

St. John's Lutheran Church of Ambridge



Church Address:

St. John's Lutheran Church
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Facebook: StJohnsLutheranAmbridge
Pastor Andrew's Cell: 412-477-8301

First Sunday in Lent

February 18, 2024

Christ Jesus Defeats Our Temptation and Saves Us by His Faithfulness

In faith and the fear of God, Abraham prepared to sacrifice his beloved son, Isaac. At the Word of the Lord, he “took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son.” And “when they came to the place of which God had told him,” Abraham bound Isaac “and laid him on the altar” (Gen. 22: 6,9). Then God stayed Abraham’s hand and provided “for himself the lamb for a burn offering” (Gen. 22:8). That Lamb is God’s own beloved Son, Jesus, in whom “all the nations of the earth” are blessed (Gen. 22:18). As the Substitute for all the sons on men, Jesus is driven by the Spirit “into the wilderness” to be “tempted by Satan” (Mark 1: 12-13) in order to endure and defeat all temptation. We are tempted by our own desire, which conceives and “gives birth to sin” (James 1:14-15). But this blessed Man, Christ Jesus, remained “steadfast under trial,” and He has received “the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him (James 1:12). His faithfulness, His victory and His life are now given to us by His grace in the Gospel.

Bulletin Key

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| ↑ | requests those in the congregation stand if they are able |
| ↓ | those in the congregation may sit |

Additional announcements located at the end of the bulletin.

↓ PRELUDE

↑ GATHERING HYMN **God Himself Is Present**

ARNSBERG (WUNDERBARER KÖNIG). 6 6 8, 6 6 8, 3 3, 6 6.

JOACHIM NEANDER, 1650-80

Reverently

1. God him - self is pres - ent, Let us now a - dore him,
God is in his tem - ple, All with - in keep si - lence,

And with awe ap - pear be - fore him!
Pros - trate lie with deep - est rev - erence. Him a - lone God we own,

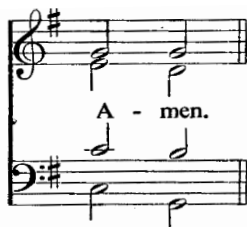
Him, our God and Sav - iour; Praise his Name for - ev - er! A - men.

2 God himself is present,
Hear the harps resounding;
See the crowds the throne surrounding!
'Holy, Holy, Holy,'
Hear the hymn ascending,
Angels, saints, their voices blending!
Bow thine ear
To us here:
Hear, O Christ, the praises
That thy Church now raises.

3 O thou Fount of blessing
Purify my spirit,
Trusting only in thy merit;
Like the holy angels
Who behold thy glory,
May I ceaselessly adore thee.
Let thy will
Ever still
Rule thy Church terrestrial,
As the hosts celestial. Amen.

↑ INVOCATION

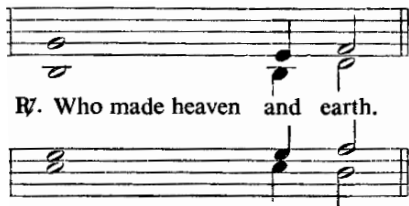
P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



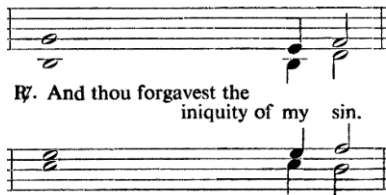
↑ CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the Name of the Lord.



P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.



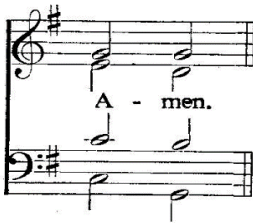
↑ CONFESSION OF SINS

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Silence for Reflection and Confession

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen



↑ INTROIT

Psalm 25: 1-10

P: ¹ To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. ² O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

C: ³ **Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**

P: ⁴ Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. ⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

C: ⁶ **Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. ⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!**

P: ⁸ Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. ⁹ He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

C: ¹⁰ **All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonie.**

↑ GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost:

as it was in the beginning, is now and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and homophonic, with the lyrics written below the notes. The first system covers the first line of text, and the second system covers the second line. The music concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

↑ THE COLLECT

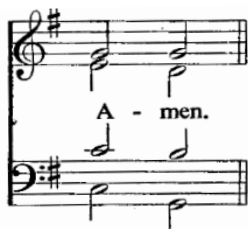
P: The Lord be with you.



♩. And with thy spirit.

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The top staff is a vocal line with three notes: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, and a quarter note on B4. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment with three chords: a G4 chord, an A4 chord, and a B4 chord, each held for the duration of the vocal note above it.

P: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and the worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.



A - men.

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The top staff is a vocal line with two notes: a quarter note on G4 and a quarter note on A4. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment with two chords: a G4 chord and an A4 chord, each held for the duration of the vocal note above it.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

↓ THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 22: 1-18

P: The first lesson is written in chapter twenty-two of Genesis, beginning at the first verse.

The Sacrifice of Isaac

22 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² 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." ³ 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. ⁴ On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy^(a) will go over there and worship and come again to you." ⁶ 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. ⁷ And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸ Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

⁹ 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. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹² 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." ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide";^[a] as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."^[a]

¹⁵ And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his^[a] enemies, ¹⁸ and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

↓ THE SECOND LESSON

James 1: 12-18

P: The second lesson is written in chapter one of James, beginning at the twelfth verse.

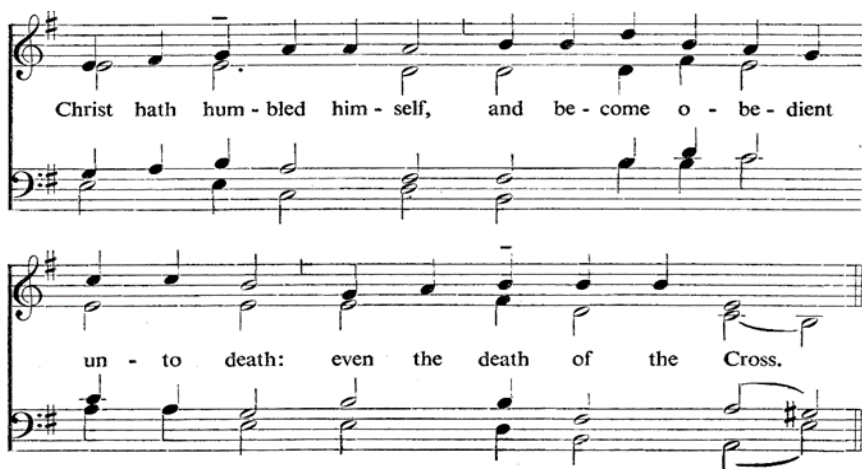
¹² Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵ Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.^[a] ¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

↑ THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



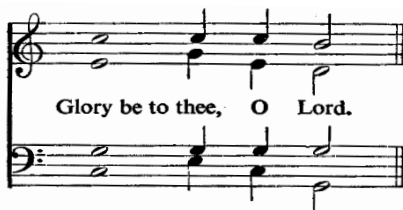
Christ hath hum - bled him - self, and be - come o - be - dient
un - to death: even the death of the Cross.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The melody is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Christ hath hum - bled him - self, and be - come o - be - dient". The second system continues the melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "un - to death: even the death of the Cross." The piano part features chords and moving lines in the bass clef.

↑ THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1: 9-15

P: The Holy Gospel is written in chapter one of Mark beginning at the ninth verse.



Glory be to thee, O Lord.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of one system. The melody is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Glory be to thee, O Lord." The piano part features chords and moving lines in the bass clef.

The Baptism of Jesus

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a

voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son;^[a] with you I am well pleased."

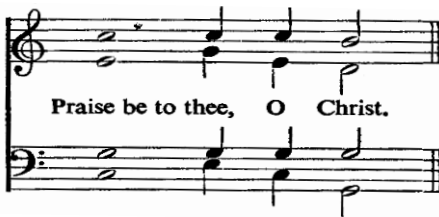
The Temptation of Jesus

¹² The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

Jesus Begins His Ministry

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand;^[b] repent and believe in the gospel."

P: Here ends the Gospel of the day.



↓ THE SERMON

Sermon Notes;

HYMN OF THE DAY

It Is Well With My Soul

INSERT

THE OFFERING HYMN

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of
thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.

↑ **THE OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. O God, we thank you for Your great generosity. All that we are and that we have is a gift from You. Help us to serve one another and so reflect Your spirit and goodness. Accept these offerings and grant that the cause to which they are devoted may prosper under Your guidance. Amen.

↑ **THE NICENE CREED**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
Very God of very God, begotten, not made,
Being of one substance with the Father.
By whom all things were made.
Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from
heaven;
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures.
And ascended into heaven
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.
And He shall come again with glory to judge both the
quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life,
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son.**

Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified.

Who spake by the Prophets.

And I believe one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.

↑ **THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

As intercessions are spoken, each one concludes:

P: Lord, in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

↓ COMMUNION HYMN

O Bread of Life From Heaven

INNSBRUCK. 776, 778.

HEINRICH ISAAK, *cir.* 1450-1527

Quietly, with movement

1. O Bread of life from heav - en, To wea - ry pil - grims giv - en,
2. O fount of grace re - deem - ing, O riv - er ev - er stream - ing

O Man - na from a - bove! The souls that hun - ger feed thou, The
From Je - sus' ho - ly side! Come thou, thy - self be - stow - ing On

hearts that seek thee lead thou, With thy most sweet and ten - der love.
thirst - ing souls, and flow - ing Till all their wants are sat - is - fied. A - men.

3 O Jesus, by thee bidden,
We here adore thee, hidden
'Neath forms of bread and wine;
Grant, when the veil is riven,
We may behold in heaven
Thy glorious countenance divine. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

↑ THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

Congregation. Unison

Two staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is on the treble clef staff, and the bass line is on the bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

R̄. And with thy spir - it.

P: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation

Two staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is on the treble clef staff, and the bass line is on the bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

R̄. We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

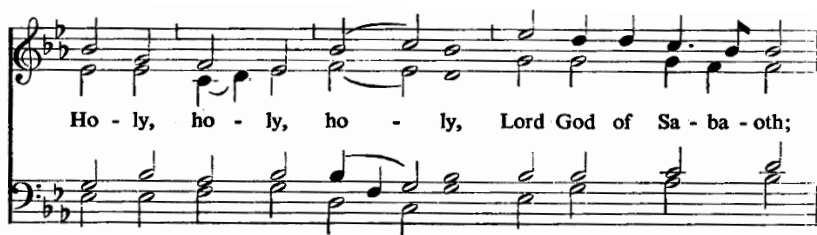
Congregation

Two staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is on the treble clef staff, and the bass line is on the bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

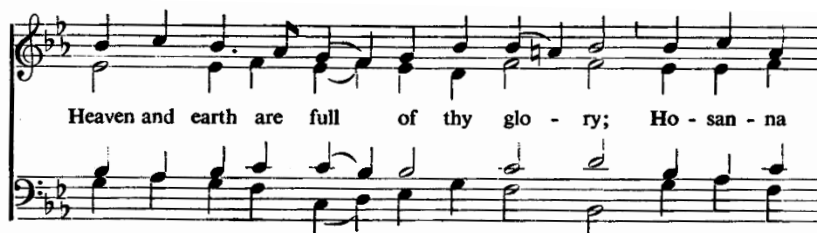
R̄. It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly good, right, and beneficial, that we at all times, and in all places, give thanks to you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God: Who on the tree of the cross did give salvation to mankind; that from where death arose, from there life might also rise again; and that he who by a tree once overcame, might also by a tree be overcome, through Christ our Lord; through whom with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name; ever more praising you and saying:

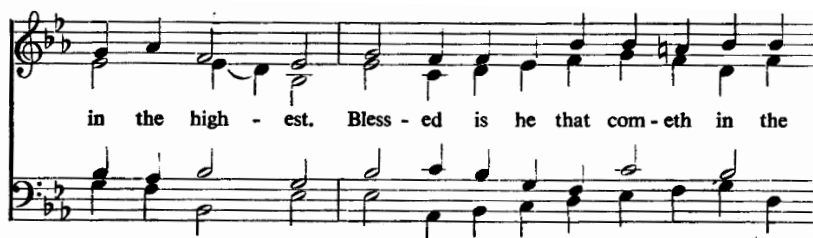
SANCTUS



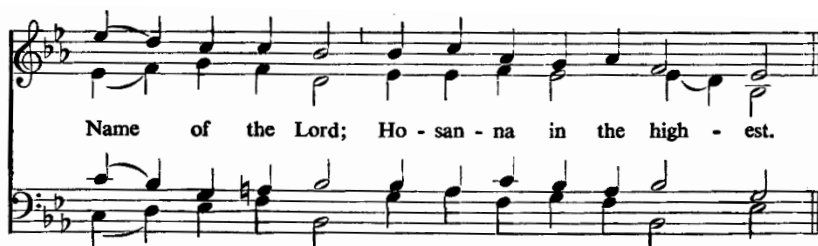
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Sa - ba - oth;



Heaven and earth are full of thy glo - ry; Ho - san - na



in the high - est. Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the



Name of the Lord; Ho - san - na in the high - est.

↑ THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy are you, almighty and merciful God. Holy are you, and great is the majesty of your glory. You did so love the world that you gave your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him might not perish, but have everlasting life; who, having come into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and, when had given thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same manner also, he took the cup, when he had supped, and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them saying, Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Remembering therefore, his salutary precept, his life giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who partake thereof may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sins, be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints. And unto you O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your Holy Church, world without end. Amen.

↑ THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: 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.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Unison

And with thy spir - it.

↑ AGNUS DEI

Unison

O Christ, thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin

of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, thou Lamb of God,

that tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer -

cy up - on us. O Christ, thou Lamb of God, that tak - est

a - way the sin of the world, grant us thy peace. A - men.

↓ THE COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Members of the congregation will follow the directions of the ushers to come forward and receive the Body and Blood of our Lord. Young children and those who are not baptized are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

P: The body of Christ, given for you.

C: Amen.

P: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

C: Amen.

↑ THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious blood strengthen and preserve you unto eternal life.

C: Amen.

↑ SONG OF SIMEON (NUNC DIMITTIS)



LORD, now lettest thou thy servant de ' part in ' peace:

* ac ' cording to ' thy ' word;

For mine eyes have ' seen thy sal ' vation:

* which thou hast prepared before the ' face of ' all ' people;

A light to ' lighten the ' Gentiles:

* and the ' glory · of thy ' people ' Israel.

GLORY ' be to the ' Father,

* and to the ' Son · and to the ' Holy ' Ghost;

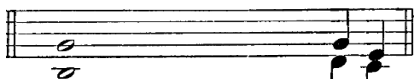
As it ' was in · the be ' ginning,

* is now, and ever shall be, ' world without ' end. A ' men.

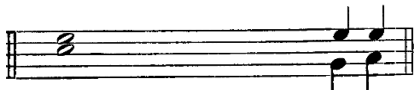
↑ PRAYER OF THANKGIVING

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

Congregation



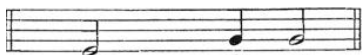
R^y. And his mercy endureth for ev - er.



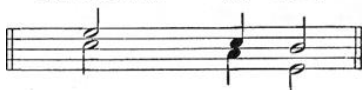
P: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us with this Your salutary gift; and we beseech You, of Your great mercy, to strengthen us through the same, in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



P: The Lord be with you



R^y. And with thy spirit.



P: Bless we the Lord.

Two staves of musical notation. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics 'R̄. Thanks be to God.' are written below the notes. The melody consists of a series of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4.

↑ **THE BENEDICTION**

P: The Lord bless you, and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Two staves of musical notation. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics 'A - men.' are written below the notes. The melody consists of a series of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4.

↓ **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CLOSING HYMN

Take Time To Be Holy

INSERT

ATTENDANTS TODAY (February 18)

St. John’s Lutheran Church Announcements

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Usher Captain | Mark Blaho |
| Communion Assists | Tim Ceasar |
| Lector | Fred Kolenda |
| Greeter | Carol Zeidler |

ATTENDANCE ASH WEDNESDAY

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY 32

ATTENDANTS FOR NEXT WEEK (February 25)

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Usher Captain | Tim Ceasar |
| Lector | Heather |
| Greeter | Gerrie Meister |
| Attendance Last Week | |

This Week at St John’s (Feb 18-Feb 25)

| | | |
|-----------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Today | 9:30am | Bible Study/Sunday School |
| | 10:30am | Worship |
| Tuesday | 10:00am | Bible Study |
| Wednesday | 5:30pm | Book Club |
| Wednesday | 7:00pm | Lenten Service |
| Thursday | 6:30pm | Men’s Bible Study |
| Saturday | 9:30am | Children’s Kingdom Builders |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayers with Paul Wednesday @ 10am in the Chapel. If something is weighing heavy on your heart or you would just like to pray with Paul.

The sewing group will now meet on Wednesdays from 2pm-4pm.

Lenten Service Wednesday @ 7pm.

Easter flower orders are on the tables. LAST DAY TO ORDER IS MARCH 3.

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Homebound- pray for healing, comfort and guidance.

JoAnne Philips- pray for complete healing as she recovers from back surgery.

Moses (Joyce Ceasar's friend) continued prayers that God will find a kidney donor soon as he struggles with this disease and is on dialysis.

Kim Kamzelski- continued prayers for recovery and strength.

Gerrie Meister- prayers for comfort, healing and guidance