



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool  
200 S Main St  
Charles City, Iowa 50616  
641-228-3397  
[www.stjohncharlescity.org](http://www.stjohncharlescity.org)

Rev. Russ Leeper, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Anita Nuetzman, Visitation & Preaching Pastor  
Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music  
Pianist: Susan Leeper

**March 20, 2022; Third Sunday of Lent**



**Luke 13:1-9**

Prelude:

Welcome

Service of Holy Baptism

Gathering Hymn:

“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”

#618

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.  
I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Apostolic Greeting:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

**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.**

Reading:

Isaiah 55:1-9

Read by Kathy Crooks

55Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. <sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. <sup>6</sup>Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

### Jesus Loves Me”

Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so,  
Little ones to Him belong, they are weak but He is strong.

#### Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,  
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me He who died heaven’s gate to open wide  
He will wash away my sin let his little child come in. **Refrain:**

Children’s Sermon

Lenten Acclamation:



P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke 13:1-9



13At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ <sup>8</sup>He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

*P: The Gospel of the Lord...*



Praise to you, O Christ.

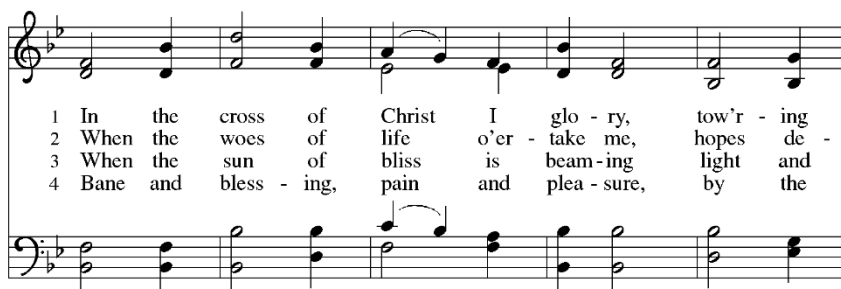
*Sermon*

Pastor Russ Leeper

*Hymn of the Day*

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

#324



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing, light and  
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
 love up - on my way, from the cross the  
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

*The Prayers (P):* Lord in your mercy,  
Response: **hear our prayer.**

***Please Keep the following in prayer:***

Sue Ayers Dale Lamprecht Brandie McDonald  
James Grob Sandra Link Marilu Wohlers  
Bill Hollar Bill Wohlers, Jr.

***Bruce Delap & family on the death of his sister, Penny Jaeger***

*Penny is also the sister-in-law of Janet Petefish & Judy Kelly*

Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families: Mackenzy Bilharz, Alex Buenger, Kim Hall, Daniel Jacobs, Cameron Kakac, Robson Shankland

***The Prayer List:*** Names will be kept on the list for 3 weeks. Family members can request a name be left on longer. The office number is 228-3397.

*The Offering*

The Offering Hymn

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

#338

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see  
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;

the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,  
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.  
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:  
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.  
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

\*Response

“Feed Us Now”

Feed us now, Bread of life, In this holy meal;  
Let us know your love a-new; We hunger for you.  
Feed us now, Bread of life, Come and live with-in.  
Let your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray.

*The Communion*

The Words of Institution

The 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.**

*The Distribution*

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

#471

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.

“Just as I Am, Without One Plea”

#592

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y\_a con - flict,  
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,  
 4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
 man - y\_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
 cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,  
 bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The first system contains the first four lines of lyrics. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the final line of lyrics. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords that support the vocal melody.

“Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling”

#608

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!”

*Communion Blessing & Benediction*



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;  
 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;  
 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;  
 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.  
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.  
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.  
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

*Refrain*

In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;

till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

P: Go in peace and share the Good News!

Postlude:



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool  
200 S. Main Street, Charles City, IA 50616; 641-228-3397*

**March 20 - March 27**

Sunday **3rd Sunday in Lent**  
**9:00 a.m. Worship**  
 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study

Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Family Board  
 7:00 p.m. All Aboard meeting

Wednesday 5:00 p.m. Supper  
**5:30 p.m. Lenten Worship**  
 6:00 p.m. Trinity Choir

Sunday **4th Sunday in Lent**  
**9:00 a.m. Worship**  
**10:05 a.m. Education Hour**  
 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
 11:00 a.m. Ladies Luncheon

**Family Board's Easter Egg hunt will be April 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.!**  
 Donations of wrapped candy to fill the eggs would be greatly appreciated!




**“ALL A BOARD”**  
**Meeting night is Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.**  
 All boards will gather to meet as individual boards and as a large group!

**Modern Parables: A Lenten Film Festival**  
 Join us at **5:30 p.m. for in-person and livestream** Wednesday Lenten services as we look at the parables of Jesus. At each week’s service, we’ll view a short film which places one of Jesus’ parables in a modern-day context. The films accurately follow the original text. The goal of the films is to recreate the emotional, intellectual, and spiritual impact of Jesus’ original parables.

**March 9:** “Hidden Treasure”, Matthew 13:44  
**March 16:** “Samaritan”, Luke 10:25-37  
**March 23:** “The Shrewd Manager”, Luke 16:1-9  
**March 30:** “The Widow & the Judge”, Luke 18:1-8  
**April 6:** “The Prodigal Son”, Luke 15:11-32

Our Lenten Film Festival services will be a mixture of singing, scriptures, cinema, reflection, and prayer.

**Take Home a Piece of History:**   
 The 150th Anniversary committee is planning something spring-like for March. We are doing a sort of spring cleaning of things we have found around the church that are being stored but are never used. Primarily this is dishes, some very pretty ones, actually. These will be on display in the Narthex through most of March. Take what you like, no charge. Maybe you need a serving dish, have kids that need some things for a starter home. Take as much as you want, we are clearing it out. Some of these items are from previous dish sets and things people may have left behind. They deserve a good home, and we need the space. Hope you enjoy rummaging through it.

**After Worship Social Time**  
 Coffee & a treat are served in the Parish Hall each Sunday! If you would like to volunteer to bring the treats, **you can sign up in the Parish Hall**, or call Kathy in the office. What you choose to bring for a treat is entirely up to you! Coffee & napkins are provided by St. John.

**Wednesday Night Supper**  
**Wednesday, March 23:**  
 Baked chicken, whipped potatoes & gravy, green beans, cottage cheese, strawberry cake



**"In your Easter Bonnet with all the frills upon it."**

Just giving you a heads up. The 150th Anniversary Committee is hoping that the congregation will join us for an old-fashioned Easter on Easter Sunday. In preparation for this we intend to hand out Easter hats to our young girls and bow ties to our young boys on Palm Sunday so you can get ready for Easter. We will distribute them as long as our supply lasts. We are hoping our more adult members will find a hat and anything else you feel is fun for an Easter outfit. Remember the white gloves and pretty purses we got all gussied up with as kids? We don't expect everyone to partake of this retro Easter, but it will be fun to see what we come up with. If you want to pick an era or have an outfit that reflects memory from the past, we will appreciate the effort.

**The Annual Ladies Luncheon**  
will be  
Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.  
in the Parish Hall

The theme this year is *Water Your Garden!*

The Family Board invites all the ladies & their friends to join in this fun event. There will be lunch, dessert, a short program and a pretty "Photo Booth" to snap a few cute pictures of your group!

Tickets can be purchased in the office until March 25<sup>th</sup>. \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for girls ages 6-18, & under 6 free.



**Ladies Luncheon Request!**

There is a sign-up sheet in the office to bring a salad &/or a dessert to the luncheon! Salad or desserts can be of any type and can be dropped off Saturday morning or brought in by 10:00 a.m. on Sunday!

**Easter Lilies**

If you would like to donate towards the Easter lilies for Easter Sunday let the office know at 641-228-3397.



**Helping Hands** has about 20 people ready, willing, and able to help run errands, do minor household help, and provide transportation. If you need any of these services, please call Kathy at the church office during regular business hours. Someone will contact you within 48 hours of receiving the message to make arrangements to help.

**REMINDER:** Those students attending a Lutheran college who would like to receive an EPIC grant must notify the church by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**.

St. John scholarship applications for non-Lutheran colleges can be emailed to you and should be emailed to the office by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**.

**Offering from the week of  
February 27, 2022**

General Receipts \$ 4,559.70  
Designated offering 190.00

*General receipts of \$9,812.94 are needed weekly to meet the approved budget.*

**Attendance: 2/27: 193 2/26 Ash Wed: 191**

**Altar Flowers & Radio Broadcast**

Sign up to sponsor Altar flowers/Radio Broadcast on the glass case in the Narthex!