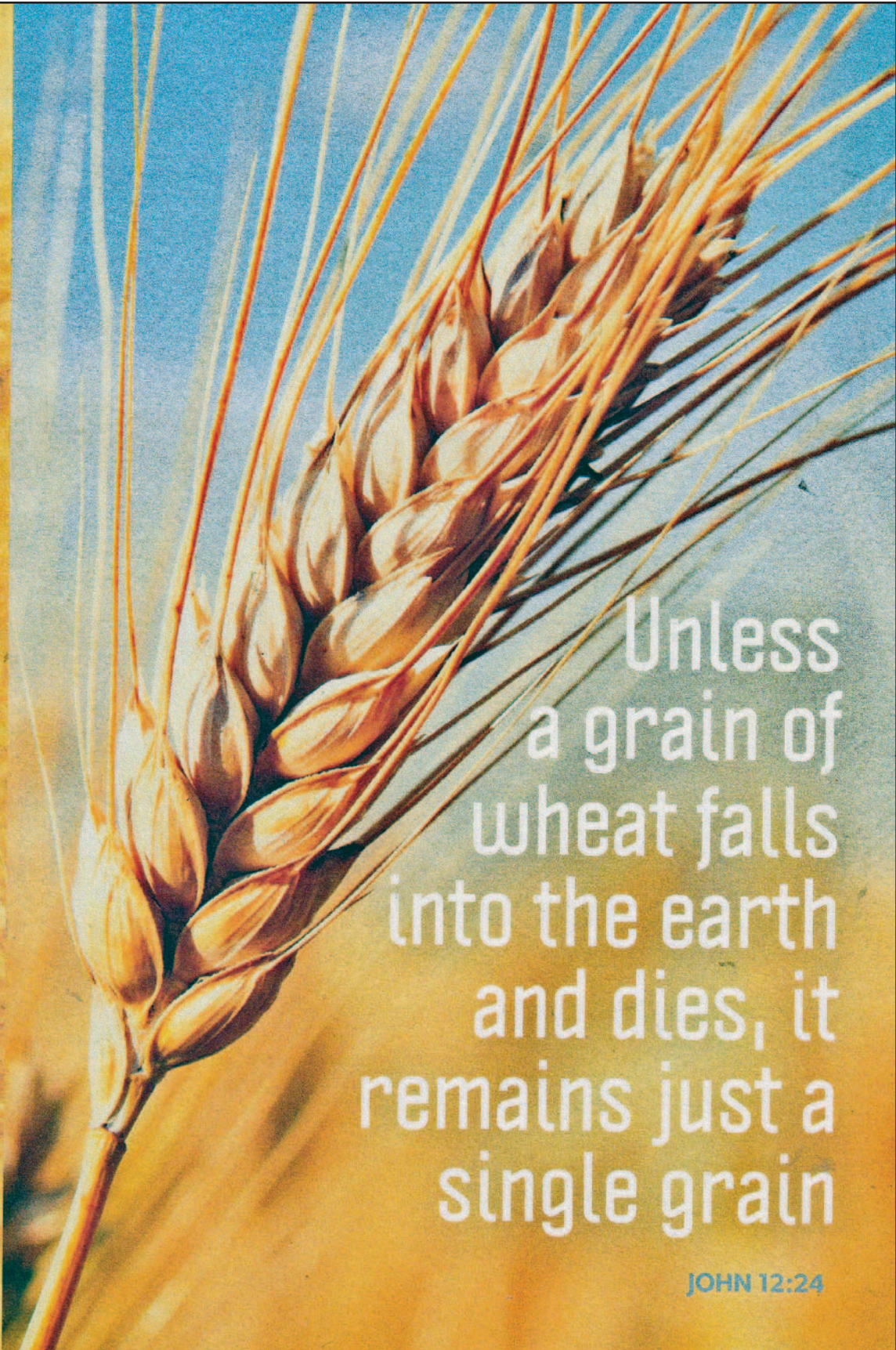


# St. John Lutheran Church



Unless  
a grain of  
wheat falls  
into the earth  
and dies, it  
remains just a  
single grain

JOHN 12:24

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20240317-5LNT

ELCA-K

# ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT • MARCH 17, 2024

## Reverent Reflection

## Prelude

## Welcome

## Church Announcements

## Confession and Forgiveness

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C. **Amen.**

P. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. **Amen.**

P. Most merciful God,

C. **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

P. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our 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 sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn:** Canticle of the Turning (#723)

## Apostolic Greeting

## Kyrie p. 203

**Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.**

**We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.**

**Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.**

**Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.**

**Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!**

## **Canticle p. 204**

**Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.**

**Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:**

**we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.**

**Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray:

*O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**Amen.**

## **Word**

### **First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

<sup>31</sup> The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup> No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 51:1-12**

**Response: Create in me a clean heart, O God.**

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

<sup>2</sup> **Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup> For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup> **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment. R**

<sup>5</sup> Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother’s womb.

<sup>6</sup> **Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

<sup>7</sup> Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

<sup>8</sup> **Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice. R**

<sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup> **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup> Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup> **Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit. R**

### **Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10**

<sup>5</sup> Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

<sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup>and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation (Lenten) p. 205**

**We are turning, Lord, to hear you; you are merciful and kind — slow to anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined.**

### **Gospel: John 12:20-33**

The holy gospel according to John.

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

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup>"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

### **Children's Sermon**

### **Anthem**

### **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

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of the covenant, through the church you draw us into community. We give thanks for the means of grace around which we gather. Inspire writers, musicians, and artists whose creative gifts adorn our worship.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all that exists, you lavish the earth with extravagant beauty. Preserve the rich and complex diversity of living things. Support local, national, and international efforts to protect the environment for future generations.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children (organizations may be named).

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for any experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse in families and intimate relationships. Protect and comfort all who are vulnerable, especially those living in institutions.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every time and place, you are with us. Support ministries of prayer and presence in this congregation (specific ministries may be named). Move us to reach out to any who are homebound, lonely, grieving, in treatment, or ill.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of promise, we give thanks for the saints whose faith inspires us (especially Patrick, missionary to Ireland, whom we commemorate today). Grant us faith to trust in your everlasting love.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## Sharing of the Peace

### Offering

### Great Thanksgiving

P. The Lord be with you.

C. **And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts.

C. **We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## **Preface p. 207**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power 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, hosanna in the highest.**

## **Words of Institution**

### **Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray:

*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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## **Distribution of Holy Communion**

**Communion Hymns:** Softly And Tenderly (#608)  
The King of Love My Shepherd Is (#502)  
Let Us Break Bread Together (#471)

## **Post-Communion Blessing**

### **Benediction**

**Sending Hymn:** When I Survey The Wondrous Cross (#803)

### **Postlude**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	9:30 am	Regular Sunday Morning Church Service
	10:30 am	Band Rehearsal
	10:45 am	Sunday School
	11:15 am	Youth Bell/Chime Practice
	11:30 am	Senior Bell Choir Practice (twice a month)
Monday	4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Instructional Band
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Thursday	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir
Monday, March 18th	5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Confirmation Class in the Parish House
Wednesday, March 20th	6:00 pm	Lenten Devotions and Soup Supper
Saturday, March 23rd	9:30 – 11:30 am	Council Retreat (followed by lunch)
Sunday, March 24th	9:30 am	Palm Sunday Worship Service
Thursday, March 28th	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Worship Service
Friday, March 29th	12:00 pm	Good Friday Noon Worship Service
Friday, March 29th	7:00 pm	Good Friday Tenabrae Worship Service
Sunday, March 31st	9:30 am	Easter Sunday Worship Service
Tuesday, April 2nd	7:00 pm	Bible Study in the Parish House
Monday, April 8th	7:00 pm	Council Meeting in the Parish House
Wednesday, April 10th	2:00 pm	Afternoon Tea in Parish House Tea Room
Saturday, April 13th	11:30 am	Community Luncheon in Ed. Bldg.
Monday, April 15th	5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Confirmation Class
Wednesday, April 17th	7:00 pm	Grief Gathering in the Parish House Tea Room

## PRAYER LIST

*Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:*

Jen Bailey	Stan Harmer	Ashley Rosser
Rose Burns	Valerie Hoffmann	Finn Schureman
Brian Byrnes	Heidi Leslie	Eric Sprengle
Janet Cappuccio	Joanne McVelli	George Vaneman, Sr.
John Carney	Melanie Miles	Marc Willard
Tina Carney	Kent Montford	Ryan Williams
Sandra DeRitis	Terry Ormsby	
Angela Guedes	Jim Reed	

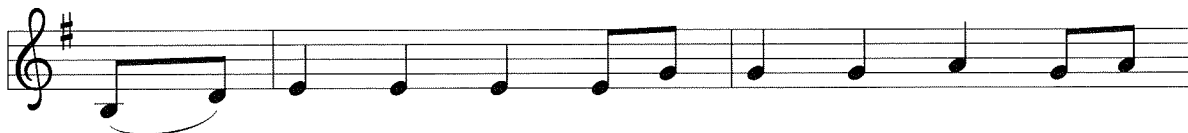
## EASTER FLOWER DEDICATION

Easter Flowers (daffodils and tulips) are now available for order for \$10 each.  
Please contact Pat Reed by March 24th for details and payment.

## ALTAR FLOWERS DEDICATION FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 17<sup>th</sup>

*Dedicated by Marie and Henry Fickenscher in memory of her mother, Lillian Kleintop.*

## Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



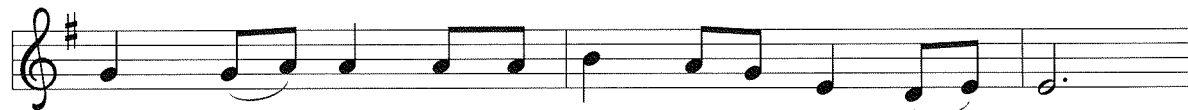
won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



## Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

*Refrain*

watch - ing for you and for me.  
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!  
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

## The King of Love My Shepherd Is

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness  
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed  
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant  
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der  
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.  
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
 thine unction grace bestoweth;  
 and, oh, what transport of delight  
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,  
 thy goodness faileth never.  
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
 within thy house forever.

# Let Us Break Bread Together

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

# When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

803

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
Music: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

HAMBURG  
LM

*Alternate tune:* ROCKINGHAM OLD