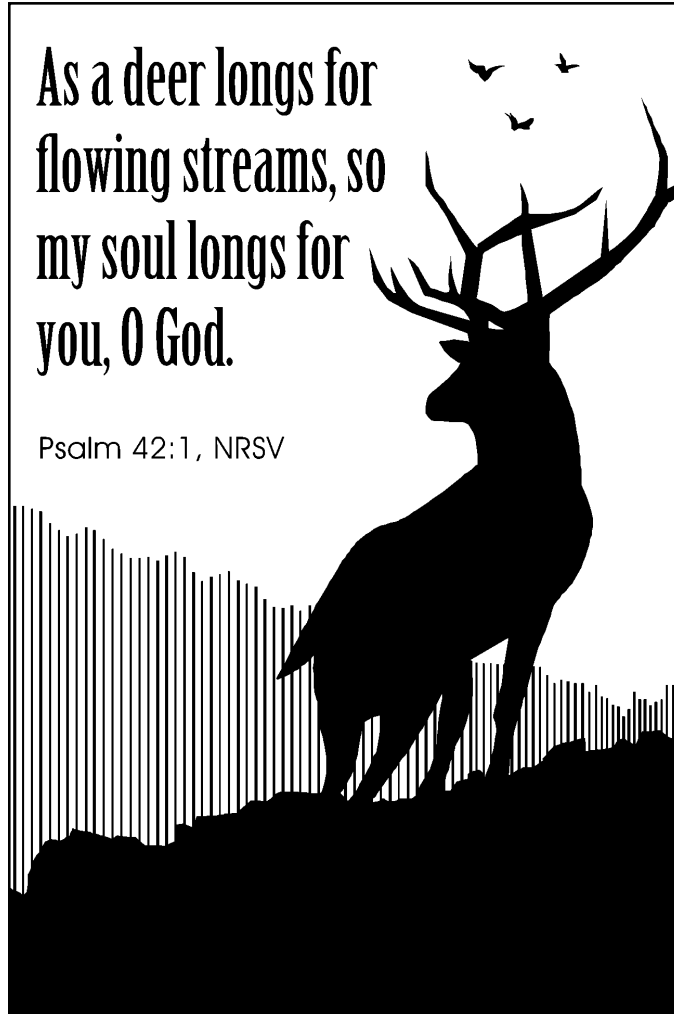


# WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



GOD PROVIDES WATER FOR THE THIRSTY  
*Third Sunday in Lent*

March 12, 2023



## Welcome To Worship

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. Please fill out a Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child becomes restless, you can use the Family Room to calm them. Quiet bags and children's bulletins are also available to keep little ones busy. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the worship space. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service folder and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers can help you find the restrooms or family room and answer any other questions.

## Service Notes For This Service



A person can survive between one and two months without food. But a person can survive only two to three days without water. Water is one of our greatest needs. Research shows that even slight dehydration will adversely affect your mood, memory, and motor coordination. Become seriously dehydrated, and life ends quickly. This helps us understand what Scripture means when it says things like, "My soul thirsts for God" (Psalm 42:2). If one is separated from God, he is adversely affected. If he remains separated from God, he will die an agonizing eternal death.

Not all admit it; yet it remains true for all. Everyone has a deep spiritual thirst. In our heart of hearts, we all long for everlasting life. Unbelievers try to satisfy that deep thirst with worldly things, a strategy doomed for failure. Believers look to the One who has promised, "Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst." Jesus meets our greatest needs. He alone possesses the water that satisfies those who are spiritually parched. He alone grants eternal life

## Acknowledgements

Setting Two from Christian Worship. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

# The Service: Setting Two

---

*Setting Two begins on page 172 of the hymnal*

## Welcome

### Hymn

913 *Come Away from Rush and Hurry*  
*Join to sing following the second verse.*

*Stand*

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.  
**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

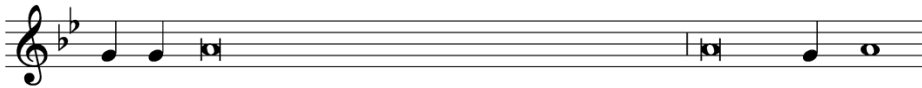
*Silence for meditation and reflection*

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174

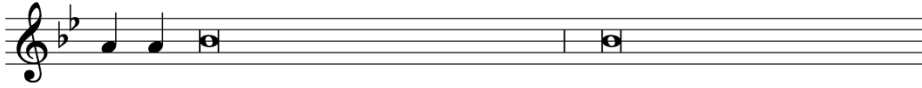
The musical notation is a single line of music on a five-line staff. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of the following notes: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B-flat4, a half note C5, a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, a quarter note G5, a quarter note A5, a quarter note B-flat5, a quarter note C6, a quarter note B-flat5, a quarter note A5, a quarter note G5, a quarter note F5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note D5, a quarter note C5. The lyrics are placed below the notes: "In peace let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy." The word "mer" is under the note G5, and "cy." is under the note C6.



For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of



God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



**A - men.**

Tune: Marty Haugen. © 1984, 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903

## The Word

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*During the somber season of Lent, the Gloria and Alleluias are omitted. While our tones of praise are slightly muted during our march to the Savior's cross, we look forward to welcoming back these joyful songs when we celebrate our Lord's resurrection. The service continues with The Word.*

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Exodus 17:1-7*

*God graciously provided his undeserving people with water in a miraculous way.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

*532 As the Deer Runs to the River*

*Please join to sing the refrain following the second verse.*

- 1 As the deer runs to the river, parched and weary from the chase,  
we have come from hurt and hurry, thirsting for your healing grace.



Je - sus, source of liv - ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live!

- 2 When your Israel crossed the desert where no stream or spring was seen,  
Moses struck the rock, and water flowed for them, refreshing, clean. **Refrain**
- 3 “Come and drink,” Isaiah summoned, “all who for God’s mercy plead!  
God’s forgiveness, like a fountain, flows to satisfy your need.” **Refrain**
- 4 Christ, we come from desert places, deepest thirst unsatisfied.  
Lead us to the waters flowing from the cross on which you died. **Refrain**

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007. Tune: David Hurd, b. 1950. Text: © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903  
Tune: © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903

## Second Reading

*Romans 5:1-8*

*Our sin makes us like people dying of thirst with no water in sight; God’s love has been poured out generously, refreshing our hearts with living water.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

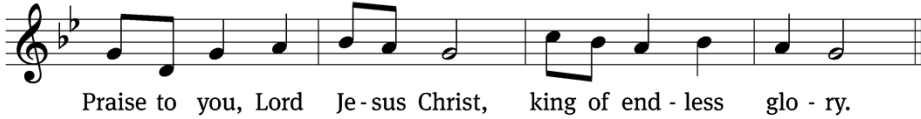
Stand

## Gospel Acclamation

John 4:13,14



Refrain



*Pastor sings:*

Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirst- / y again,  
but whoever drinks the water I give them will / never thirst.

**Refrain**

Text: © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. (refrain). Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903. Tune: © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903

## Gospel

John 4:5–26

*Jesus provides spiritual water to the thirsty soul of a Samaritan woman.*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated*

## Children's Message

## Hymn of the Day

703 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

## Sermon

**Water for the Weary**

Stand

## Apostles' 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.**

*Be seated*

## **Connect Card**

*Please take a moment now to fill out a Connect Card.*

## **Prayer of the Church**

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to free us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

**We confess that without your love we are lost.**

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

**Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.**

Guard and guide those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and values as Christians.

**By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.**

Keep in your care those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, and those victimized by war and injustice. Comfort all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

**Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.**

Watch over those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all those who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

**Strengthen them in their work, Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.**

*Special prayers and intercessions*

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Special Prayers This Week:

- Gerry Paul is having renewed health issues – lymphedema & congestive heart failure.
- For Rick Nash, a friend of Kathy Gear
- Community member Debbie - for her family's mental and physical health
- Ryan & Laura Jaeger returned their calls to serve as our principal & teacher
- John & Carole Melso were called to serve Pilgrim Lutheran School in Mesa, Arizona

## Offering

*Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. 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.*



## WELS Connection Video

*Christian Aid & Relief - Florida*

## Hymn

*394 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain*

*Stand*

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## 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.**

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## Hymn

*533 Jesus, Lover of My Soul vs. 1, 3, 4  
Join to sing following the first verse.*

# Take Home Questions

---

1. In Exodus 17:3, what effect of dehydration do we see in the Israelites, as they think back to Egypt? In what ways is that similar to the times we, as God's children, do not regularly drink from the living water of God's Word?
  
2. Identify the work of each person of the Trinity as found in Romans 5:1-8. What does the "pouring of the Holy Spirit" remind you of, both in accounts of the Bible and in your own life?
  
3. The theme of "living water" is one that is used throughout the entire Bible. Look up the following passages to get a more detailed perspective of where this living water is found, who it's for, etc.
  - a. Psalm 42
  
  - b. Jeremiah 2:13
  
  - c. John 7:37-39
  
  - d. Revelation 7:14-17
  
  - e. Revelation 22:17
  
4. Read John 4:28-30 and 39-42. What miraculous things took place after the encounter between Jesus and this woman at the well?

# News & Announcements

---



## **This Sunday's Bible Study:**

### **Jonah: The Grumpiest Missionary**

Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 am.

For the google meet link, contact a pastor.

## **Jonah: The Grumpiest Missionary**

*March 12 | 9:15-10:15 AM*

What Old Testament stories do you know best? One of them is almost certainly be Jonah. But have you taken time to consider not just the facts of Jonah's story, but what those facts mean for you today? For example, in which people or groups do you see yourself? Is it important to know what kind of sea beast swallowed Jonah? What does Jonah say that points people to Jesus? What's with the ending that leaves us hanging? We will seek to answer those questions and more as we begin a walk through the book of Jonah during our Sunday morning Bible class hour. You will get to see what it is like to dig into the original Hebrew text, while also mining the truths that God wishes to communicate to you through the account of Jonah, who many call "The Grumpiest Missionary." Curious why he has that title? Join us on Sundays to find out!

## **Share Jesus' Resurrection with Kids**

Volunteer for Easter for Kids on March 25. There are lots of ways you can put your talents to work or just lend a hand. We still need leaders in some areas and many helpers. Look for more info on the Ministry Table, or go to [stpaulswr.org/easter-for-kids](http://stpaulswr.org/easter-for-kids) and look for volunteer link near the bottom for the page.

## **7 + 1 Words from the Heart of God**

Christ's seven words from Calvary give us a glimpse into the heart of the omnipotent God himself. Sign up to receive Holy Week Devotionals from Martin Luther College in your email during Holy Week (April 2-9) at [mlc-wels.edu/publications/seasonal-devotions](http://mlc-wels.edu/publications/seasonal-devotions).

## **Stream the Handbell Festival Concert**

*March 11-12*

St. Paul's has two handbell choirs at the WELS National Handbell Festival this weekend – our adult group and a children's group made up of 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders from our school. The Festival Concert is this afternoon, Sunday, March 12 at 2:00 pm. You can stream the concert at [www.lps.wels.net/apps/pages/lpsvimeo](http://www.lps.wels.net/apps/pages/lpsvimeo).

## **Self-Care: Selfish or Sacred?**

*April 22*

That is the Keynote address at the WELS Coulee Women's Retreat on April 22 in LaCrosse, WI. Learn more at [www.facebook.com/groups/WCWRetreat](http://www.facebook.com/groups/WCWRetreat). Registration is due by March 25.

<b>Sunday</b>	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Catechism Class in the Bible Study Room
	9:15 AM	Sunday School for 3K thru 6 <sup>th</sup> grade
	10:30 AM	Worship
	2:00 PM	Coed Volleyball in the gym
	2:00 PM	<b>Handbell Festival Concert at LPS in Watertown</b>
<b>Monday</b>	4:30 PM	Choir Practice in the balcony
<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
	5:30 PM	Men's Devotional Basketball in the gym
	6:30 PM	Stephen Ministers Peer Group in the Resource Center
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:55 AM	School Chapel Service
	4:00 PM	<b>Midweek Lenten Service</b>
	4:45 PM	<b>Fellowship Meal in the cafeteria</b>
	6:00 PM	<b>Midweek Lenten Service</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
<b>Sunday</b>	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study
	9:15 AM	Catechism Class
	9:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship
	2:00 PM	Coed Volleyball

## Attendance & Offering Report

Last Week's Attendance: 233

Anticipated offerings YTD: \$ 639,526

Actual offerings YTD: \$ 504,737

## Upcoming Events

Mar. 13-17 ~ St. Paul's Serving at Food Pantry

Mar. 25 ~ Easter for Kids

Mar. 27-31 ~ School Spring Break

**Come Celebrate the Joy of Easter!**

Make Projects  
Make & eat snacks

Play Games  
Sing songs

**EASTER for Kids**

Register at [stpaulswr.org](http://stpaulswr.org)

**March 25, 2023**

9:00 TO 11:45 am  
Lunch to follow  
St Paul's Lutheran Church 311 14<sup>th</sup> Ave S  
(across from Splash Pad)

Ages 3-10  
Babysitting provided

© 2013 Northwestern Publishing House, Menasha, Wisconsin. All rights reserved.



311 14th Ave S | Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495 | 715-421-3634 | [churchoffice@stpaulswr.org](mailto:churchoffice@stpaulswr.org)

Pastor Lucas Proeber | 989-780-3184 | [pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org](mailto:pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org)  
Pastor Peter Plagenz | 920-689-3036 | [pastorplagenz@stpaulswr.org](mailto:pastorplagenz@stpaulswr.org)