

# FORGIVENESS

The most ~~challenging~~ word.

*beautiful*

## Fifth Sunday in Lent

*Our 40 day journey through Lent*

March 29, 2020 | 11 am



St. John's Lutheran Church | Salisbury, NC

# Welcome to St. John's!

*You'll notice that our worship follows a simple pattern that has guided the church's worship since the first century — Gather, Word, Meal, Sending — a pattern designed to nourish and strengthen us for the week ahead. Welcome to worship!*



## Gathering

*The Holy Spirit gathers us as the people of God*

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Call to Worship

*New Wine*

written by Brooke Ligertwood

Ondria Witt, soloist; Bradley Chestnut, guitar

#### Prayers of Confession

*We make the sign of the cross as a reminder of our baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray. God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are not perfect. We have said and done things we regret. We have tried to earn your redeeming grace, while denying it to others. We have resisted your call to be your voice in the world. Forgive us, loving God. Give us your righteousness, the strength to put aside our failures, and the courage to try again. Amen.**

#### God's Promise of Forgiveness

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May Almighty God strengthen you with his light, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

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.**

Let us pray.

*Martin Luther's "Morning Prayer"*

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

**Amen.**



## Word

*We hear God's word in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

**First Reading: Psalm 46**

*God's defense of his city and people*

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

<sup>3</sup>though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

<sup>6</sup>The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

<sup>8</sup>Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

<sup>9</sup>He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup>"Be still, and know that I am God!

I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."

<sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

**Response**

*Build My Life*

Ondria Witt, soloist; Bradley Chestnut, guitar

written by Matt Redman, Pat Barrett, Brett Younger, Karl Martin, Kirby Kaple,  
Karl Andrew Martin

**The Holy Gospel: Luke 23:32-43**

<sup>32</sup>Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup>When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup>Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup>And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, <sup>37</sup>and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" <sup>41</sup>And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup>Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup>He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**Monologue:** "At the Cross" (Corinne Mauldin)

**Sermon** Pastor Rhodes Woolly

**Hymn 666** *What Wondrous Love Is This* WONDROUS LOVE

**Apostle's Creed.** Gathered as God's people across time and space, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**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.**

**Prayers of Intercession.** *Each petition ends: Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

**Lords Prayer**

**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.**



# Sending

*Forgiven and nourished, we are now sent into the world to share God's love.*

## Benediction

**Sending Hymn 324**

*In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

RATHBUN

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

*Unless otherwise indicated, today's service is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship  
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## **JOIN US IN PRAYER FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

**CONDOLENCES**—Gary and Betty Pinkston on the passing of Betty's mother, Janie B. Wise, on Tuesday, March 17.

**THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS** — Jane Barrier, Pat Nelson, Julie Carr

**ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS** — Judy Ann Deal, Henry Kluttz, Franco Goodman, Kathy (Eric) Norris, Melody Moxley, Jack Connery, John Myers, Perry Hood, Bob Melton, Phyllis Edwards, Jane Shuping, Barbara Rufty, Hal Furr, Walter Tatum, Jim Rabon, Matt Stahl, Sonny Lippard, Nancy Parrish, Thomas Livesay, David and Paula Kafitz, Karen Shelton, Gene Myers, Kent Brown

**HOMEBOUND** — Burt Harris, Peggy Taylor, Lois and Paul Carter, Alda Smith, Nan Graeber, Margaret Ketner, Steve Summers, Sonny Allen, Shirley Trexler, Benny Banks, Dottie Bedford, Audrey Bradshaw, Hal Furr, Fran Hoke, Sherry Morgan, Ermine Peeler, Rachel Safrit, Shirley Smith, Peggy Smith, Fran Tannehill

# St. John's Lutheran Church

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## Pastoral Ministry

Senior Pastor.....The Rev. Rhodes Woolly  
Pastor for Youth and Discipleship.....The Rev. Laura Henrik  
Visitation.....Wade Rouzer

## Worship and Music Ministry

Minister of Worship and the Arts.....Rob Durocher, deacon  
Associate Parish Musician .....Rosemary Kinard  
9:27 Worship Leader.....Bradley Chestnut  
8:30 Organist.....Deanna Boksleitner  
Production Manager.....Taylor Hutchins  
Director of Music Emeritus.....Karl Kinard, deacon

## Program Ministry

Youth.....The Rev. Laura Henrik  
Children.....Stacey Shafer  
Adults.....Danny Hines  
Senior Adults .....Diane Poole  
St. John's Kindergarten (4 and 5 year olds) .....Teresa Stoner  
Child Development Center (infant through 4 and after school) .....Courtney Bost

## Administrative Team

Business Manager .....Ruth Ann Diehl  
Office Manager.....Deborah Cross  
Communications Specialist.....Angel Owens  
Accounting.....Brenda Munday  
Facilities Manager.....Jon Koppe  
Maintenance.....David Ellenburg



Let's connect faith and life. *Together.*

## You Servants of God

1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -  
 2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is  
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -  
 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and

broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of  
 nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his  
 loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the  
 pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with

Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!  
 tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!  
 an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.  
 an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.  
 Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

## What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
 I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.  
 Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.  
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## In the Cross of Christ I Glory

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing, light and  
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
 love up - on my way, from the cross the  
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872  
 Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867