

# Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023



**St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville**

[stjohnsparkville.org](http://stjohnsparkville.org)

(410) 665-1234

[office@stjohnsparkville.org](mailto:office@stjohnsparkville.org)

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

Welcome to St. John's—we are glad you're here! Whether you have worshiped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

## Introduction to the Day

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

*(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)*

*(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)*

## WELCOME

### PRELUDE

*Nearer, My God, to Thee* Yoon-Mee Chong, violinist

*(Lowell Mason; arr. Yong-Jin Noh)*

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

**Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Holy God,

**we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, ☩ forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

**Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

*O Living Breath of God*

*ELW 407*

*(Text: Osvaldo Catena, 1920-1986; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, 1923-2016; Music: Swedish folk tune; Text tr. © 1998 Augsburg Fortress)*

## STAFF

Rev. Mathew Berger, Pastor <a href="mailto:mathew.berger@stjohnsparkville.org">mathew.berger@stjohnsparkville.org</a>	Rev. Amy Berger, Pastor <a href="mailto:amy.berger@stjohnsparkville.org">amy.berger@stjohnsparkville.org</a>
M. Claire Miller, OSSD Deacon	Carol Erpenstein, Office Administrator
Martha Requard, Director of Music	Scott Becker, Sexton

For emergencies call 443-844-9314

**\*\*\*The Pastors are off on Fridays\*\***



### Notice of live streaming:

Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.



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St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville



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This week's schedule	
Today	9 am Sunday School & Faith & Fellowship 9 am Handbell Choir (Music Room) 10 am Live & Online Worship 11:30 am Memorial Committee Meeting (Fellowship Hall) 11:30 am Confirmation Class
Mon.	
Tues.	
Wed.	9:30 am Busy Bees (Smith Building) 6 pm Soup & Salad (Fellowship Hall) 7 pm Holden Prayer Service 7:45 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	
Fri.	11 am Bible Study (Smith Building)
Sat.	1:30 pm Scrapbook Event (Fellowship Hall)

Counting our Blessings			
<b>Ash</b>	<b>Attendance:</b> 86	<b>2023</b>	
<b>Wed.</b> 2/22	<b>Offering:</b> \$1,144	January Offering Income	\$21,245
		January Other Income	\$ 6,085
		January Total Income	\$27,330
<b>Sun.</b> 2/26	<b>Attendance:</b> 113	January Expenses	\$34,496
	<b>Offering:</b> \$2,969	YTD Offering Income	\$21,245
	<b>Homebound:</b> 17	YTD Other Income	\$ 6,085
		YTD Total Income	\$27,330
		YTD Expenses	\$34,496

## GREETING

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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*(The assembly is seated.)*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### WORD

#### FIRST READING

**Genesis 12:1-4a**

*God's call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*(Read responsively; congregation reads bold verses)*

**Psalm 121**

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>**My help comes from the LORD,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD will not let your foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, the keeper of Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

<sup>5</sup>the LORD watches over you;  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

<sup>6</sup>**the sun will not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD will preserve you from all evil  
and will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

## SECOND READING

**Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.*

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

<sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.



## Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

**For health & healing:** Alan Fox, Phil Ermer, Claire Miller, Alec Brock, Ruth Skarda, Bill Spink, Bonnie Rogers, Mardi Nickel, Thomas McDonough, Bett Murphy, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, Tony Jasinski, and Vickie Jasinski

**For family & friends:** Rae Eberwine, Deemer Morrow, John Bowman, Lee Hall, Norma Weber, Robin, Alice Ensor, Jeanne Edmunds, Mike Haven, Gail Gangi, Jen Schoenfliess, Doug Adams, Kristin Weger, Joan Murphy, Tim Dunn, Donna Bobloch and Yung-Mee Rhee

**For the military and their families:** Kalib McCann, Mason Ledbetter, Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Corporal Justin Ferro, Sgt. Stephen Peck, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, Chaplain A. J. Striffler and all those in harm's way

**For those grieving family & friends of:**

**For St. John's Caring Friends:** Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Gladys Downs, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Paul Nolder, Patrick O'Connell, Arthur Pulket, Mary Ann Reek, Janet Roth, Kim Townsley, Cass Tracey and Emma Volz





**Free Community Meal** at St. John's on Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm— 7 pm. Join neighbors and friends for potato soup, salad, bread and dessert. All are welcome!

**Join us for our next Restaurant Night at Silver Spring Mining Company** in Perry Hall, on Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, from 11 am to 10 pm. Present a flyer when ordering or let them know that you are supporting St. John's. Flyers are located on the third floor bulletin board.



**Save the Date for St. John's Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 10 am-12 noon behind the parsonage.** In case of rain, the event will be held in the Fellowship Hall. RSVP to the church office by Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> with the age and grade of your child.

**Save the Date for our Prayer Partner Luncheon on April 16th at 11:30 am.** If you would like to participate in the Prayer Partner Program, fill out a form and place it in the box located on the counter outside of the Sanctuary by Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Any questions, contact Vickie Jasinski at 410-529-7536.



**Campfire at the Labyrinth sponsored by Family Ministry will take place on Friday, April 28th at 6pm.** This will be a fun evening of games and marshmallow roasting.

**Save the Date for our 2023 Vacation Bible School on July 10-14<sup>th</sup> from 9 am-12:30 pm.** We will starting our planning soon. As always, we will need many volunteers. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Haacke at haackefamily@comcast.net.



**Help Needed for Music Camp...** This summer, we hope that our Summer Music Camps will return. Pre-COVID these camps were very well attended, the community response was very positive, and many campers returned the following summer. We tried to restart our programs last summer but the community response was very low. However, the main reason that the camps did not happen is because we did not have the assistance we needed. We are hoping that this summer will be different, but we need your help. If you know any young (high school or college) person who enjoys and has experience with theater, music, art, arts and crafts, and a love for working with children, PLEASE contact Martha Requard at mrequard1@gmail.com. Our assistants will be working with the campers to help them create their program (July 24-26) or musical (August 7-11). We need to make sure that we have the help before we can advertise our camps.

**Venmo is Here!** We are happy to announce that you can give your offering using Venmo. Enter @stjohnsparkville in the Venmo App or scan the QR code.



## GOSPEL

**John 3:1-17**

*A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.*

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

<sup>11</sup>"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(The assembly is seated.)*

## SERMON

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**O, Love, How Deep**

**ELW 322 (v. 1-4)**

*Text: Thomas a Kempis, 1380-1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819-1885, alt. Music: English ballad, 15th cent. Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.*

## 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 THE CHURCH

*After each petition* Merciful God,  
**Receive our prayer.**

**PEACE** The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*(We offer each other a sign of God's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)*

## MEAL

**OFFERTORY MUSIC** *How Great His Love* *Adult Choir*  
*(Word and Music: Ruth Elaine Schram; © 2007 Lorenz Publishing Company)*

*Thank you for your generous support of St. John's. During this time an offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of the Church as together we experience and share God's abundant grace and love.*

*Many in our congregation give online. You can set up one-time or recurring donations on our website [stjohnsparkville.org](http://stjohnsparkville.org). Checks and cash may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville*

**OFFERING HYMN** *Change My Heart, O God* *ELW 801*

*Change my heart O God; make it ever true.  
Change my heart O God; may I be like you.*

*You are the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.*

*Change my heart O God; make it ever true.  
Change my heart O God; may I be like you.*

*(Text and music: Eddie Espinosa; Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services)*

## Announcements & Upcoming Event

**Next Week— Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>—3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

† 9 am— **Sunday School and Faith & Fellowship**

† 10 am— **Worship in-person**

**and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel**

Visit [stjohnsparkville.org](http://stjohnsparkville.org)

## Wednesday Nights in Lent

Soup and Salad—6 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Holden Evening Prayer with stories of Daily Bread— 7 pm



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of Mike McDonough's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday by Donna McDonough.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2023. Dates available are: April 23<sup>rd</sup>, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, August 6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at [rm\\_hills@yahoo.com](mailto:rm_hills@yahoo.com) if you would like to sponsor the flowers.

**Nursery Care** for infants through age 2 is available during the Sunday School hour while parents are attending Faith and Fellowship. During worship, care is available for infants through kindergarten.



**Food for Thought Program** is in great need of: **Chef Boyardee single serving meals, applesauce pouches, pudding cups and Capri Sun drink pouches.** We are packing two bags of food for the weekend for 25 children each week, therefore our supply is depleted quickly. Please help if you can!

**Bible Study....**A Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew meets weekly on Fridays at 11 am in the Smith Building. If you have questions or would like to learn more, contact Ardi Scarborough or speak with one of the Pastors.



**PRESCCHOOL** Join St. John's Preschool for their Spirit Night at The All American Steakhouse on Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 5-8 pm.

**Scrapbook Event on March 11<sup>th</sup>.** St. John's will again host a Scrapbook Event to support Food for Thought. Although in the past, the event was for experienced scrapbookers only, this time at 1:30 pm we are offering a Mini Album Class as an introduction to scrapbooking. If you would like more information or RSVP, for this event, contact Nancy Fox at 443-935-3399 or [nanawithsix@hushmail.com](mailto:nanawithsix@hushmail.com).



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SENDING

#### BLESSING

God, the giver of love, ✝ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

**Amen.**

#### SENDING HYMN

*Lift High the Cross*

*ELW 660*

*(Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956; Music: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947; Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company)*

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### POSTLUDE

*Arise, My Soul, Arise*

*Lani Smith*

*(© 2013 Lorenz Publishing Co.)*

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of good gifts,  
receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

### DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Easter feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Lee Smith
Crucifer	Brody E.
Acolyte (s)	Landry E.
Lector	Ed Ford
Communion Assistant	Ed Ford

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## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, God of the universe.  
You made everything that is, and you sustain every living thing.

You taught us to tend and care for your earth.  
When we turned away from our task of sharing,  
you made for yourself a people, rescued them from slavery,  
nourished them with manna in the wilderness,  
and taught them to rely daily on your mercy.

You entered human life in Jesus,  
who ate with sinners,  
who fed the thousands with a few loaves,  
and who called us back to the way of sharing our bread and your mercy.

In the night in which he was betrayed...

With this meal we remember Jesus giving himself to us.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

As we share this bread and cup, O God, fill us up.  
Pour your Spirit on us so that we may be the body of Christ,  
food for your hungry world and signs of your love.  
With the earth and all its creatures,  
with all who have gone before us,  
we give you praise, feeding God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

*(Sung call-and-echo)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins  
as we forgive; 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 assembly is seated.)*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with a sip of wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.*

*If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing,  
crossing your arms over your chest.*

## LAMB OF GOD

*Now Behold the Lamb*

*ELW 341*



1 Now be - hold the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God, who  
2 Ho - ly is the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Why  
3 Thank you for the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Be -



bore all my sin, that I may live a - gain: the pre-cious Lamb of God.  
you love me so, Lord, I shall nev - er know; the pre-cious Lamb of God.  
cause of your grace I can fin - ish the race; the pre-cious Lamb of God.

*(Text and music: Kirk Franklin, b. 1970; arr. Keith Hampton, b. 1957; Text and music © 1996 Lilly Mack Music CCLI Song #1892738)*

## COMMUNION HYMN *Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters* *ELW 445*

*(Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947; music: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985; Text © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company; Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress)*

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Embodied God,  
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to  
your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with  
your love.  
**Amen.**