

# ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



**SELC**  
**LCMS**



**Sunday, March 17, 2024, at 9am**



**Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
6<sup>th</sup> & N. Vine St., Hazleton, PA 18201  
570-459-6423 [stjohnshazleton@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnshazleton@gmail.com)  
[stjohnshazleton.org](http://stjohnshazleton.org)

**Rev. Gordon Naumann - *Pastor***  
**Karen Ann Kowalczyk - *Organist***  
**David Trovitch - *Deacon***  
**Vaughn Naumann - *Acolyte***  
**Maci Evancho - *Crucifer***

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP TODAY!**

**It is a joy to worship our Savior, Jesus, with you! In the pews there are blue cards for guests and members. Please fill one out and the ushers will collect them after the offering. And if you are looking for a church home, you've just found it!**



## To Our Visitors



### What is Communion/the Lord's Supper?

As members of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, members of St. John's Lutheran Church hold to the biblical and historic understanding of holy communion; that in this sacrament the bread and wine, having been consecrated, are Christ's real, risen, and glorified body and blood, just as Jesus really said, 'Take, eat, this is my body', and 'take, drink... this is my blood' (Matthew 26:26 ff). Holy Communion is received for the forgiveness of sins, for unity with Christ, and for the unity within the 'body of Christ' – that is His Church. This is why it is reserved for those who hold a common confession of faith. Those who share with us in this Holy Supper must be members of a congregation of the LCMS, or of a congregation in full fellowship with the LCMS, thus bearing public witness that they agree with our teaching in general and with the following two teachings in particular:

1. When consecrated, again, the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper are the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, given to us for the remission of sins.
2. Those baptized and confirmed Christians who come to Holy Communion in repentance and faith, grateful for God's forgiveness, are also committed to offering their personal forgiveness to all others.

Guests communing with us for the first time should see the pastor or an elder before the service when possible, to confirm that we are in fellowship. If you are interested in becoming a communicant member or if you have any questions regarding our beliefs and practice, please see the pastor.



## Lent V - Judica

Processional Hymn: 798 The God of Abraham Praise (s.1-4)

Confession and Absolution - *LSB p.151*

Stand



## Service of the Word

**Introit** - Psalm 43:3–5; antiphon: vv. 1–2a

- P** Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people;  
**C** **From the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!**
- P** For you are the God in whom I take refuge.  
**C** **Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me;**  
**P** Let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!  
**C** **Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy,  
and I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.**
- P** Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in such turmoil?  
**C** **Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.**
- P** Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people,  
**C** **From the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!**  
**For you are the God in whom I take refuge.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people;  
**C** **From the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!**

**Kyrie** - *LSB p.152*

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray.  
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.
- C** **Amen.**

Sit

## Old Testament Reading - Genesis 22:1-14

<sup>1</sup>After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>2</sup>He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” <sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” <sup>8</sup>Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

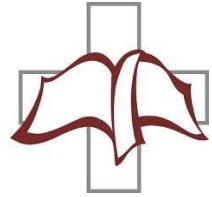
<sup>9</sup>When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>12</sup>He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## **Gradual** - Psalm 143:9a, 10a; 18:48a, c

- P** Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!
- C** **Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!**
- P** [You] delivered me from my enemies;
- C** **You rescued me from the man of violence.**

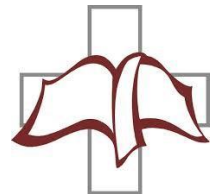


## **Epistle Reading** - Hebrews 9:11–15

<sup>11</sup>When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) <sup>12</sup>he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup>For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, <sup>14</sup>how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

<sup>15</sup>Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**



## **Lenten Tract:** Psalm 129:1–4

- P** “Greatly have they afflicted me from my youth” - let Israel now say -
- C** **“Greatly have they afflicted me from my youth, yet not prevailed.**
- P** The Plowers plowed upon my back; they made long their furrows.”
- C** **The LORD is righteous; he has cut the cords of the wicked.**

## Holy Gospel – John 8:46-59

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

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

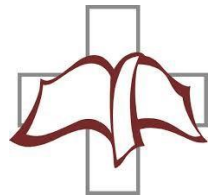
<sup>46</sup>“Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? <sup>47</sup>Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”

<sup>48</sup>The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” <sup>49</sup>Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. <sup>50</sup>Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” <sup>52</sup>The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ <sup>53</sup>Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” <sup>54</sup>Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ <sup>55</sup>But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. <sup>56</sup>Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” <sup>57</sup>So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” <sup>58</sup>Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” <sup>59</sup>So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

*After the lesson is read from the nave:*

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.



*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day: 431 Not All the Blood of Beasts**

**Sermon: “Jesus, I am; even before Abraham!”**

*Stand*

**Apostles’ Creed - LSB p.159**

**Prayer of the Church**

*Sit*

**Offering**

*Stand*

**Offertory - LSB p.159**

**Service of the Sacrament**

**Preface - LSB p.160**

**Sanctus**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**The Words and Declaration of Our Lord**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Pax Domini**

**Agnus Dei**

*Sit*

**Distribution (637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord,  
420 Christ the Life of All the Living)**



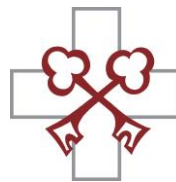
*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis - LSB p.165**

**Post-Communion Collect**

**Benediction**

**Recessional Hymn: 798 The God of Abraham Praise (s.5-9)**



**Prayer Chain Request?**

Contact: Lucille Adamoyurka - (570) 956-1678

**Prayers for Members**

We encourage you this week to pray for:

Frank Gilham, Robert Gould, Pauline Onder, Lucille Adamoyurka, Tom, Sylvia, Stacy, and Sherry Wargo, Patti Zschunke, Peter Panco, Irene Beishline, Bob & Pat Onder, Ann Gangwer, Bob Mandak, Denae Starry, Bill Ray, Lorraine and Jack Ross, and Bob Drummond

May the Lord continue to unite and bless us in the faith.

**This Week at St. John's**

**Wednesday - Confirmation Class at 6pm**

**- Lenten Service at 7pm**

**Palm Sunday - Divine Service at 9am**

**(The baptisms of Mason Moppin and Kinsley Hart)**



## Our Stewardship at a Glance

Sunday Morning Worship: 35 Faithful Servants

Lenten Mid-Week Service 20 Faithful Servants

Caring and Sharing: 4 Faithful Servants

Altar Workers: Dave and Nancy Trovitch

Communion Assistant: David Trovitch

Counters: Lucille Adamoyurka and Lorraine Ray

Flowers: In memory of Mother, Kathryn Onder, on 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her death, and In memory of father, Edward Trovitch, who passed away on February 19, 2024. From Dave and Nancy Trovitch  
Parish House:\$50.00

## Mission/Vision Statement

“We are faith-Growing Followers of Christ,  
Reaching out in Response to God’s Love”

St. John’s Lutheran Church has a ‘Take it or Leave it’ food trolley. Donations received may be a welcome relief to the visitor who is looking for a little help here and there.

Subscribe to the **SELC Newsletter**. Go to the website and enter your email address: **selc.lcms.org** (Scroll to the bottom of the page).



Like, subscribe, and share the divine service from the church’s Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/stjohnshazleton](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnshazleton)

**We’re now asking for Easter Flower Honorariums! (\$10 a plant)**

***Thank you.***

## KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



Every Sunday morning, God's people gather together to receive the wonderful gifts of salvation. The gifts that our Lord has for us are delivered in different ways. One of these very important ways is the sermon.

### Why is the sermon so important?

Some people don't like the sermon. They think it is too long, or maybe it is too boring. Some people even try to think of other things while the pastor is preaching. When we are tempted to think this way, we must remember what the sermon is all about. In the sermon, **the wonderful Gospel message of Christ** and all that He has done for us on the cross is proclaimed. Through the sermon, the pastor brings this great message to people right where they are. Though we see and hear our pastor in the pulpit, The words of the Gospel are spoken to us and all people by Jesus, saving all from their sins. Wow! What a great way to actually hear the voice of our Savior!



**Parents:** Before church, remind your children that Jesus speaks to them directly during the sermon. Let them know that the message is not just for adults, but for Jesus' little lambs too! Encourage them to sit and listen to Jesus as he tells them the Good News. If they get lost in the sermon, comfort them by, after the service, explaining things that might have been confusing.

So called for the number of its keys, the GX-215 is the latest in organ technology! It can even record the organist on their best day and play it back. With swell and crescendo pedals, you'll think you've walked into a different sanctuary with the smooth instrumental sound. Having received 204 keys, we're looking at covering the last **11** at \$180 a key.

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