

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church Reopening Guidelines & Expectations



Saint Mark's Lutheran Church
Midweek Lenten Service
March 3, 2021

Safety Precautions

- If you or someone in your household is sick, please stay home.
- Please physical distance at least 6 feet.
- Follow best hygiene practices – please use hand sanitizer.
- Masks are required. Please put on your mask before entering the church..
- Please cover your cough or sneeze.
- No food or drink allowed in the church at this time.
- The kitchen is closed. Please do not go into the church kitchen.
- The classrooms are closed. Please do not go into the classrooms.
- The water fountains are off. We apologize for the inconvenience.
- Please do not congregate before or after the service.
- Please no singing during the service.
- Please be patient, kind, and understanding.
- No Group may use the church building until they have approval from the church office. The Church Council has the final decision about facility use based on safety considerations.

Saint Mark's COVID-19 Preparedness Plan
is available in the narthex.

— The **BOLD** is read by the **Congregation**—

ORDER OF WORSHIP

LENTEN THEME: REDEEMED IN CHRIST

*Ask, and it will be given you; **search**, and you will find; **knock**, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.*

Matthew 7:7-8

WELCOME

DIALOGUE

Asking One,
you are the voice and the silence of our exploration.

Giving One,
you are the fullness and the emptiness of all yearning.

Searching One,
you are the beginning and the end of our search.

Finding One,
you are the alpha and omega of all discovery.

Persistent One,
you never abandon your search for us.

Receiving One,
you endlessly welcome us home, and spread before us a feast in the face of our constant requests for mere morsels of bread.

Ask us, O God,
and receive from within us the pain we bear.

Search us, O God,
and find within us the secrets we hide.

Keep knocking at the door of our lives
until we open our wills to your purpose,
our lives to your life, and our yearning to your hope.

~Adapted from *A Prayer of Adoration and Confession* by Reverend Dr. Anita Monro

OPENING HYMN

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

READING

Daniel 6:16-23

¹⁶ Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!” ¹⁷ A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. ¹⁸ Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him.

¹⁹ Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. ²⁰ When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?” ²¹ Daniel then said to the king, “O king, live forever! ²² My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” ²³ Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up

out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

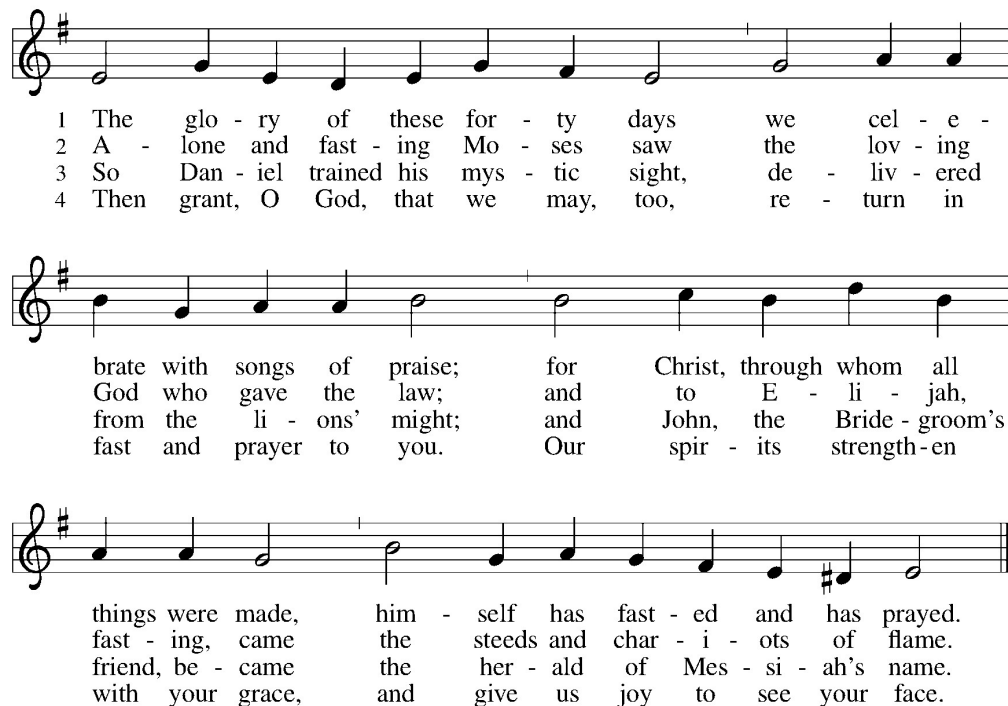
Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

Pastor Lue Moua

LENTEN HYMN

The Glory of These Forty Days



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in

brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en

things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862–1947, alt.
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543
Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906, All rights reserved.

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PRAYER

When we forget to seek you and discover that we have lost our place:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

When we ask once and leave it at that:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

When we draw back from knocking, lest we disturb you:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Strengthen our courage; bolster our endurance;
spur us onward in your way in our world
through the power of the Holy Spirit
and the name of Christ.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, hear our cry and teach us to 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,
forever and ever. Amen**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

Amen.



SENDING HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

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OFFERING

~ Offerings may be placed in the basket by the entrance. ~

*Offerings during Wednesday's Lenten services will go towards the
Randolph Fire Department.*



DISMISSAL

P: We go in peace, Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.



Thank you for worshipping with us at Saint Mark's Lutheran Church. We welcome and appreciate your presence. May the Lord keep your heart and mind in Christ Jesus as we journey together through Lent.

Lenten Theme: Redeemed in Christ

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

February 24

Ruth, *Ruth 1:6-18*

March 3

Daniel, *Daniel 6:16-23*

March 10

Jonah, *Jonah 1:1-3;11-17*

March 17

The Lost Coin, Luke 15:8-10

March 24

Paul, *Acts 9:1-22*

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

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