



ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

INTRODUCTION

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The ten commandments are one of the chief parts of Luther's catechism, a core piece of baptismal instruction. They begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 4, 2018



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third Sunday of Lent

10:00 a.m.

March 4, 2018

*Please stand if able

P: Pastor; A: Assisting Minister; C: Congregation

(ELW—red book)

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Come, Now is the Time to Worship”

Insert

Chorus **Come, now is the time to worship. Come now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship. Come just as you are before your God. Come!**

Verse 1 **One day every tongue will confess You are God. One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose You now**

Verse 2 **Willingly we choose to surrender our lives. Willingly our knees will bow
With all our heart, soul, mind and strength, we gladly choose You now**

Ending **Come, come, just as you are come, come**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

P: During the season of Lent, we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us confess our sin.

**C: Wash me through and through from my wickedness. Cleanse me from my sin. My sin is ever before me.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Give me the joy of your saving help again. Sustain me with your
bountiful Spirit.**

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Jesus came into the world to overcome sin, to justify sinners, and to send the blessing of the Spirit. Hear these words now as if they are from Christ himself: Your sins are + forgiven, you are made clean, your spirit is renewed. **C: Amen.**

***SHARING THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

“Gather Us In”

ELW #532

Verse 1 **Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

Verse 2 **We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.**

Verse 3 **Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

Verse 4 **Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away—
but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

***APOSTOLIC GREETING**

ELW p. 203

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

C: And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Eternal God you call us to ventures unknown, to paths yet untrodden. Give us faith to move into our future with courage, to embrace change and opportunity, with faith that your hand is leading us and your love is supporting us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

ANTHEM

“When I Survey the Cross”

Handbell Choir

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

LESSONS

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19:7-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Kelly Nash

***THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW p. 205

**C: We are turning, Lord, to hear you; you are merciful and kind,
Slow to anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined.**

***THE GOSPEL READING**

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

John 2:13-22

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

Rev. Gary Haddock

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

ELW #843

Verse 1 **Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the gospel, healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.**

Verse 2 **Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word;
Praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand;
From this well comes living water quenching thirst in ev'ry land.**

Verse 3 **Praise the one true love incarnate: Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory; praise the One who makes us one.**

***APOSTLES' CREED**

ELW p. 217

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

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.

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.

***INTERCESSORY PRAYER**

A: Lord in your mercy. **C: Hear our prayer.**

Kelly Nash

MEAL

THE OFFERING / OFFERTORY

“Lamb of God”

Chancel Choir

***OFFERING PRESENTATION / RESPONSE**

"Doxology"

ELW #884

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Kelly Nash

A: Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

***THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER V**

ELW p. 65-66

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Traditional

ELW p. 208

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.

The congregation sits. The following is sung: "Worthy Is the Lamb"

Worthy is the Lamb seated on the throne. Crown You now with many crowns. You reign victorious.

High and lifted up. Jesus Son of God. The darling of heaven crucified. Worthy is the Lamb. (Repeat 3X)

DISTRIBUTION

Holy Communion Invitation: We welcome all who are baptized to the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Communion is served by Intinction. You will be given a wafer, which you then dip into the chalice of wine. If unable to come forward, stand where you are, and you will be served there. Children who are baptized are welcome to commune.

DISTRIBUTION SONG

"Wayfaring Stranger"

Verse 1 I am a poor wayfaring stranger, while journeying through, this world of woe,
Yeah, and there's no sickness, toil nor danger, in that bright land, to which I go.

Chorus 1 I'm going there to see my Father, I'm going there, no more to roam,
I'm only going over Jordan, I'm only going over home.

Verse 2 I know dark clouds will gather on me, I know my way, my way is rough and steep,
Yeah, and beautiful fields, lie just before me, and God's redeemed their vigils keep.

Chorus 2 I'm going there to see my Mother, I'm going there, no more to roam,
I'm only going over Jordan, I'm only going over home.

Verse 3 I want to wear that crown of glory, when I get home to that good land,
Well, I want to shout, salvation's story, in concert with, all the blood-washed band.

Chorus 3 I'm going there to see my Saviour, I'm going there, no more to roam,
I'm only going over Jordan, I'm only going over home
Well I'm only going over Jordan, I'm only going over home.

DISTRIBUTION SONG

Down to the River"

Verse 1 As I went down In the river to pray, studying about that good ole way
And who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way

Chorus 1 Oh, sisters let's go down Let's go down, come on down
Oh, sisters let's go down, down in the river to pray

Verse 2 As I went down In the river to pray, studying' about That good ole way
And who shall wear the robe and crown? Good Lord show me the way

Chorus 2 Oh, brothers let's go down Let's go down come on down
Oh, brothers let's go down, down in the river to pray

Verse 3 As I went down in the river to pray, studying' about That good ole way
And who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way

Chorus 3 Oh, sinners let's go down, let's go down come on down
Oh, sinners let's go down, down in the river to pray

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Kelly Nash

A: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*SENDING HYMN

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

ELW #536

- Verse 1 **God be with you till we meet again; by good counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.**
- Refrain **Till we meet, (till we meet,) till we meet, (till we meet again,) till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,) till we meet, (till we meet,) till we meet, (till we meet again.) God be with you till we meet again.**
- Verse 2 **God be with you till we meet again; holy wings securely hide you, daily manna still provide you; God be with you till we meet again. Refrain**
- Verse 3 **God be with you till we meet again; when life's perils thick confound you, put unfailing arms around you; God be with you till we meet again. Refrain**

PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR OUR MEAL

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Instrumental, Praise Team

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THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God and in honor of all of those serving on the Altar Guild throughout the year, who prepare our space for worship.

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LITURGY - WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Gary Haddock

Assisting Minister: Kelly Nash

Acolyte: Lindsey Elrod

Communion Assistants: Shawn & Angela Brown

Altar Guild: Janet Sigmon, Sue Karen Falls, Nicky & Evelyn Setzer

Deacons: David Tucker, Carol Schaefer

Tabulators: Ginger Carpenter, Elaine Simmons, Hilda Deal

Choir Director, Praise Team Leader, Organist, Keyboard: Myra Long

Vocalists: Tim Carpenter, Tamarah Hefner, Allyson Sestric, Carol Schaefer

Instrumentalists: Allyson Sestric: Violin & Guitar; Mark Mashburn, Guitar: Aaron Carpenter: Drums

Tech: Carol Schaefer, Camille Patrick, Tamarah Hefner, Randy Sherrill, Terry Hefner, Tim Sigmon, Barry Bumgarner

St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 3216 W. Main Street, P.O. Box 550, Claremont, NC 28610 (828-459-2161)

Church office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30-4pm & Friday, 8:30-12:30pm (lisa@smarklc.org)



St. Mark's Lutheran Church...Claremont



Stmarksclaremc



www.smarklc.org

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CALENDAR: MARCH 4—MARCH 11, 2018

Sunday, March 4— Third Sunday in Lent

9:00am Sunday School
10:00am One Service (S)
11:00am Catered Lunch
11:30am Ministry Site Profile Study

Tuesday, March 6

10:00am Quilt Mission (QM)
6:00pm Worship & Music Team (L)

(S) Sanctuary, (FLC) Family Life Center, (L) Lounge,
(CR) Choir Room, (QM) 3244 W. Main St

Wednesday, March 7—Mid Week Lenten Services

12:10pm Worship Service (S)
5:15pm Meal before Worship (FLC)
5:30pm Handbell Choir Practice (CR)
6:10pm Worship Service (S)
7:00pm Chancel Choir Practice (CR)

Sunday, March 11— Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:15am Contemporary Service (S)
9:20am Sunday Brew
9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Traditional Service (S)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUPER SUNDAY MINISTRY SITE PROFILE AND CATERED LUNCH IS TODAY! Following worship, we will enjoy a catered in the Family Life Center. After the meal, Sandra Cline, Call Process Coordinator, of the NC Synod, will lead us through the process to put together a Ministry Site Profile Study as we consider our needs in the call of a second pastor.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP SERVE LUNCH AT THE CORNER TABLE ON MARCH 12. SIGN UP BY MARCH 7. The team needs people who can go at 9am to help prepare food and people who can go in at 11 am to help serve. Please contact Linda Hewitt (828-459-0244) if you would like to help. This is a very rewarding and fun day!

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS ON MARCH 11! Please be sure to change your clocks.

CHILDREN AT CHRIST'S TABLE IS SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 9-1PM. REGISTER BY MARCH 14. Children, age 6 and up, are invited to learn more about Holy Communion. Pastor Gary and Rebecca Haddock will lead the instruction.

THIS YEAR'S 40 DAYS OF GIVING FOR DISASTER RESPONSE is a way to respond to those in need in the aftermath of disaster. The goal is \$5000. If you wish to donate, please write checks to St. Mark's with *40 Days of Giving* on the memo line.



LENTEN MEALS ON WEDNESDAYS THROUGH MARCH 21. Supper will be served in the Family Life Center from 5:15—5:55pm. Please join us for the meal each Wednesday before the 6:10pm worship service.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE AT ST. MARK'S IS MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2:30—7PM, IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER.

CITY OF CLAREMONT BEARD COMPETITION SIGN UP IS MARCH 5-9. Sign up in person at City Hall or email kmiller@cityofclaremont.org. Call 828-466-7170 with questions.

RISING HOPE FARMS VOLUNTEER TRAINING IS MARCH 17 OR MARCH 24. Register with Gail (828-638-0879) or Ellen (440-315-7816). Go to risinghopefarms.com for more information.

TOWN OF CATAWBA FOOTCHASE 5K IS MARCH 24. Register at RunTimeRaces.com.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

"THE CRUCIFIED LIFE: SEVEN WORDS FROM THE CROSS"

12:10pm (with Holy Communion) and 6:10pm

- ◆ **Mid-Week 4: March 7** "I thirst." (John 19:28)
- ◆ **Mid-Week 5: March 14** "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)
- ◆ **Midweek 6: March 21** "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" (Luke 23:46)
- ◆ **Good Friday: March 30 (Only at 8pm)** "It is finished." (John 19:30)

INTERCESSORY PRAYER LIST

St. Mark's Church Family – Deaths/recent illness/hospitalizations/procedure

Families of Ethelia Sigmon, James Reep, Jr.

Rita Busbee	Harriet Dotson	Charlsie Lutz	Charles Pope	David Simmons
Doug Carrigan	Dale Herman	Mark Mashburn	Shirley Sigmon	Margie Whitener
Jackie Devlin	Inabelle Little			

St. Mark's Church Family – Ongoing health issues

Jim Aaron	Betty Campbell	Marie Deal	Ellen Hunt	Carolyn Sigmon
Sheila Brake	Gary Carpenter	Alanna Dotson	Richard Kale	Maebelle Sigmon
Mavis Bumgarner	Ginger Carpenter	Ralph Fontanez	Betty Kanipe	Carolyn Sherrill
Mary Frances Busbee	Betty Cloninger	Colene Hall	Mabel Little	Christine Stewart
Mable Butler	Eva Cloninger	Monica Herman	Rocky Miller	Louie Williams
Earlene Byrd	Ron Cox	Celia Hollar	Ernestine Morrow	

Friends and Extended Family Members

Cole Abernathy	Judy Casey	Paul & Lynne Holliday	Rebecca Oliver	Terry Smith
Youthalene Adderholt	Linda Christopher	Rosemary Isaac	Joanne Parker	Katie Smyre
Jim Aikens	Dennis Scott Cole	Brad Johnson	Alex Patterson	John & Dixie Spivey
Gerry Alfson	Howard Cooper	Charles Johnson	Joe Peck	Greyson Stevens
Rita Arffman	Chris Ervin	Jim Johnson	Casey Rash	Aiden Stone
Alexa Ashwell	Alan Fisher	Lauren Johnson	Becky Rice	Lori Teague
Kaila Atapovich	Annette Geymont	Karen Killian	Bettie Rogers	Kathryn Thurston
Braylon Beam	Alan Good	Allie Koester	Mark Sepulvador	Carolyn Truitt
Rheda Bettini	Tammy Gilbert	Jim Martin	Kathleen Sigmon	Butch & Betty Whitesell
Mary Black	Judy Gregory	Mary Alice Merrick	Tom Sigmon	Barbara Whitley
Bobby Brookover	Vicki Haddock	Anne Moore	Erin Sipe	Richard Williams
Barbara Canipe	Linda Hedrick	Gene Medlin	Asher Smith	Edna Wilcox
Don Carpenter	Allie Hendrix	Annette Nilssen	Susan Smith	Jim York
Wayne Carpenter				

Those Who are Serving in our Military

Ashley Carpenter	Matt Hall	Nicholas Hodge	Toni Killian	Tim Schaefer
Jason Gardner	Bryant Helvie	Brice Hudson	Kaleigh P. Osborn	Caleb Waters
Zachary Gardner	Hunter Hendrix	Justin Killian		

Those who are Unemployed and/or Underemployed

PASTORAL AND STEPHEN MINISTER VISITATION

If you know of someone in our congregation who needs a visit, call the church office (828-459-2161). You may also contact Pastor Gary (828-781-3060) or Pastor Paul (828-409-4681). Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained by Stephen Leaders to offer one-to-one Christian care to people going through tough times. To speak with a Stephen Minister, contact Rocky Miller (828-459-1219), Chris Cloninger (828-464-1057) or Linda Hewitt (828) 381-7979.



RESERVE A SUNDAY FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers are a way to worship God, for they are always, first and foremost, given to God's glory. To provide the dedication for the bulletin and reserve a Sunday, contact Lisa Underwood (828-459-2161 or lisa@smarklc.org). Cost of flowers per Sunday is \$54. (There may be an extra charge by the florist for special requests.) The flowers are yours to keep following worship. Available dates are March 11, 18, 25.

EXODUS 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work — you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore, the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

PSALM 19:7-14

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

JOHN 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.