

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



*A man had a fig tree planted in  
his vineyard; and he came  
looking for fruit on it ...*

LUKE 13:6, NRSV

REPENT AND BE RESCUED

*The Third Sunday in Lent*

*March 24, 2019*

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child is restless, you can use the Family Room to calm your child. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the Worship Center. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers or greeters can help you find the restrooms, family room or answer your other questions.

## **SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY**

At its heart, Lent is a season of repentance. While we certainly repent every time we worship, we focus today especially on the invitation of God to turn from our sin and be fully confident of the deliverance he gives us through the blood of Jesus.

The liturgical color\* throughout the season of Lent is purple, which communicates somberness and quietness. This is fitting given Lent's somber focus on Jesus' sufferings and death.

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"Lord to You I Make Confession." Text: public domain. Tune: © 2014 Judas on Straight Street Publications.

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\* The liturgical color is found on the pastor's stole and the piece of cloth hanging from the pulpit.

# CALENDAR

March 24-30

<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Sunday School (grades K-5)
	10:30 AM	Worship
	2:00 PM	Adult Co-ed Volleyball in the gym
<b>TUESDAY</b>	6:45 AM	Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	9:45 AM	Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	3:35 PM	<b>Midweek Lenten Service</b>
	4:30 PM	<b>Lenten Supper in the cafeteria</b> (Helpers A-J)
	6:30 PM	<b>Midweek Lenten Service</b>
	7:30 PM	Choir Practice in the balcony
	8:00 PM	Contemporary Choir in the balcony
<b>THURSDAY</b>	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	5:30 PM	Handbell Practice in the balcony
	6:30 PM	A People Close to God in the Bible Study Room
	6:30 PM	Men's Devotionals Basketball in the gym
<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Sunday School (grades K-5)
	10:30 AM	Worship
	2:00 PM	Adult Co-ed Volleyball in the gym

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Apr. 6 Mission Rally in Marshfield
- Apr. 7 Open Forum at 9:15AM
- Apr. 7 Handbell Festival Concert in Medford
- Apr. 12 St. Paul's Got Talent
- Apr. 14 Palm Sunday



# THE COMMON SERVICE

The common service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church.

## WELCOME

### Lord, To You I Make Confession



1. We have come in - to God's pre - sence; ma - ker of the  
2. Lord to you I make con - fes - sion; I have sinned and  
3. Lord, on you I cast my bur - den; sink it in the  
4. For your Son has suf - fered for me, giv'n him - self to



7  
heav'ns and earth. He cre - a - ted us to love him; \_\_\_\_\_ to  
gone a - stray; I have mul - ti - plied trans - gres - sion, \_\_\_\_\_  
depths be - low! Let me know your gra - cious par - don, \_\_\_\_\_  
res - cue me, died to save me and re - store me, \_\_\_\_\_



13  
serve him as his pre - cious child. We have dis - o - beyed and  
cho - sen for my - self my way. Led by you to see my  
wash me, make me white as snow. Let your Spir - it leave me  
rec - on - ciled and set me free. Je - sus' cross a - lone can



18  
er - rored, thus de - ser - ving wrath and ang - er.  
er - rors, Lord, I trem - ble at your ter - rors.  
nev - er; make me on - ly yours for - ev - er.  
van - quish these dark fears and soothe this an - guish.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77, abr.;  
tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
Tune: Tracy Fedke, b. 1975  
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*Please stand.*

## INVOCATION

Minister (M): In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation (C): Amen.**

*The pastor sings verse 1.*

*The invocation affirms that our worship begins in the name of and is directed toward the one, true, Triune God of the Bible.*

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*The congregation sings verse 2.*

M: We confess:

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*The congregation sings verse 3.*

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*The congregation sings verse 4.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

# The Word

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## FIRST LESSON

*Numbers 16:23-40*

*Men showed their unrepentance and the LORD dealt with them.*

*After the reading, the announcement is made:*

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## PSALM OF THE DAY

*Psalms 38 | CW p.81*

## SECOND LESSON

*1 Corinthians 10:1-13*

*When we are tempted like the Israelites, God always gives us a way out.*

*After the reading, the announcement is made:*

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*The Verse of the Day prepares our hearts to receive God's teaching in the Gospel of the Day.*

## VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,

**C: that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.** (*John 3:14,15*)

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL LESSON

*Luke 13:1-9*

*Now is the time to repent!*

*After the Gospel, the announcement is made:*

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

*The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

*The children are invited to come forward for an object lesson.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh | CW 303*

## **SERMON - EXAMINE THE EXAMPLES**

### **RESPONSE:**

*CW p.20*

♪ **Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.** ♪

*Based on the words of Psalm 51:10-12, this song is a prayer that the Lord would cause his Word to take root in our hearts and renew us in the image of his Son.*

## **OFFERING**

*St. Paul's members offer their first and their best to their Savior in order to support the sharing of the Gospel through our church and our worldwide church body, the WELS. Our guests do not need to feel obligated to participate. We ask that everyone, guests and members, sign the Friendship Register, which will be passed out during the offering.*

*If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.*



## **OFFERING TOO BIG FOR THE PLATE**

*Please stand.*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*The beauty of the Lord's Prayer is how it succinctly prays for God's blessing and help in every aspect of life.*

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## HYMN

*Not in Anger Mighty God | CW 423*

*Please stand.*

## CLOSING PRAYER

M: Let us pray together.

C: **Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: ♪ Amen. Amen. Amen. ♪

## CLOSING HYMN

*Today Your Mercy Calls Us | CW 339*

**Today your mercy called us And washed away our sin.  
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been.  
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,  
Your precious blood has washed us And made us clean today.**

**Your gate is always open, And all who enter in  
Shall find a Father's welcome And pardon for their sin.  
The past has been forgotten, A present joy is mine,  
A future glory promised: All praise, dear Lord, be thine!**





## TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

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1. The word that is translated “to indulge in pagan revelry” in 1 Cor. 10:7 actually has the basic meaning “to play.” Why would the translators not simply stick with the dictionary definition?
2. Think of three “ways out” God has given you in the midst of your temptations. Share those different experiences with someone who might benefit from hearing how God equipped you to stand up under temptation.
3. In Numbers 16, why did Korah, Dathan, and Abiram meet such a terrible end? It might help to read the whole chapter or glance over the previous chapters.
4. How can God be called faithful when he struck down thousands of his chosen children of Israel? How can God be called faithful when he lets so much bad things happen in the world? Use other parts of the Bible to help you answer these questions.



# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **THIS SUNDAY'S BIBLE STUDY**

Living in the Light of a Glorious Savior (1 John 1)  
Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

## **NEW BIBLE STUDY SERIES STARTS THIS WEEK**

*March 24 | 9:15-10:15 a.m.*

Today we will begin a study on the book of 1 John. We will cover one chapter per week. Hear what John has to say about walking in light and living in love. Bibles are available, so just show up! We meet in the cafeteria.

## **ANOTHER OPEN FORUM**

*April 7 | 9:15 a.m.*

At our last open forums, we discussed the ideas of calling Mr. Pahl to serve as a part-time staff minister, requesting a teacher assignment from MLC, and requesting a seminary grad to serve as associate pastor. Although feedback seemed to be in favor of the suggested changes, more input is needed from the congregation. The hope is to get a clearer picture of how the leadership might best accomplish the wishes of the congregation, so we can carry out effective gospel ministry. Therefore, another open forum is scheduled for Sunday, April 7 between the services (about 9:15). Please prayerfully consider attending this open forum! Also continue to pray for our congregation, called workers, and the people of Wisconsin Rapids throughout this time of discussion and change!

## **SPRING MISSION RALLY IN MARSHFIELD**

*April 6 | 9:00-2:30*

Twice a year, we have the opportunity to gather with other WELS members in our area to support and learn more about mission work. This spring's mission rally is at Trinity Lutheran Church, just south of Marshfield. Speakers will share information about the Vicar in Missions Program and the Central Africa Medical Mission. Registration is only \$3 and lunch is provided. These mission rallies are organized by the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society, but everyone is welcome!

## **MITE BOXES DUE BY APRIL 1**

If you have a mission mite box, please turn it in by April 1, so we can take your offerings to the mission rally in Marshfield.

*A mite box is a small cardboard container with a slot in the top used to collect coins. You can pick one up from the table across from the mail slots.*

## WHO WILL YOU INVITE?

Holy Week begins in just three weeks. It is time to start thinking about who you will invite to the Easter services to hear the Good News that Jesus has risen. Think of family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors that don't know Jesus or don't have a church home. And start praying for an opportunity to invite them.

## KLEENEX NEEDED

A long winter of colds and flu plus several funerals have left us low on Kleenex. Your donations would be appreciated.

## ST. PAUL'S GOT TALENT

Mark your calendars and plan to attend St. Paul's Got Talent on Friday April 12 at 6:30 p.m. St. Paul's School students will entertain you with music, dancing and other God-given talents.

## PHOTO SESSION SIGNUPS BEGIN SOON

Pictures for our new church directory will be taken June 5-8 & 12-15. We will have multiple ways for you to schedule your session. You can do so online from the convenience of your home, or you can call and have someone schedule your session. We will also have volunteers at church on April 14 & 28 to help you with the process. So check your calendars and pick a day that works for you.

## HANDBELL FESTIVAL IN MEDFORD

*April 7 | 2:00 p.m.*

The annual handbell festival will be held at Medford Area Elementary School. Our own Joyful Ringers will be a part of this two-day event. You are invited to the free public concert on Sunday, April 7 at 2:00 p.m. The concert will involve ten handbell choirs and over 140 ringers. It will be worth the trip to Medford.

## ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT

Last week's attendance: 269    Year-to-date average attendance: 236

From July 1, 2018 to March 15, 2019

Actual gifts to ministry:        \$ 708,221

Actual cost of ministry:        \$ 723,121    Mortgage Balance                \$ 1,532,796





*www.stpaulswr.org*