

# St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill

## Lent 3

March 3, 2024



### Worship Assistants

**Pastor:** Rev. Norman Sulaica, Jr.

**Accompanist:** Linda Pieper

**Lay Reader:** Katie Seeker

**Sanctuary Prep:** Julie Dismukes, Mary Longhofer

**Tellers:** Christin Seeker, Cathie Klatte

**Ushers:** Don Holtkamp, Blake Becker, Chris Koehler

**Acolyte:** Kannon Koehler

**Screen Crew:** Anna Finke, Janice Fairlie

**Communion Bread:** Deanna Giese

**Council Members:** Ken Seeker, Gerald Herrmann

**Ladies Aid :** Carolyn Kessel

**Memorial Committee:** Donna Bentke, Elvera Tisdell

**Altar Preparations:** Jennifer Schroeder, Jill Eckert

**Church Ministers:** St John Members

Please tune to 87.9 FM for access to the service in the church parking lot on Sundays.

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **THE PEACE**

*ELW Pg. 152*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Peace be with you.

R. Peace be with you.

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Since we have such a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus Christ our Lord, let us with confidence draw near to God, that we may receive mercy and find grace in time of need.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**Have mercy on us, O God, according to your lovingkindness. In your great mercy, wash away our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not remove us from your presence; do not take your Spirit away.**

**Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and sustain us with your Spirit. Amen**

God is merciful and gracious, granting forgiveness through Jesus Christ to all who confess their sin. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sin, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **GATHERING HYMN**

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (v. 1-3) ELW #803*

## **INTROIT**

**Psalm 69:9**

It is zeal for your house that has consumed me;

**the insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.**

## **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

*ELW Pg. 147*

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.**

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Lamb of God*

*ELW #336*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Let us pray.*

Almighty God, consider the worthy desires of your humble servants. Reach out to defend us from evil by the word and work of your majestic right hand. Grant this, we pray, through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### FIRST READING:

**Exodus 20:1-17**

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words, saying, <sup>2</sup>“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.<sup>3</sup>You shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. <sup>7</sup>You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. <sup>8</sup>Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, <sup>10</sup>but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. <sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. <sup>13</sup>You shall not murder. <sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery. <sup>15</sup>You shall not steal. <sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. <sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSIVE PSALM:

**Psalm 19**

<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

**<sup>2</sup>Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.**

<sup>3</sup>There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

**<sup>4</sup>Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun,**

<sup>5</sup>which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

**<sup>6</sup>Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

<sup>7</sup>The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

**<sup>8</sup>the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;**

<sup>9</sup>the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

**<sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.**

<sup>11</sup>Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

**<sup>12</sup>Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.**

<sup>13</sup>Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**<sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

## **SECOND READING**

### **1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

<sup>18</sup>For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." <sup>20</sup>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? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. <sup>26</sup>For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the LORD."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.*

**Return to the Lord, your God,  
for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

**\*GOSPEL**

**John 2:13-22**

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. <sup>15</sup>And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup>So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking about the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>When therefore 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.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O' Christ.

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

Pastor Norman Sulaica, Jr.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**    **Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed (v. 1, 2, 4, 5) ELW #759**

**CREED**

**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.**

## PRAVERS OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING HYMN      *Create in Me a Clean Heart*      *ELW #185*

**OFFERTORY**      *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*      *ELW #884*

## OFFERING PRAYER

*Let us pray.*

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

*ELW Pg.152*

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

*ELW Pg. 153*

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 paschal 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:

# SANCTUS

*Holy, Holy*

*ELW Pg. 153*

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## **EUCCHARIST PRAYER**

*Let us pray.*

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:

Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

You have filled all creation with light and life;

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.

You rescued Israel, your chosen people.

Through the prophets you renewed your promise;

and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son,

who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom

and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life. **Amen**

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,

and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest

until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen**

## **LORD'S 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.

*Please be seated.*

## AGNUS DEI

### *Lamb of God*

*SCREEN*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION

### COMMUNION HYMNS

*Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness*  
*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*  
*Built on a Rock*

*ELW #488*  
*ELW #623*  
*ELW #652*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## DECLARATION OF GRACE

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

*ELW #338*



**DISMISSAL**

Go in Peace with God’s law written on your heart.  
**Thanks be to God!**



Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by  
Ken & Christin Seeker in honor of their  
anniversary.

Soup Supper Sign-up Sheets are available in the Narthex.

**Lenten Services**

2024 Lent Services will center around the theme of **Preparation**. Lent is a season for us to prepare for the Resurrection of Jesus, that is Easter Sunday. It is a brief focus on where we explore how are lives on earth are centered in preparing for our Lord's return and our eternal future with our Heavenly Father. Each week will highlight practice such as prayer, repentance, and simple living and their role in our faith walk. **Our five-week Soup Dinners and Lent Services start February 21. The meal begins at 5 pm and the worship service is set for 6 pm.**

Preparation comes through.....  
March 6th - Repentance  
March 13th - Self-denial  
March 20th - Simple Living

**Lawn Care**

The Church is looking for lawn care services. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, contact Colton Maass at (979) 251-2818.

**Contact Information for Pastor Norm**

Pastor Norm can be reached in either of the following ways: Cell Phone Number (361) 362-9108 Or Email: [pastornorm2003@yahoo.com](mailto:pastornorm2003@yahoo.com)

**Monday, March 4th**

10:00AM Bible Study

6:00 Executive Meeting

6:00 Bod4God

**Tuesday, March 5th**

7:00AM-7:00PMElection Polling Location

9:00AM Music Planning

**Wednesday, March 6th**

4:30PM Confirmation

5:00PM Soup Supper

6:00 Worship Service

Choir Practice After Worship Service

**Thursday, March 7th**

10:00AM Naomi Circle

6:00PM Council Meeting



**Member Offering Envelopes for 2024 are  
available in the Narthex.**

### Bod4God

Pastor Norm is continuing his Bod4God journey. Bod4God is centered around scripture and weight loss. His purpose is to encourage each of you to commit to raising money for our youth to attend camp and also to encourage a healthier you. A sign up sheet to support this Weight-A-Thon will be available in the Narthex and remain throughout the event. You can make a financial commitment for every pound Pastor Norm loses or a single donation. Bod4God will meet again March 4th at 6:00PM. Weigh -in will be at the Easter Sunrise Service.

### 2024 St John Council Members

President .....	Kenneth Seeker	Evangelism.....	Cindy Clay
President Elect.....	Gerald Herrmann	Financial Secretary.....	Cassie Lynch
Treasurer.....	Regina Holtkamp	Parish Ed.....	Stephanie Koehler
Secretary.....	Rita Gaskamp	Property.....	Colton Maass
Community Concerns.....	Gayle Bednar	Worship & Music.....	Virginia Altman

March Special Envelope is Habitat for Humanity.

### Choir

During Lent, Choir practice is Wednesday evenings following the Worship Service.

### Confirmation Class

Confirmation class on Wednesday March 6th at 4:30PM.

**The Naomi Circle will meet on Thursday, March 7th at 10:00AM.**

### Bible Study

**Bible study will be on Monday, March 4th, 10:00AM.**

### Church Gift Shop and Library

Take the opportunity to visit the library and see what is available for you!

**Reaching Your Church Office:** Linda Crabtree prairiehillsecretary@gmail.com Church Office

Phone: 979-836-8666 Office hours: Monday-Wednesday 8:00am-4:00pm

Website: [www.stjohnprairiehill.org](http://www.stjohnprairiehill.org)

Church Council President Ken Seeker. (512) 801--8663

## Lenten Services

Beginning February 21st thru March 20th, there will be a soup supper at 5:00PM with a Worship Service following at 6:00PM.

## Easter Lilies

Easter Lilies will again be available for purchase. The cost of each plant is \$13 and forms are located in the Narthex. The deadline to purchase Easter Lilies is March 17, 2024.

### Prayer Requests for our Church Family:

Mavis Smith Janice Cordova Sydney Wagner Florence Bentke Gilbert Spinn Helen Gaskamp Mollie Grote  
Cynthia Wilson Linda King Jerry Randermann Connie Seward Dorothy Wiesepape Mark Marburger  
Tom Bentke Earline Moody Verna Mae Sefcik Ruth Finke Milton Bosse Donald Lange Jim & Sandy Kite  
Mike Altman Emery & Helen Schulze Dennis Moehlmann Diana Williams Lloyd Neutzler Troy Seeker

Those celebrating baptismal anniversaries: Allan Winkelmann, Mary Longhofer, Meredith Sommerfield, Joyce Richter

Those Celebrating wedding anniversaries: Ken & Christin Seeker, Robbie & Mary Roesse

### Prayer Request for Family and Friends of our Members:

Aaron Batot	Gladys Schwartz	Roger Ellemann
Albert Lee & Caroline Linke	Gloria Hanath	RV Pittman
Aliza Jones	James Lee	Sara Hardy
Amanda Gurka	Joe Deatherage	Shannon Mitschke
Ann Fogt	John Lange	Shannon Wellmann
Blake Townsend	Larry Dean Koch	Sue Beall
Carol Lieber	Leah McGee	Tess Loberg
Charlie King	Kelsey Matthies	Wayne Hueske
Christy Dallmeyer	Kennedy Altman	
Connie Cadenhead	Mike McIntyre	
Delano Klausmeyer	Missy Goldsmith	Please note on your attendance
Dorothy Bowles	Nicole Clark	card the name of the individual
Ellie & Eilla Rosenbaum	Rita Huckert	to add to our prayer listing.

## Flower Chart

The Flower Chart is posted in the Annex. You may sign up by checking the chart for available dates.

