



**Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who journeys with us these forty days,  
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

**Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another  
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*The congregation may kneel or sit for the Confession. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
**we confess to you our faults and failings.**  
**Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;**  
**we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;**  
**we spoil rather than steward your creation;**  
**we cause hurt though you call us to heal;**  
**we choose fear over compassion.**  
**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**  
**as we seek to follow in your way of life.**

**Amen.**

Hear the good news:  
God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,  
so that all may receive life.  
This promise is for you!  
God embraces you with divine mercy,  
† forgives you in Christ's name,  
and revives you in the Spirit's power.

**Amen.**

**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ † , the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Kyrie**

“O Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us” from *All Creation Sings*  
Christian Souza, cantor; Holy Communion Setting Eleven

Leader or All

Se - ñor, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros. Cris - to, ten pie - dad.  
O Lord, have . . . mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy.

All

Se - ñor, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros. Cris - to, ten pie - dad.  
O Lord, have . . . mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy.

Leader or All

Se - ñor, ten pie - dad. Se - ñor, ten pie - dad.  
Have mer - cy, O Lord. Have mer - cy, O Lord.

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**WORD**

**First Reading**

**Exodus 17:1-7**

Brooks Stevenson, lector

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup>The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

*The Word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 95**

Amy Woodall, Micah Hein, cantors

Psalm 95:1 (May Schwarz) Psalm refrain reproduced for *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress

Let us shout for joy to the rock of our sal - va - tion.

<sup>1</sup>O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! <sup>2</sup>Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! <sup>3</sup>For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. <sup>4</sup>In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. <sup>5</sup>The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. <sup>6</sup>O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! <sup>7</sup>For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice! <sup>8</sup>Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, <sup>9</sup>when your ancestors tested me, and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. <sup>10</sup>For forty years I loathed that generation and said, “They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways.” <sup>11</sup>Therefore in my anger I swore, “They shall not enter my rest.”

**Second Reading**

**Romans 5:1-11**

Brooks Stevenson, lector

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. <sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

*Please stand as able.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

“Return to the Lord”

Anna Krentz Organ

Text: Joel 2:13; Music: © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

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

**The Holy Gospel**

**John 4:5-42**

*The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 4th chapter.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup>So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. <sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” <sup>8</sup>(His disciples

had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.” <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon**

*“Living Water”*

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

*Please stand as able.*

**Hymn of the Day**

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” ELW 611

KINGSFOLD

1. I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast.”  
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;  
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.
2. I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live.”  
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”  
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I’ll walk till trav’ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889; Music: English folk tune

**Holy Baptism**

## ***Presentation***

*The pastor invites Elsa and Nick Wartner and Alexander to come forward, and addresses the assembly.*

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

*The parents present the candidate.*

We present Alexander Cañelo Wartner for baptism.

*The pastor addresses the parents.*

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

**I do.**

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn and trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

**I do.**

*The pastor addresses the assembly.*

People of God, do you promise to support Alexander Cañelo Wartner and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

**We do.**

## ***Profession of Faith***

*The pastor addresses the parents and sponsors of young children. The assembly may join in the responses.*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**I renounce them.**

*The pastor addresses the parents, sponsors and assembly.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

### ***Thanksgiving at the Font***

*The pastor leads the thanksgiving as water is poured into the font.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly may be seated.*

### ***Baptism***

Alexander Cañelo, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Alexander Cañelo with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The pastor marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized.*

Alexander Cañelo, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

**Amen.**

### **Welcome**

*Presentation of the Baptismal Candle*

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

*The pastor addresses the assembly.*

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative redeeming word to all the world.**

*The service continues with the Prayers.*

### **Prayers of Intercession**

(Pastor McKenzie, prayers)

*The congregation may kneel or sit for the prayers.*

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

We pray for your church. As Jesus spoke with a woman from a different faith tradition, bless your church in inter-religious dialogue with people of different beliefs, and strengthen our combined witness for the sake of the gospel, that your Holy Spirit might poured into every heart. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for the universe. From distant galaxies to our own planet home, and its caverns, hills and seas, all creation shouts for joy. Fill us with awe and reverence at the diversity of your creation and lead us in wisdom to sustain and preserve the work of your almighty hands. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations of the world. Bring down the walls hatred, discrimination and war that separate us from our neighbors, and grant all leaders wisdom and courage to work for peace, to end war, and to stop discrimination and oppression of others who appear different. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Be present with all who are lonely, and give courage to all who are afraid. Heal the sick and comfort the dying. Give your living water always to all who suffer; we especially remember: Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, Jeff Casella, Rona Reeves, David Kutscher, Vann Milheim, Shirley Larson, Diann Krewson, Mindy Curley, Steve Rach, Oakley Coburn, Stanley Davis, Connie Pope, Arlene Fielding, Anthony Perrini, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Mickey Byrd, Christopher Shirley, Kaoru Otsubo, Joan Love, Jon McKenzie, Jane Thompson, Kliffia Harman, Sandy Simon, Ingrid Keiris, Sam Temple, Greg Bruce, Jamie Bates, Henry & Sharon Vander Voort, Jimmy Schwartz, Larry Marko, Marilyn Creech, Lisa White, John Simon, Dan Price, Roxi Tolbert, and Susan Campbell. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation. Bless us to be a church offering the water of life for all people. We give thanks for Holy Baptism, especially today, for the baptism of Alexander Cañelo Wartner. Bless him and his family, and inspire us in spirit and truth to share your unconditional love for all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We give you thanks for the saints. This week, as we commemorate Gregory the Great and Patrick, giving thanks for worship, prayer and music, deepen each of us in our own prayer life so that, like them, we might reveal the glory of your kingdom of grace to all whom we meet. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

*(Please stand as able, sharing the peace of the risen Christ.)*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## MEAL

*Please be seated.*

**OFFERING** *(Offerings for the mission of the church, and those in need, may be placed in the plates at the sanctuary entrance or during the offering as gathered by the ushers.)*

**Anthem**

“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God”

Carl F. Mueller

*Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.*

**Offertory**

*(The offering is brought forward from the Narthex)*

“Create in Me a Clean Heart” ELW 188

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from you presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray. God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **Amen.**

*Please stand as able.*

**Holy Communion**

## The Great Thanksgiving

S 144a

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Detailed description: This block contains four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures.

## Proper Preface

### Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy” from *Holy Communion Setting Three*

S 144b

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Detailed description: This block contains four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures.

## Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

### The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

### Invitation

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

*Please be seated.*

### Distribution of Holy Communion

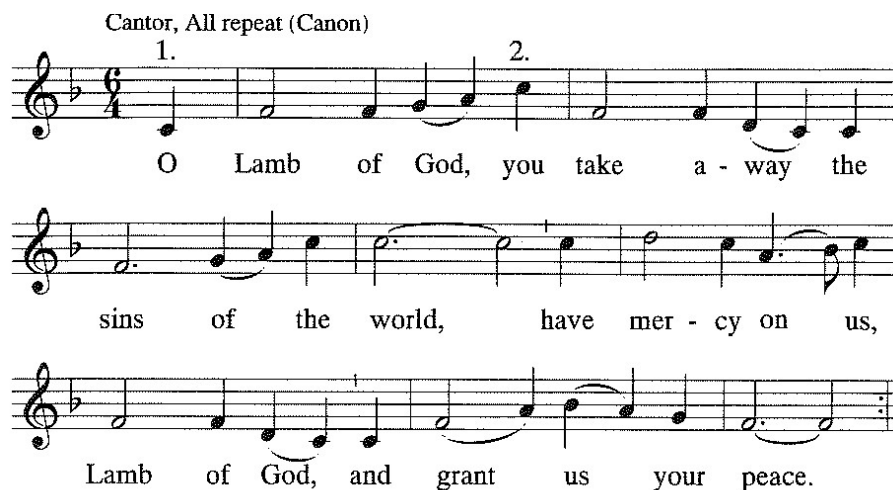
*Holy Communion is offered continuously in front of the freestanding altar, or at the rail of the high altar in two ways, by "Communion Kit" or wafer and wine in a small cup. Please follow the ushers' prompts, walking forward to the desired communion station, and returning via the side aisles. If receiving a "kit" please seal the used utensils in the zip-lock bag, placing the bag after worship in the marked bowl in the Narthex. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.*

### Communion Music

"Lamb of God" from *Land of Rest Acclamations*

LAND OF REST; Arranged by Richard Proulx

Cantor, All repeat (Canon)



1. 2.

O Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world, have mer - cy on us,  
Lamb of God, and grant us your peace.

"Beloved, God's Chosen"

James Bobb

*Please stand as able.*

### Post-Communion Blessing

## Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

## SENDING

### SENDING BLESSING

God, the giver of love,  
✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life,  
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth  
bless you in this Lenten journey.  
**Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn**      “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” ELW 807

NETTLETON

1. Come, thou Fount of ev’ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.
2. Here I raise my Ebenezer: “Hither by thy help I’ve come”;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand’ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be;  
let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand’ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.  
Here’s my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.; Music: J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

### Postlude

“O Lamb of God”

Johann Pachelbel

✠

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✠

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**Worship Leaders:** Pastor Timothy McKenzie (prayers); crucifer: Michael Lakeman; lector: Brooks Stevenson; live streaming camera: Ron Wenzel; soundboard: Kevin Feezor; ushers: Mike Doyne, Jenny Dagenhart, Jay Jacob, Larry Lippert, Jim Metze, Bill Thompson, Michael Thompson; greeters: Neil & Charlotte Dixon, Tom & Kay Sehorn; communion assistants: Barbara Baker, Ruth Barrett, Ken Hazen, Jay Jacob, A. J. Pridgen; communion helper: Catherine Metze; tabulators: Karen Feezor, Meg Fielding; musicians: St. Mark's Choir, Amy Woodall, directing; Amy Woodall, Micah Hein, Christian Souza, cantors; Susan Gindra, Guest Organist

**Next Sunday Leaders:** prayer assistant: Brady Ferner; crucifer/acolyte: Brady Ferner; lector: Maddie Thompson; live streaming camera: NEEDED; soundboard: Alan Harms; ushers: Team D; greeters: Gretchen Dodge, Michael & Tara Thompson; communion assistants: Flora Chance, Cliff Edahl, Chris & Brooks Stevenson, Lawanna Stoeckel; communion helper: Kay Finlon; tabulators: Alan Harms, Charles Lakeman

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## Parish News

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## Coming Up at St. Mark's

### From the pastor -

*"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." (Matthew 16:24)*

Lent is the journey of forty days during which we are invited to renew ourselves in discipleship to Jesus, who calls us to self-denial and the way of the cross. Jesus' words about self-denial invite us to examine who we are in the most profound way. Who is this person I think I am? Who is this "self" I think I know well, yet remains elusive? The Lenten journey of forty days is an invitation to see and understand ourselves before Jesus' cross on the path that Jesus walks. Jesus lives raised in this world in service to others. To follow Jesus is not the work of a single day or even forty days. It is the discipleship of a lifetime. Lent provides an opportunity to sharpen our focus upon Jesus and his suffering love for humanity, so that freed from a desire for the things of this world, we might more fully live for Jesus in service to others. This Lent, led by Christ, may you rediscover his grace in our life together as St. Mark's serving others!

In the fellowship of Christ, Pastor Tim McKenzie  
pastortimsmc@gmail.com

### Worship and Congregational Life

**Holy Baptism Today (10:30):** In Holy Baptism we welcome Alexander Cañelo Wartner into Christ's body, the church. We pray God's blessing upon Alexander and his parents, Elsa and Nick, as they continue their journey of faith at St. Mark's!

**Thank you!** We are grateful to Susan Gindra, who is our guest organist while Les Ackerman is away on vacation.

### Lenten Schedule

**Lenten Wednesday Supper** 6 pm-6:45 pm Fellowship Hall, beginning March 1.

**Lenten Midweek Worship** 7 pm (in-person and online)

**LENTEN BOX OFFERINGS:** If you have not yet received a Lenten box, there are some on the desk in the gathering place along with a letter explaining this year's recipient - REFUGEE SUPPORT SERVICES. Your donations will provide infant car seats for babies of recently arrived refugees. Put your name on the box and during Lent donate loose change, paper money or simply write a check to St. Mark's and place in the box. Put your box where it will be a daily reminder of Jesus' journey to the cross and his ultimate sacrifice for us.

**Volunteers needed** to answer the phone at the front desk, Monday-Thursday, 10 am to 2 pm. Please call or email if you would like to help. Thank you!

**The Ethnic Restaurant Group** will dine at Southern Pecan in Phillips Place on March 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM. Southern Pecan is a relatively new restaurant that features Gulf Coast cuisine. It is operated by the same group that runs Café Monte. The address is 6706 Phillips Place Ct, Charlotte, NC 28210. These dishes have distinctly Deep South profiles. The menu covers a wide range of favorites from the Gulf States. The atmosphere is casual and friendly. Come join the fun, and bring a friend to share the experience! All people are welcome. Please RSVP to Tom & Judy Tolbert (call the church office) by the Sunday afternoon before the dinner. We look forward to seeing many of you at Southern Pecan.

**The Saint Mark's Book Study Group** will meet on Thursday, March 23, at 10 am—both in the large conference room and via Zoom. Our study book this month is *Big Lies in a Small Town* by Diane Chamberlain. This is a story of two linked time periods in Edenton, NC. In 2018, a young woman's life has been derailed. Taking the fall for a crime she did not commit, her dream of a career in art is put on hold—until a mysterious visitor makes her an offer that will get her released from prison immediately. Her assignment: restore an old post office mural in a sleepy southern town. Even though she knows nothing about art restoration, she is desperate to be free, so she accepts. What she finds under the layers of grime is a painting that tells the story of madness, violence, and a conspiracy of smalltown secrets. In 1940, Anna Dale, an artist from New Jersey, wins a national contest to paint a mural for the post office in Edenton, North Carolina. Alone in the world and in great need of work, she accepts. But what she doesn't expect is to find herself immersed in a town where prejudices run deep, where people are hiding secrets behind closed doors, and where the price of being different might just end in murder. There are many lies to be uncovered in this small town. Please join us in reading this intriguing book and meet to discuss it on March 23. For more information, please contact Kay Sehorn or Judy Tolbert.

**The Christian Education Hour is at 9:30 am on Sundays.** Please join us as you are able. Explore the life and faith of C. S. Lewis each Sunday at 9:30 in the Large Conference room. Examine Lewis's

experiences with doubt, conversion, grief, and joy and how to apply those lessons today. Professor Michael Ward leads this video course based on Lewis's classic writings.

**“Hybrid Worship”** is both in-person and online worship at the same time. The Holy Spirit gathers us both in-person and online as we continue to live together as the body of Christ during this pandemic.

**Online worship** continues to be streamed every Sunday at 10:30 am on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/SaintMarksLutheran/>).

**Ushers for Sunday Worship** The ministry of ushering is a crucial part of worship because it is one of the most visible ministries in the Church. Please Volunteer by contacting the church office or John Simon.

**St. Mark's email list** If you are not receiving emails from St. Mark's, we may not have your correct email address. Please contact the church to let us know. We send at least 2 emails every week.

### **Family Ministry**

#### **Youth Classes**

Sundays at 9:30: Youth Group in the Youth Room. Godly Play has been temporarily paused.

**Confirmation Class** meets every other Sunday at 9:30.

### **Stewardship**

#### **2023 Stewardship Appeal**

If you have not done so, please prayerfully consider making a financial pledge of support for St. Mark's in 2023. Your pledge helps St. Mark's ministries of worship, service and fellowship continue over the coming year. Your pledge of support is welcome at any time. Pledge cards are available in the Gathering Place. An online pledge option is also available from our website, or you may use the QR code.

**You may use the QR code at left** (hover your phone camera to connect) for immediate access to St. Mark's website donation page. Pledges and donations for Altar Flowers may also be made using this code.



**2023 Offering Envelopes** If you would like a box of offering envelopes, please contact Jessie Craig at [saintmarksfinance@gmail.com](mailto:saintmarksfinance@gmail.com), or call the church office.

**Altar Flower Sponsorship** If you would like to sponsor live flowers for our Sunday worship service, please sign up on the calendar by the mailbox room or contact the church office.

**Social Ministry**

We continue to remember the hungry and homeless through our social ministries.

**Loaves and Fishes** Please remember families who need some assistance putting food on the table every day. Let's continue to overflow our baker's rack with non-perishable, **non-breakable** food items. Or you can leave your donation by the choir room door from 10:00 - 2:00 Monday - Thursday. "I was hungry and you gave me food" Matt.25:35

**Soup Kitchen** St. Mark's Soup Kitchen is serving lunch in the Fellowship Hall every Thursday for our

neighbors. If you would like to serve, please contact us. You may also support the Soup Kitchen through financial donations sent to the church, or through St. Mark's online giving portal. Help us share God's love!

**Announcements**


**Open Eyes Help Everyone!** If you see leaking pipes or something amiss in the building, please contact the church office.

**AA meets** Monday nights "Third Tradition", 7 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall; Wednesday nights "Just the Basics", 7:30 p.m. in Room 210; Thursday nights "Not a Glum Lot", 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall; Saturday morning 10:30 a.m. "SLAA".

**Lenten Suppers**  
**Wednesdays**  
**March 1 - 29 at**  
**6:00 PM**

**Sign up in the**  
**Gathering Place to**  
**help our cooks**  
**prepare each week.**

**Lenten Midweek**  
**Prayer 7 PM.**







**PEACE LILIES**  
 They are \$14.00 each.  
 Deadline is April 2nd.

**CROSS SUNBURST**  
 Donations accepted through Easter.

**ALTERNATE GIFTS**  
 REFUGEE SUPPORT SERVICES - For infant car seats  
 Donations accepted through Easter.

**Forms are in the Gathering Place.**

*Joyful Hearts*

**Bach: Solo Cantatas for Soprano**  
**Vivaldi: Concerto for 2 Oboes**

Kathryn Summersett, Soprano  
 Baroque Oboes, Strings, Harpsichord

**Thursday, March 23**  
**7:30 pm**

Free admission. Donations gratefully accepted.

*St. Mark's Lutheran Church*

254-721-9851  
 1001 Queens Road, Charlotte

## Music Notes

**"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"** ELW 611 This hymn comes to us from the Scottish writer, pastor and editor Horatius Bonar (1808-1889). He wrote about six hundred hymns, and this one was published in 1846 with the title "The Voice from Galilee." The hymn centers on three of the sayings of Jesus found in John 1:16, Matthew 11:28, John 4:14, and John 8:12. The first half of each stanza gives Jesus' invitation, and the second half gives our response. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* pairs this hymn with two contrasting tunes, ELW 332, a tune by sixteenth century composer Thomas Tallis (1505-1585), and the one we sing today, ELW 611 to the English folk tune **KINGSFOLD**, named for the town in Surrey, England.

**"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"** ELW 807 This hymn was written by Robert Robinson (1735-1790) when he was only twenty-three years of age. Born in Norfolk, England, he was sent to London at the age of fourteen to learn the barbering trade. It was there he heard the great Methodist preacher and evangelist George Whitefield. Robinson said he and his friends went to hear Whitefield for the purpose of "scoffing at the poor deluded Methodists." It was from this experience he decided to enter the ministry, first as a Methodist, then as a Baptist. Austin Lovelace writes of Robinson: in his *Hymn Notes* (Chicago, 1987) "Like the more famous John Newton's hymn 'Amazing Grace', Robinson's hymn is one of providence and grace. Like Jacob, who raised an Ebenezer (a stone altar which signified that God had brought him thus far), he confesses how great a debtor he is to the grace of God, as are we all". The American tune **NETTLETON** had its first publication in Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music (1813, Harrisburg, PA). The tune is named for Rev. Asahel Nettleton, a noted American evangelist of the early eighteenth century

## This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar

### March 12, Gregory the Great (c.540-604), Bishop of Rome

Gregory was born the son of a Roman senator, and later became the prefect of the city of Rome. He sold his vast property and devoted the proceeds to the relief of the poor. He founded seven monasteries, six in Sicily and one in Rome. In 590 he was elected Bishop of Rome. Gregory's work was extensive. He influenced public worship through the establishment of a lectionary and prayers to correlate with the readings. He established a school to train church musicians. Gregorian chant is named in his honor. He wrote a treatise underscoring what is required of a parish pastor serving a congregation. He sent missionaries to preach to the Anglo-Saxons who had invaded England. He also organized distribution of grain during a shortage of food in Rome.

### March 17, Patrick, bishop and missionary to Ireland (c.390-461)

Born in Roman Britain, the son of a local town council member, Patrick was kidnapped at age sixteen by Irish pirates and sold into slavery in Ireland. During this captivity, he turned earnestly to God, escaping after six years, and returned to his family in Britain. He began to prepare for ordained ministry, acquiring an intimate knowledge of Latin. He later returned to Ireland as a bishop and missionary. Working from the north of Ireland, he made many missionary journeys with much success. In his autobiography he denounced the slave trade. Patrick's well-known baptismal hymn to the Trinity, "I bind unto myself today" (ELW 450), is appropriate during Lent as a call to return to our baptism.

*Adapted from Sundays and Seasons*

## St. Mark's Prayer List

Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, Jeff Casella, Rona Reeves, David Kutscher, Vann Milheim, Shirley Larson, Diann Krewson, Mindy Curley, Steve Rach, Oakley Coburn, Stanley Davis, Connie Pope, Arlene Fielding, Anthony Perrini, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Mickey Byrd, Christopher Shirley, Kaoru Otsubo, Joan Love, Jon McKenzie, Jane Thompson, Kliffia Harman, Ingrid Keiris, Sam Temple, Greg Bruce, Jamie Bates, Henry & Sharon Vander Voort, Jimmy Schwartz, Larry Marko, Marilyn Creech, Lisa White, John Simon, Dan Price, Roxi Tolbert, and Susan Campbell.

Please email Pastor McKenzie with Prayer List and other prayer requests ([pastortimsmlc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortimsmlc@gmail.com))

### Readings for 3/19/2023,

#### Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalms 23

*You anoint my head*

*with oil. (Ps. 23:5)*

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

### Birthdays

3/12 Lee George

3/15 Cindy Cox

3/14 Matt McCall

3/18 Neil Dixon



Do you feel like you are in crisis? In Isaiah it is written, "Fear not, for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God." Stephen ministers are here to show the Lord's love and comfort for you in times of trial. If you would like to confidentially speak to a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Tim ([pastortimsmlc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortimsmlc@gmail.com))



## *Our Ministers*

### All the people of God at St. Mark's

**Rev. Dr. Timothy McKenzie, Senior Pastor**

[pastortimsmlc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortimsmlc@gmail.com)

**Lester Ackerman,**

**Director of Music Ministry, Organist**

[lackerman2@aol.com](mailto:lackerman2@aol.com)

**Sue Wadgyman, Parish Administrator**

[stmarkselca1001@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkselca1001@gmail.com)

**Jessie Craig, Finance Administrator**

[saintmarksfinance@gmail.com](mailto:saintmarksfinance@gmail.com)

### St. Mark's Lutheran Church

1001 Queens Road, Charlotte, NC 28207 | [saintmarkscharlotte.org](http://saintmarkscharlotte.org) | 704.375.9185