB 685



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -  
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience  
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He  
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to  
bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He  
con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to  
from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,  
is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,  
us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion  
You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and  
We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts  
That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that  
Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful  
that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,  
shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,  
con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,





Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.  
here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.  
here with You I die, There to live with You on high.  
let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

## The Invocation and Kyrie

- L** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** Amen.

## Peace and Collect Prayer

- L** The LORD be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- L** Let us pray.
- C** Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people, that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## + WORD +

### Old Testament Reading

*Ezekiel 37:1-14*

- L** *The Old Testament Reading for the Fifth Sunday in Lent is from Ezekiel, Chapter 37, Verses 1-14. The Lord breathes life into dead bones and raises his people from their graves.*

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.'

<sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

**L** This is the Word of the LORD.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **Choir Anthem**

### **Epistle Reading**

*Romans 8:1-11*

**L** *The Epistle is from Romans, Chapter Eight, Verses 1-11. When the Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, you also will receive life in your bodies.*

<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup>Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

**L** This is the Word of the LORD.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## The Lenten Verse — *Return to the Lord, your God.*

LSB 157



**C** Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## Holy Gospel

*John 11:17-27, 38-53*

**L** The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>17</sup>Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup>So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup>She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." <sup>43</sup>When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." <sup>44</sup>The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

<sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, <sup>46</sup>but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. <sup>47</sup>So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. <sup>48</sup>If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." <sup>49</sup>But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. <sup>50</sup>Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." <sup>51</sup>He did not say this of his own

accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, <sup>52</sup>and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. <sup>53</sup>So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

℣ This is the Gospel of the LORD.

☩ **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Apostles' Creed**

℣ Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

☩ **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.**

### **Catechesis: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

*As the head of the family should teach the Sacrament of Holy Baptism in a simple way to their household.*

*(From the Small Catechism)*

#### **Part One**

What is Baptism? – **Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.**

Which is that word of God? – **Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew:**

**"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."**

#### **Part Two**

What benefits does Baptism give? – **It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.**

Which are these words and promises of God? – **Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."**

*Please be seated.*

# My Song Is Love Unknown

LSB 430



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to  
 2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -  
 3 Some - times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es  
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and  
 5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a -



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly  
 stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would  
 sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their  
 spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their  
 way; A mur - der - er they save, The Prince of Life they



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake  
 know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,  
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,  
 sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these  
 slay. Yet cheer - ful He To suf - f'ring goes



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?  
 Who at my need His life did spend!  
 And for His death They thirst and cry.  
 Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.  
 That He His foes From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home  
 My Lord on earth might have;  
 In death no friendly tomb  
 But what a stranger gave.  
 What may I say?  
 Heav'n was His home  
 But mine the tomb  
 Wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,  
 No story so divine!  
 Never was love, dear King,  
 Never was grief like Thine.  
 This is my friend,  
 In whose sweet praise  
 I all my days  
 Could gladly spend!

## The Message — Mr. Mark Keyl ~ Holy Baptism-Water in the Spirit

### The Prayers of the Church and The Our Father

**☒ 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.

## + SENDING +

### Benedicamus and Blessing

**L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**L** Let us bless the LORD.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**L** We speak the Romans 15 blessing to one another:

**May the God of HOPE  
fill you with all JOY and PEACE  
as you TRUST in him,  
so that YOU may overflow with HOPE  
by the POWER of the Holy Spirit.**

**L** The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen

### My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

LSB 575



1 My hope is built on nothing less Than Je - sus'  
2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on  
3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me  
4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I



blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my  
His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and  
in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly  
then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -



own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.  
ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!



*Refrain*

On Christ, the sol-id rock, I stand; All oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

THIS WEEK						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>9:15am Sunday School</u>						<u>10am AA</u>
<u>10:30am Worship</u>	<u>12pm AA</u>					

“What’s Your 80?” Praise God! In just four short weeks, we have met and surpassed our goal of \$800!! We will continue collecting donations until Sunday, April 2, 2023. Thank you to all for your generous donations to the Mission Grants for the Gulf States District and National LWML.

*Praise  
the  
Lord*

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# Take Home Announcements — Sunday, March 26, 2023

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## Serving the Lord Today

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Gary Weier 228.256.2791 <a href="mailto:garyweier@yahoo.com">garyweier@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Organist</b>	Jason Sims
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Debbie Frederick & Diana Rymarz
<b>Lector</b>	Ethan Potesta

### **Church Office Hours:**

Monday – Thursday: 8:00am-12:00pm

### **Altar Flowers:**

### **Eternal Candle:**

### **Scriptures Next Sunday:**

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Matthew 27:11-66

## Today's Theme

*Decaying skeletons are revived in hearing the prophecies of God. Graveyards are opened; the dead are raised—and the Lord does it all! Lifeless creatures respond to the breath of the Holy Spirit. Hostile flesh wars against God and dies, but those continually revived by the Spirit live in peace. Dead Lazarus is three days entombed in stench, and yet, when Jesus speaks, he rises, he lives! Lazarus sheds the shroud of death, and the Lord has done it all!*

### Birthdays

Kyra Johnson	3/29
Alex O'Connor	3/29
James Elledge	3/30

### Baptisms

Sawyer Chaney	3/30
Wayland Johnson	4/1

**Live Streaming of Worship Services** — [www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com](http://www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com).

**Avenues Study Group** — Meets April 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

**Altar Flowers & Eternal Candle** — Sponsors needed!

**LWML MITES** — MITES will be collected next Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you are unable to attend worship service, you may make your check out to Saint John Lutheran LWML and mail it directly to Christina Noffke at 108 Ramblewood Drive, Hattiesburg, MS 39402.

**Easter Sunday Coffee** — The LWML will host an Easter Sunday Coffee in the church narthex from 9-10am prior to the Resurrection worship service. Come and share this joyful day by greeting our visitors, friends, and fellow members with “yummy” baked items, juice, and coffee! Also, there will be an Easter craft and something sweet for every child. If you would like to help or bake something special, please contact any LWML member. Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He has Risen Indeed! Alleluia!



<b>Prayers Needed</b>			
Chris Thiel	Serving Stateside (FL)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	10/1/16
Kelly Thiel	Serving Stateside (NC)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	11/20/16
Cory Thiel	Serving Overseas (Germany)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	11/20/22
Matt Geroux	Serving Stateside (TX)	Son of Kerry and Debbie Geroux	04.09.2022
Scott Chaney	Serving Stateside	Member	5/6/18
Bailey Walters	Serving Overseas	Member	10/31/18
Darrin Torrey	Serving Stateside	SIL of Jerry & Helga Herrington	10/31/18
Bill Lowry	Serving Overseas	Member	4/15/19
John Krahlung	Recurring Cancer	Son of Joyce Coll	7/15/18
Eric Martin	Cancer	Member	10/6/19
Kenneth Johnson	Prostate Cancer	Brother of Wayland Johnson	10/18/20
Lisa Case	Upcoming parathyroid surgery	Member	3/22/23
Warner Boortz	Health and Strength	Member	12/1/18
DuWayne Lemke	Lung Cancer	Brother of Shirley Thone	3/24/21
Doug Taylor, Bo Cleveland, Judy Lacey	Seriously ill	Friends of Don Shields	1/26/22
Faye Hill	Health and Strength	Mother of Chris Keiper	10/19/22
Campus Mission	For its advance and increase	For all students and educators	4/20/22
Pastoral Leadership	For wisdom, discernment, and	Transition and Calling of Next Pastor	7/26/20
Caregivers	Strength, Support, Encouragement	All those in need	7/26/20
Yvonne Lee	Health and Strength	Mother of Patrice Lovdahl	6/29/22
Josephine Nwachuku	Prayers for Health and Strength	Member	9/11/22
Ian VanWinkle	Started infusions/Crohn's Disease	Nephew of Terry & Patrice Lovdahl	10/9/22
Keri Allen	Stage four liver cancer	Niece of Dennis & Lillian Smith	12/20/22
Pete Harris	Cancer	Friend of Susan Perkins	1/3/23
Lynne Longman	Expecting: health/strength for mother and baby	Wife of Christopher Longman	1/3/23
Geraldine Wheeler	Health and strength	Member	2/12/23
Family of Bob Schneider	Died in the Lord	Member	2/12/23
Family of Marsha Rogers	Died in the Lord	Close friend of Shirley Thone	3/14//23
Doris Schneider	Prayers for Health & Strength	Member	2/22/23
Cheyenne Thiel	Prayers for Health & Strength	Member	3/3/23
Julie Radavich	Prayers for Health & Strength	Member	3/13/23
Peter Vasselais	Recently died unexpectedly	Nephew of Elaine Kersh	3/14/23
John Hojem	Health and Strength	Cousin of Chris Noffke	3/23/23