

# WORD

## **First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7**

A reading from Exodus.

*Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the LORD among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.*

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 95** *(Please read responsively)*

<sup>1</sup>Come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

<sup>2</sup>***Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.***

<sup>3</sup>For you, LORD, are a great God,  
and a great ruler above all gods.

<sup>4</sup>***In your hand are the caverns of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are also yours.***

<sup>5</sup>The sea is yours, for you made it,  
and your hands have molded the dry land.

<sup>6</sup>***Come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.***

<sup>7</sup>For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and  
the sheep of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

<sup>8</sup>***"Harden not your hearts,  
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.***

<sup>9</sup>There your ancestors tested me,  
they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

<sup>10</sup>***Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, 'The heart of this  
people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'***

<sup>11</sup>Indeed I swore in my anger,  
"They shall never come to my rest.' "

## **Psalm Prayer**

Let us pray.

***God our maker, you guide us as the sheep of your fold. When we stray  
into rebellion and unbelief, bring us back and restore us, that we  
may follow your ways and listen to the voice of our shepherd who  
gives us eternal life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. † Glory be to  
the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the  
beginning is now, and forever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

## **Second Reading: Romans 5:1-11**

## A reading from Romans.

*Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.*

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

## **Gospel: John 4:5-42**

The holy gospel according to John.

## ***Glory to you, O Lord.***

*Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.*

<sup>5</sup>[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.<sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was

speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” <sup>28</sup>Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup>“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” <sup>30</sup>They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” <sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup>The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The gospel of the Lord.

***Praise to you, O Christ.***

## **SAINT NICHOLAS ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS**

*March 15, 2020*

### **Prayer Concerns**

**Bereavement:** Family and Friends of Earl Wilkins Stanley Jr., Family and Friends of Ruth Rutan, Family and Friends of Nyleen Lacey

**Health:** Michael Harris, Michael Robinson, Maya Gault, Amelia Moore, Sherry Dundon, Tom Horton Sr., Matthew Lotz, Gary Howell, Bruce Clark, Julie Paluda, Janet Ray, Jack Churchill, Bill Philipson, Doug DeMark, Helen Mote, Jamie Horton, Sheri Smith

**Long term concerns:** Heidi Gault, Avay Jaynes, Susan Vilcheck, Karen Smith, Jill Richardson, Theresa Dubois, Ray Nieves, Linda Dorr, Dawn Jaeger, Rick Masterson, Gus Wolf, David Sullivan

*Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church has a special Prayer Team committed to intercessory prayer. Your request will always be treated with immediacy, care, and confidentiality. Contact Carol Blatt at [tlblatt@comcast.net](mailto:tlblatt@comcast.net) with prayer requests. If you want your name or someone else's name added to the Prayer Concerns List, please contact the church office. Prayer concerns will be carried for 1 month unless notified otherwise.*

### **This Week's Birthdays**

**Tuesday** ~ Keith Williams

**Saturday** ~ Barbara Harris

*Forgive us if we missed anyone, please contact the office if you would like to include your birthday in the weekly announcements.*

### **Worship Attendance ~ March 1st**

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### **Staff & Leadership**

The Rev. Kenneth D. Taylor ~ [brotherken@stnick.church](mailto:brotherken@stnick.church)

[Mary Kiessling, Custodian](mailto:Maryb1219@gmail.com) ~ [Maryb1219@gmail.com](mailto:Maryb1219@gmail.com)

Liz Duncan, Office Adm./Bookkeeper ~ [office@stnick.church](mailto:office@stnick.church)

[Kevin Sullivan, Youth and Family Coordinator](mailto:kevin@stnick.church) ~ [kevin@stnick.church](mailto:kevin@stnick.church)

[Mitch Morton, Accompanist](mailto:mitchell.morton@gmail.com) ~ [mitchell.morton@gmail.com](mailto:mitchell.morton@gmail.com)

Keith Williams, Council President ~ [keith.williams@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:keith.williams@nrl.navy.mil)

## ***THIS WEEK AT SAINT NICHOLAS***

### **Sunday, March 15**

8:30 am Worship

10:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Worship

5:30 pm Cub Scout Pack 1806

7:30 pm Another Chance

**Monday, -Wednesday ~ 10:30 am – 2:45 pm Office Hours**

**Thursday ~ 7:30 am – 2:45 pm Office Hours**

**Monday-Friday ~ 6:00 pm Wrestling Rampage**

**Monday, March 16 ~ 7:00 pm Council**

**Tuesday, March 17 ~ 6:30 pm Girl BSA Troop 314**

**Tuesday, March 17~ 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 422**

**Tuesday, March 17~ 7:00 pm Guitar Fellowship**

**Wednesday, March 18~ 7:00 pm Weekday Bible Study**

**Thursday, March 19 ~ 7:00 pm Choir Practice**

**Thursday, March 19~ 7:00 pm Steps to Serenity**

**Friday, March 20 ~ 7:00 pm Lenten Bible Study**

### **Sunday, March 22**

8:30 am Worship

10:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Worship

5:00 pm Project ECHO Meal

5:30 pm Cub Scout Pack 1806

7:30 pm Another Chance

# **VOLUNTEERING**

## **T.P. for P.E.**

Thank you to everyone who contributed toilet paper and other items to Project ECHO in 2019. This past year was certainly our most generous to date! Let's keep the generosity rolling in 2020; our next toilet paper drive concludes March 29 following worship. Contact Bryan Mullins for more information on how you can help those in need.

## **Food Pantry Needs**

Saint Nicholas contributes all year to the Calvert Churches Community Food Pantry in Prince Frederick which serves about 300 families per month. Although food donations are welcome at any time, we have designated the first Sunday of each month as "*First Food Sunday*" to help restock their shelves. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated and go a long way in helping the needy in our community. Here are some suggested food items. **Cereal, snacks (Nutri-grain/granola bars etc.), baked beans, pasta salad, pasta sides (Knorr, Kraft etc.)** Please place donations in the basket in the lobby.

## **Project ECHO**

Many thanks to Kris Wood, Ann Wolfgang, Mary Jo Gebhardt, the Yott Family, Vicki Soto, and Sue and Joe Sharar for preparing the Project Echo meal for February. If you would like to help prepare the meal for March, to be served on Sunday, March 22nd, please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex, or contact Kathy Dangin ([kdangin@live.com](mailto:kdangin@live.com)).

## **Painters Needed**

We are planning on painting the narthex, fellowship room and main hallway in the church in time for Easter services. We plan on accomplishing this over a few Saturdays (March 7, 21 and April 4). If you would like to help, please contact Keith Williams 202-340-7083 or [keith.williams@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:keith.williams@nrl.navy.mil)

## **Calling all Grass cutters!**

Saint Nicholas is in need of help cutting the grass this growing season. Each year, teams of Saint Nicholas members take turns mowing the property. Teams typically mow once every four weeks. The church owns two riding mowers and a walk-behind self-propelled mower. If you are interested in helping out and being on a team please contact Rolf Arnesen (Text: 410-474-4615, email: [rarnesen@comcast.net](mailto:rarnesen@comcast.net))

### **Adopt-A-Highway**

Glenn Wolfgang and Colleen & Michael Hyland cleaned up three bags of trash and one bag of recycling on Saturday, February 29th along Plum Point Rd. for Adopt-A-Highway. Our next cleanup will be May 16 with a rain date of May 30th meeting at the bowling alley parking lot at 9 am. If you are interested in participating, please contact Colleen Hyland at 410-474-7118.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **St. Patty's Day Dinner**

Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 6 PM

Entertainment includes Irish music by Kevin Sullivan and Tap dancing by Natalie and Rebecca Flanders.

Catered by Dream Weaver

Meal includes: Mixed salad, Cottage Pie, Sliced corned beef with cabbage, Plain cooked cabbage, Roasted potatoes, Rolls and butter.

You may bring your own wine or beer. Irish whiskey cocktails and Irish coffee will be available at \$5.00 per drink with a limit of two drinks per person.

Cost of event is \$25.00 per person, \$10.00 age 11 and under, free age 5 and under. Tickets will be available for purchase Vicki Williams, Vicki Soto, Kris Wood, Colleen Hyland. You can also call Colleen at 410-474-7118.

### **Meatless Mondays**

Meatless Monday Fact #3 - Global livestock production creates more greenhouse gas than the entire transportation sector. The Care for Creation Advocacy Group invites you to sign up for our meatless potluck, March 29 after the second service. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board.

### **SNLC Softball Team**

The first practice for the softball team is THIS AFTERNOON at 2:00 PM at Marley Run Park. The next practice will be Sunday afternoon March 22 also at 2:00 PM and also at Marley Run Park. Hope the weather cooperates and hope to see a big turnout.

### **Lenten Bible Study – The Path to the Cross**

Take time during this Lenten season to read and study the accounts of all 4 gospels of Jesus' last days, from preparations for Lord's Supper to the death of Jesus. What do the different perspectives teach us? What details are news to you? We'll meet on Friday evenings, 7 – 8:30pm, from Feb 28, March 6,13,20,27, through April 3, in the new Library/Conference Room space.

### **Books Through Bars**

Are you travelling to Philadelphia on a Saturday? The church has books to donate to Books Through Bars, an organization that gives books to prisons. We have 4 boxes to go to their office in south west Philadelphia. They are open for donations on the 1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday mornings from 11am to 2pm. They are at 4722 W. Baltimore Avenue, Philadelphia. Please let Barbara Harris know if you are heading north.

### **Fellowship**

Thank you to Dawn Hogenson, Vicki Soto and all who helped with the pancake breakfast, for providing the food for fellowship in January. If you are interested in providing fellowship food, please sign up on the bulletin board. Feel free to team up with someone. Food options could be pastries, desserts, fruits, veggies, cheese and crackers, little sandwiches, deviled eggs, casseroles, pretzels, etc. The possibilities are endless.

### **Fellowship/Coffee Setup/ Coffee Clean Up**

In an attempt to be more green, we are going to try to eliminate paper plates and plastic silverware and cups from fellowship. If you bring fellowship food, please place the reusable plastic plates and metal silverware on the fellowship table, in addition to the empty bin for dirty dishes. The coffee set up person can continue to set coffee cups out, to be used for all beverages. After fellowship, the person doing coffee clean up can load the plates and silverware into the dishwasher and clean the bin. As a congregation, lets help make sure the plastic plates and metal silverware end up in the bin, and not in the trash. The children might need help getting used to this change.

### **Maximizing Tax Benefits from your Charitable Contributions – Monday March 23, 7PM**

With tax season upon us, are you thinking about how to make better use of current tax laws to maximize the deductibility of your charitable contributions? The tax cut and jobs act changed the limits for itemized deductions and increased the standard deduction making filing easier for many Americans, but increased the threshold before charitable contributions trigger additional tax benefits. There are several strategies to leverage current tax laws to improve the tax efficiency of your charitable contributions. This one-hour informational session will discuss several of these strategies including bunching your contributions to improve deductibility, donating long-term capital appreciated assets, and making qualified charitable distributions from your IRA. This session is intended for those that have filed schedule A (itemized deductions) in the past, or who still itemize deductions. I will discuss strategies and show examples of how these techniques can be used to lower your tax bill. If you are interested in attending, please contact Keith Williams 202-340-7083 or [keith.williams@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:keith.williams@nrl.navy.mil).

### **Sanitizing Your Well**

Does your water at home smell like rotten eggs out of some faucets? Have you ever wondered if your water was free from bacteria? You can address both problems by sanitizing your well. It is easy and costs less than \$5 to do and you should be doing this on a regular basis (every year or two) to ensure the drinking quality of your well water. After the installation of our new water fountain, we are required by the health department to sanitize our well here at church. The entire process takes about 30 minutes and if it is done in the evening, by noon the next day your water is back to normal. If you would like to be present to watch and learn how this is done so you can do this yourself, please contact Keith Williams 202-340-7083 or [keith.williams@nrl.navy.mil](mailto:keith.williams@nrl.navy.mil) and I will let you know what evening I will be doing this at the church.

*An Environmental Tipoff*  
*from the Care for Creation Advocacy Team*



**National Wildlife Week**  
**March 12-16**



National Wildlife Week is designed to teach about and connect kids to wildlife. This year's theme is Wildlife of North America. You can celebrate the 80th anniversary of this week by visiting local parks and wildlife refuges to learn more about the ecosystems in your community and how to take part in protecting them.

Go to <http://sciencenetlinks.com> for more ideas.

## Serving Next Sunday, March 22

### 8:30 am

Assisting Minister

Altar Care

Lector

Ushers/Communion Asst.

Offering Counters

Coffee Set-up

Nursery

Fellowship

Laura Forseth

Kathy Dangin

Ann Wolfgang

Kathy & Andre Dangin

Joe Sharar, Justin Yott

Joe Sharar

Lauren Wawroski

***Volunteers Needed***

### 10:00 am

Assisting Minister

Altar Care

Acolyte

Lector

Ushers/Communion Asst.

Offering Counters

Coffee Clean-up

Nursery

Sunday School

Ryan Mozzetta

Mary Jo Gebhardt

Carys Kekesi

Bryan Mullins

David Hickin, Bryan Mullins

Vicki Williams, Tom Blatt

***Volunteers Needed***

Erin McClelland

Intergenerational Worship

## Serving Today, March 15

### 8:30 am

Assisting Minister

Altar Care

Lector

Ushers/Communion Asst.

Offering Counters

Coffee Set-up

Nursery

Fellowship

Barbara Harris

Anna Kitzmiller, Carol Blatt

Carol Blatt

Tracey & Jim Lotz

Christy Mullins, Christine Yott

Vicki Soto

***Volunteers Needed***

Jackie Stein

### 10:00 am

Assisting Minister

Altar Care

Acolyte

Lector

Ushers/Communion Asst.

Offering Counters

Coffee Clean-up

Nursery

Sunday School

Marisa Mozzetta

Kris Wood

***Volunteer Needed***

Colleen Hyland

Jackie Stein

Kris Wood, David Hickin

Daryl & Trish Urnosky

***Volunteers Needed***

Mandi Taylor, Trish Urnosky, Erin  
McClelland, Susan Vilcheck



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

*Begin Anew! Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church  
Enjoying God by worshipping joyfully, engaging youth,  
experiencing community.*