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11am - 3pm Ashes available from a Pastor

7pm - Worship Service with Ashes & Communion*

* Concurrent Livestream begins at 6:55pm

MAR Lenten Bible Study & Devotion Materials From Lament to Hope: Readings from the Gospel of John

Beginning , March 10th and extending through April, Pastor Jen will lead our Lenten Bible Study. This year's focus will be on the Gospel of John. We'll meet on Zoom from 3 - 5pm on Thursdays. If Thursdays 3 - 5pm doesn't work for you, Pastor Jen is happy to share the recorded study and study materials to you for your Lenten devotions. Email her at **jenbeamsley@stjohnjoliet.org** for links to the live Zoom study, or the recorded study & materials. We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church as we gather for this time of worship and reflection on God's love for the world.

> The altar flowers today are given by Sherrie Baxa in memory of Helen Baxa's birthday.

> To sponsor altar flowers for our worship space, sign up at stjohnjoliet.org or call the church office.

Worship Leaders - Sunday, February 27, 2022 (8:30 am)

Deacon Communion Assistant Greeter Ushers Organ & Piano Music Director Audio Board Livestream Team Counters Altar Guild Meghan Doyle Linda Koerner Sam Riggi Jon Blomquist, Mark Collins, Ron Crabb Janet Blomquist Tori Hicks Gino Incaudo Dawn MacGregor Jan Drish, Nancy Kautz Cheryl Lovell, Maricay Miller

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Prelude

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" Hoelty-Nickel

Welcome and Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- C Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved people. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your Word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may trust in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.
- P Rejoice in this good news: In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven people of God.
- C Amen.

*Opening Hymn

Vs. 1-4

"We Walk by Faith"

Text by: Henry Alford. Music by: Carl G. Glaser. arr. Lowell Mason. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

- Verse 1We walk by faith and not by sight;
With gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."
- Verse 2 We may not touch your hands and side, Nor follow where you trod; But in your promise we rejoice, And cry, "My Lord and God!"
- Verse 3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; And may our faith abound To call on you when you are near And seek where you are found:
- Verse 4 For you, O resurrected Lord, Are found in means divine: Beneath the water and the word, Beneath the bread and wine.

*Kyrie

Ρ

С

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.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

*Hymn of Praise

"This is the Feast" Refrain 511 of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia, This is the feast 0 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. Refrain of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia, This is the feast 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis-dom, and al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. strength, and hon - or, Final refrain God. vic-to-ry for our of the feast This is D Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu-ia, al - le ia. lu

*Prayer of the Day

- Р The Lord be with you.
- С And also with you.
- Ρ Let us pray. Holy God, slow us down today. Give us time to hear stories and ponder them; space to marvel at your work beyond our schedule and plans; pauses in the rush to judgment; room for welcome. Where we so quickly think we understand and fill in our gaps with assumptions, pull us back and let us experience the fullness of your grace in community, in the world, in us. May we be attuned to your presence in the unexpected. Amen.
- С

Psalm 27:1-4

- A responsive reading from Psalm 27. Listen for the Word of the Lord. D
- С Our ears are open.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me to devour my fleshmy adversaries and foesthey shall stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

- Word of God, Word of Life! D
- С Thanks be to God!

Special Music

"The Light of God's Love" St. John Youth Choir

Burrows

Reading

D A reading from the book of Exodus, the third chapter. Listen for the Word of the Lord.

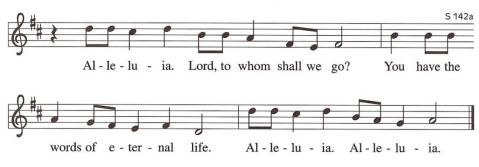
C Our ears are open

God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C Thanks be to God!



*Gospel Acclamation

*Gospel

John 9:1-41

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the ninth chapter.C Glory to you, O Lord.

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and

washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore, his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

- P The gospel of our Lord.
- C Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Evan Mayhew

546, Vs. 1-4 *Hymn of the Day "To Be Your Presence" Text by: Delores Dufner. Music by: Charles V. Stanford. Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved. Verse 1 To be your presence is our mission here, To show compassion's face and list'ning ear, To be your heart of mercy ever near, Alleluia! Verse 2 To be your presence is our mission bold, To feed the poor and shelter homeless cold, To be your hands of justice, right uphold, Alleluia! Verse 3 To be your presence is our mission blest, To speak for all the broken and oppressed, To be your voice of hope, your love expressed, Alleluia! Verse 4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, To serve your people is our call and choice, And in this mission we, the church, rejoice, Alleluia!

*Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

> I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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. Amen.

Joys and Concerns of our Faith Community

Prayer request cards are available in your pews. You may place the card in the offering plate or give to a pastor.

Prayers of the Church

Text by: Selected Poems of Wendell Berry, © 1998 by permission of the author and counterpoint Press, a member of the Perseus Book Group. Music by: Amy McCreath. © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

P The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

Response (sing):

What we need is here. What we need is here.

The prayers conclude:

- P Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
- C Amen.

*Sharing the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

You may share the peace of Christ with others. Those who choose to stay in their pew may wave or give signs of peace. Those who move to greet others may choose their greeting at the <u>discretion of the person you are greeting</u>. Please be mindful of the non-verbal cue you are receiving, and ask what the person is comfortable with before greeting.

Offertory

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

Heber/Dykes

Commitment to Community

Jesus told the disciples, "Come and see," so they could experience healing and hope for themselves and others. We are also being invited to come and see a deeper life of faith. One of the ways we can say yes is by giving what we are able to give of our time, money, and/or talents. We say "yes" to this invitation, together.

Let us give with grateful hearts.

*Offertory Response

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"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

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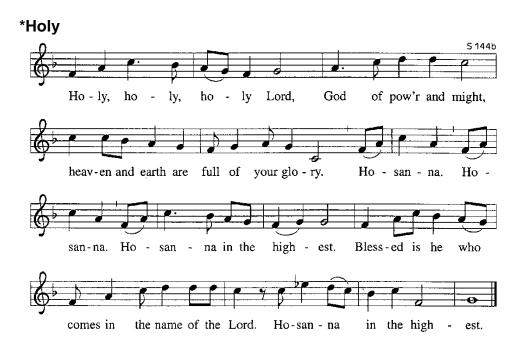
Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, And fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; Unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, And give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

***Offertory Prayer**

D Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.

*Great Thanksgiving (sung)

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*Words of Institution

*The Lord's Prayer

C 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 to Communion

P Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

C Thanks be to God!

Distribution

We believe in the true presence of Jesus Christ in this meal and at this table. All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

There are two ways to receive communion today:

Receiving Communion in your pew

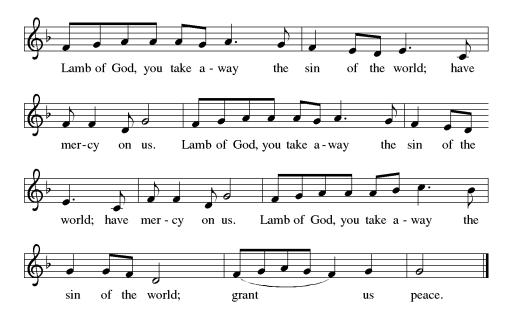
You may receive communion in your pew with the elements contained in the communion pod. The pastor will say the words of distribution after the Invitation to Communion:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Receiving Communion at the altar

- You will be invited forward by the usher.
- You may bring your offering/attendance slip forward and place in the offering basket or place in the offering plates by the doors as you leave.
- Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Inform the pastor when receiving communion.
- Wear your masks as you come forward; lift your mask when receiving the wafer and then again with the grape juice or the wine.
- The deep purple wine is on the outer rings of the tray; the golden grape juice is on the inner rings of the tray.
- After receiving communion, place the used communion cup in the basket, and return to your pew via the side aisle.

Lamb of God



Communion Music

#728, Vs. 1-3

"Blest Are They"

Text and Music by: David Haas. © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

- Verse 1 Blest are they, the poor in spirit; Theirs is the kingdom of God. Blest are they, full of sorrow; They shall be consoled.
- RefrainRejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God!
- Verse 2 Blest are they, the lowly ones; They shall inherit the earth. Blest are they who hunger and thirst; They shall have their fill. *Refrain*
- Verse 3 Blest are they who show mercy; Mercy shall be theirs. Blest are they, the pure of heart; They shall see God. *Refrain*

"Beautiful Savior"

Text by: Joseph A. Seiss. Music by: Silesian folk tune, 19th cent. Public Domain. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

- Verse 1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 Verse 3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, Than all the angels in the sky.
 Verse 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
- Verse 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be thine!

*Blessing

*Prayer after Communion

- D Let us pray. Holy God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your joy, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.
- C Amen.

*Benediction

C Sing AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.

*Sending Hymn

Text and Tune:Anonymous, Central America. Tr. Gerhard M. Cartford. English Text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

> The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give, To make of all the earth a better place to live. The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give, To make of all the earth a better place to live.

The angels are not sent into our world of pain To do what we were meant to do in Jesus' name; That falls to you and me and all who are made free. Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will today. *Repeat*

*Sending

- D Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Kaufmann

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This is the Last Weekend to sign up for **Retreat & Mission Trip**



Retreat Deposit Due Friday, March 4th

Pastor Jen will present Not So Week or Wild A Spiritual Retreat for Women at Lutherdale in Elk Horn, WI on March 25-27. Sign up & retreat details at stjohjoliet.org. Choose a single, double or triple room. Meal accommodations available.



What Women of the Bible Can Teach Us about Living in Modern Times





February is Souperbowl of Caring Month!

Help feed our hungry neighbors by donating! Use a blue envelope and check Food Pantry. Details and giving opportunities at stjohnjoliet.org

St. Com Looking ahead to Lent Worship & Events

Ash Wednesday Sanctuary Schedule March 2nd

11am - A Brief Liturgy for the Imposition of Ashes

11am - 3pm Ashes available from a Pastor

7pm - Worship Service with Ashes & Communion* * Concurrent Livestream begins at 6:55pm

40 Days, 40 Nights, and 1 Big Promise Mid-Week Lenten Worship*

Wednesdays, beginning March 9th

Join us for St. John's cherished tradition, the Lenten Bible Drama! This year, we'll delve into the story of Noah's Arc. * Concurrent Livestream begins at 6:55pm

From Lament to Hope: Readings from the Gospel of John Lenten Bible Study & Devotion Materials

Thursdays, beginning March 10th Pastor Jen leads this weekly Bible Study on Zoom from 3 -5pm on Thursdays during Lent. If that doesn't work, she is happy to share the recorded study and materials to you for your devotions. Email **jenbeamsley@stjohnjoliet.org** for links to the live Zoom study, or the recorded study & materials.