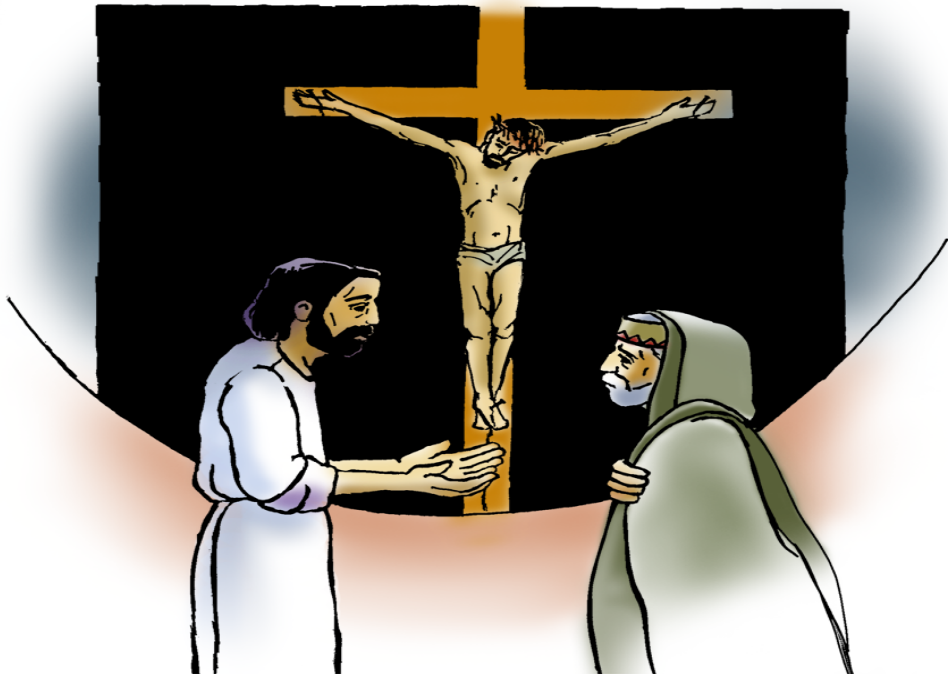


# St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill

## Lent 4

### March 10, 2024



#### Worship Assistants

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

**Accompanist:** Linda Schulze

**Lay Reader:** Kallie Krause

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

**Tellers:** Christin Seeker, Cathie Klatte

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

**Acolyte:** Jax Antkowiak

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

**Communion Bread:** Deanna Giese

**Council Members:** Rita Gaskamp, Cindy Clay

**Ladies Aid :** Carolyn Kessel

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

**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.**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Holy and gracious God,

**I confess that I have sinned against you this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me, that I may rest in peace.**

By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. We rest now in his peace and rise in the morning to serve him. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GATHERING HYMN

*Lift High the Cross (v. 1, 3, 4)*

*ELW #660*

## INTROIT

**Psalm 27:1**

The LORD is my light and my salvation;

**whom shall I fear?**

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;

**of whom shall I be afraid?**

## 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, grant that we, who for our evil deeds worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of your grace may mercifully be relieved; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### FIRST READING:

#### **Numbers 21:4-9**

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup>And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSIVE PSALM:

#### **Psalm 107:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

<sup>2</sup>**Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble**

<sup>3</sup>and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>4</sup>**Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in;**

<sup>5</sup>hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

<sup>6</sup>**Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.**

<sup>7</sup>He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

<sup>8</sup>**Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!**

<sup>9</sup>For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

### SECOND READING

#### **Ephesians 2:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>You were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience — <sup>3</sup>among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. <sup>4</sup>But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — <sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable

riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup>not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**ELW Pg. 151**

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

**\*GOSPEL**

**John 3:14-21**

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>{Jesus said to Nicodemus,} “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, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. <sup>20</sup>For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

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** *Amazing Grace How Sweet the Sound* (v. 1, 4, 5) **ELW #779**

**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,**

**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.**

<b>OFFERING HYMN</b>	<i>Create in Me a Clean Heart</i>	<i>ELW #185</i>
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	<i>Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	<i>ELW #884</i>

**DIALOGUE** *ELW Pg.152*  
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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.*

O God most mighty,  
O God most merciful,  
O God our rock and our salvation,  
You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.  
He was born among the poor,  
he lived under oppression,  
he wept over the city.  
With infinite love, he granted the people your 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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **[Amen.]**  
Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **[Amen.]**  
Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **[Amen.]**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.  
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.  
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.  
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope. **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**

*Come to the Table (3 X)*

**ELW #481**

*Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*

**ELW #337**

*The Glory of These Forty Days*

**ELW #320**

*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**

*What Wondrous Love Is This* (v. 1, 2, 4)

*ELW #666*

### **DISMISSAL**

Thanks to Jesus for God's mercy is given to you. Go in peace!

**Thanks be to God!**



**Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by the  
Butch Seeker Family in remembrance of LaNell  
Seeker.**

#### **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)

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 our 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 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.

March Special Envelope is Habitat for Humanity.

**Monday, March 11th**

10:00AM Bible Study

6:00PM Bod4God

**Tuesday, March 12th**

6:30AM Food Pantry

9:00AM Music Planning

10:00AM Rachel Circle

6:30PM Jump Start

**Wednesday, March 13th**

2:00PM Game Day

5:00PM Soup Supper

6:00PM Worship Service

Choir Practice After Worship Service

**Thursday, March 14th**

2:00PM Ladies Aid



**PAJAMAS**  
*PRAYERS*  
**& PANCAKES**

**SUNDAY APRIL 21**

**@ 8:30 AM**

**ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL  
AGED KIDS 0-18 ARE  
WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE**



**Ladies Aid will meet for their monthly meeting on Thursday, March 14th at 2:00PM.**

*Church Gift Shop and Library*

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

**Member Offering Envelopes for 2024 are  
available in the Narthex. The Flower Chart is posted in the Annex  
for you to sign up to place flowers at our Worship Services.**

## Easter Lilies

Easter Lilies are 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.

### 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

Food Pantry will be on Tuesday, March 12th from 6:30AM-8:00AM.

### Choir

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

### Confirmation Class

There will be no Confirmation class this week.

**The Rachel Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 12th at 10:00AM.**

### Bible Study

**Bible study will be on Monday, March 11th, 10:00AM.**

**Game Day will be March 13th, at 2:00PM. Come join in the activities.**

**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

## 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 11th at 6:00PM. Weigh -in will be at the Easter Sunrise Service.

### 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, Carol  
Westerfeld

Those celebrating baptismal anniversaries: Brooklyn Randermann, Marcus Randermann, Paul Randermann, Robert  
Randermann, Mollie Grote, Rhett Schroeder, David Bryan, David Koch, Debra Westerfeld and Gary Schulze

Those Celebrating wedding anniversaries: Robert & Janice Fairlie and Josh & Rachel Church

### 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.

Jump Start will meet on Tuesday, March 12th at 6:30PM.