



MID-WEEK WORSHIP

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

7:00 PM

CENTERING OUR THOUGHTS

Lord God, you are merciful and tenderhearted, abounding in love and faithfulness. Turn to us in our anguish over sin and hear our cry for mercy that we may be at peace; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
1975 ST. JOHNS DRIVE + WOODBURY, MN 55129
WWW.STJOHNWOODBURY.ORG

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Woodbury, Minnesota

MARCH 18, 2020

MIDWEEK LENT WORSHIP AT 7:00 PM

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

“At St. John Lutheran Church, our purpose is to make and equip disciples everywhere by proclaiming Jesus Christ as Savior.”

2020 LENTEN SERMON SERIES ~ “THE PRODIGAL SON”

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

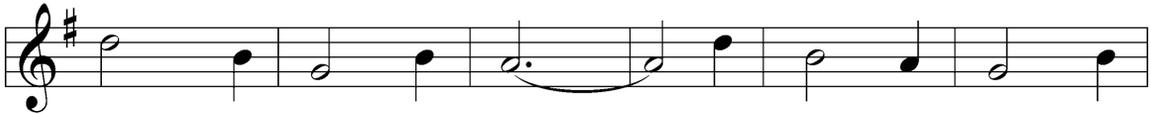
People: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed” [LSB 437]



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, And
2 Was it for crimes that I had done He
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And



did my sov - 'reign die? Would He de - vote that
groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,
shut his glo - ries in When God, the might - y



sa - cred head For such a worm as I?
grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!
mak - er, died For His own crea - tures' sin.

PSALM

[Psalm 32:1–8]

¹ Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. ² Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit. ³ When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. ⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” And you forgave the guilt of my sin. ⁶ Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them. ⁷ You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. ⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:11–32

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. Luke, the 15th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹ Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. ³ “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ When he came to his senses, he said, “How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.” ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ The son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” ²² But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.” So they began to celebrate. ²⁵ Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ “Your brother has come,” he replied, “and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.” ²⁸ The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, “Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me

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even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!" ³¹ "My son," the father said, "you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

"THE FATHER"

CATECHISM REVIEW

COMMANDMENTS 6 & 7

Pastor: What is the SIXTH Commandment?

People: You shall not commit adultery.

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

Pastor: What is the SEVENTH Commandment?

People: You shall not steal.

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

[online at <https://stjohnwoodbury.org/give> ~ or ~
via U.S. mail to SJLC, 1975 St. Johns Drive, Woodbury, MN 55129]

THE PRAYERS

Pastor: Hear my prayer, O Lord;

People: listen to my cry.

Pastor: Keep me as the apple of Your eye;

People: hide me in the shadow of Your wings.

Pastor: In righteousness I shall see You;

People: when I awake, Your presence will give me joy.

Pastor: Be light in our darkness, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night. (*Special petitions may be added here*) ... for the love of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray ...

All: **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.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The blessing of God Almighty—who created you, forgave all your sins, and strengthens you for service in His kingdom—be upon you now and forever.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Now Rest Beneath Night’s Shadow” [LSB 880], vs. 1, 4 & 5



1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land,
4 Lord Je - sus, since You love me, Now spread Your



field, and mead - ow; The world in slum - ber lies.
wings a - bove me And shield me from a - larm.



But you, my heart, a - wak - ing And prayer and mu - sic
Though Sa - tan would de - vour me, Let an - gel guards sing



mak - ing, Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.
o'er me: This child of God shall meet no harm.

Vs. 5 My loved ones, rest securely, for God this night will surely
From peril guard your heads. Sweet slumbers may He send you
And bid His hosts attend you, and through the night watch o'er your beds.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS | DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

“The Prodigal Son”



Guided outreach plan at St. John during Lent ...

This week's Outreach Step # 3 ... CONTACT

Now that you have been praying for these individuals, do something to make contact with them. Make it something that builds the relationship.

