



**St. James Lutheran Church
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LENT 5

MARCH 26, 2023

THE OIL OF JOY AND GLADNESS

AS WE GATHER

In the Early Church, when new Christians were baptized, fragrant oil was often placed upon them to remind them of their new life of joy in Christ Jesus, who Himself rose from His spiced tomb as the Anointed One of God. This oil set them apart as ones who had been chosen by God, sanctified by His Spirit, and called to spread the sweet aroma of Jesus' love in the world He died to save. During this service, we, too, will receive the oil of joy and gladness, reminding us that we have been buried with Christ by our Baptism and covered in the fragrance of His resurrection victory. As we await Easter morning, we do so with somber, yet joyful expectation, knowing that Jesus is the God of new life and new beginnings. **NOTE:** *This service is styled after the Easter Vigil service.*

THE OPENING HYMN “We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died” (LSB 429)

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES *2 Corinthians 5:21, alt.; Isaiah 53:5*

- P** For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin,
- C** **so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.**
- P** But He was wounded for our transgressions;
- C** **He was crushed for our iniquities;**
- P** upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,

C and with His stripes we are healed.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Based on Philipians 2:1–11*

P Lord Jesus, search our hearts and minds that we may receive Your Word, share in Your Spirit, and be renewed in our relationships with You and with one another.

We observe a moment of silence for personal prayers of confession.

P With humble hearts, let us pray together:

C **Lord Jesus, the Father's only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, hear us as we pray.**

P Having borne our sins in Your body on Calvary's tree, You were buried in the tomb as You rested on the Sabbath Day.

C **Our rebellion against You in thought, word, and action is why You died for us—**

P to forgive our sins, to redeem our lives, and to cancel the debt we owe to God.

C **With hearts that are humble and lives ever grateful, help us to receive Your grace, bow before You in worship, and confess that You alone are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

P Almighty God our heavenly Father shows His mercy to us in the sending of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who bathes us in Baptism and clothes us with the joy and gladness of new life in Him. As a called and ordained 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.**

BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE *Romans 6:3–5*

P In Holy Baptism, we have been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covers all our sin. Paul

says, “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

- C** “We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His.”

SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. O Father in heaven, You have adopted us into Your family as Your dear, redeemed children
- C** **Preserve in us the spirit of our adoption as Your children**
- P** so that, anointed with the oil of joy and gladness,
- C** **we may rejoice in the new life we have been given;**
- P** through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

A HYMN “On My Heart Imprint Your Image” (*LSB* 422)

THE CREATION

Genesis 1:1–2:3

- P** A reading from Genesis, the first and second chapters.

THE FLOOD

Genesis 7:1–5, 11–18; 8:6–18; 9:8–13

- A** A reading from Genesis, the seventh, eighth, and ninth chapters.

P A reading from Exodus, the fourteenth and fifteenth chapters.

A HYMN: “Jesus Sinners Doth Receive” (*LSB 974*)

- 1 Jesus sinners doth receive;
Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live
And from God and heaven wander!
Here is hope for all who grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 2 We deserve but grief and shame,
Yet His words, rich grace revealing,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;
Here our ills have perfect healing.
Firmly in these words believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray
No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;
Weary souls that lost their way
Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh
In His arms that they may live:
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 4 I, a sinner, come to Thee
With a penitent confession.
Savior, mercy show to me;
Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow

By Thy blood and bitter passion;
For these words I now believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace;
From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release
And my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
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Acknowledgments

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SALVATION OFFERED FREELY TO ALL *Isaiah 55:1–11*

P A reading from Isaiah, the fifty-fifth chapter.

EPISTLE *2 Corinthians 2:12–17*

A The Epistle is from Second Corinthians, the second chapter.

¹²When I came to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ, even though a door was opened for me in the Lord, ¹³my spirit was not at rest because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I took leave of them and went on to Macedonia. ¹⁴But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of Him everywhere. ¹⁵For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among

those who are perishing, ¹⁶to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? ¹⁷For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:7–13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁷And He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— ⁹but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. ¹⁰And He said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. ¹¹And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. ¹³And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

THE SERMON HYMN “There is a Redeemer” (CCLI)

Verse 1

There is a Redeemer Jesus God's own Son
Precious Lamb of God Messiah Holy One

Chorus

Thank You O my Father
For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit
Till the work on earth is done

Verse 2

Jesus my Redeemer name above all names
Precious Lamb of God Messiah
Hope for sinners slain (Chorus)

Verse 3

When I stand in glory I will see His face
There I'll serve my King forever
In that holy place (Chorus)

CCLI Song # 11483
Melody Green

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THE SERMON (During the sermon, children who are ages 3 through grade 2 are invited to participate in KIDZ Time. Children can make their way to the back of the sanctuary where the KIDZ Time teacher is waiting. The children will return to the service following the sermon.)

THE OFFERING (Please sign the burgundy Friendship booklet and pass it to other people sitting in your pew. When completed, pass it back to the center aisle and be sure to greet the people next to you! Those sitting by the center aisle: please tear off the completed sheet and place it on the pew. Thank you!)

A HYMN: “O Gracious Lord, with Love Draw Near” (LSB 599)

THE PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Almighty God, through Your Word and Spirit You most wonderfully created all things, and through the Word made flesh You brought new life to fallen humanity.
- C** **Grant that in Your mercy we may be conformed to the image of Him who shares fully in our humanity, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.**
- P** O Lord, You kill and You raise to life; You brought the flood upon a wicked and perverse generation, and yet You saved faithful Noah and his family in the ark.
- C** **Keep us in safety in the ark of Christ's Body, the Church, that Your mercy may come to its fullness and Your salvation be preached to the ends of the earth.**
- P** O God, You once delivered Your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them by a pillar of cloud and fire through the sea to safety.
- C** **Grant that we may so follow Christ that through the waters of Baptism we may daily die and rise with Him and walk in safety through the wilderness of this life until we see Your salvation.**
- P** Almighty God, by Your Word You created and sustain all things, and by Your Spirit You renew Your creation.
- C** **Grant now the water of life to all who thirst for You that they may bring forth abundant fruit in Your glorious kingdom.**
- P** Healing Savior, by the oil of joy and gladness You anoint those who are baptized into Your holy name and grant them healing in both body and soul.
- C** **Keep us in everlasting communion with You that by Your Word and Spirit our hearts may be prepared for our resurrection to eternal life.**
- P** For You, Lord Jesus Christ, reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Let us pray. O God the Father, who in love and mercy sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that You have given us pardon and peace in this Supper. Renew our hearts and minds with reminders of Your fragrant love for us
- C** **that we may always know Your joy and gladness;**
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

- P** 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 T give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN: “O Blessed Spring” (LSB 595)

ANOINTING WITH OIL

Members wishing to be anointed with oil please come forward to receive the oil of joy and gladness.

THE POSTLUDE

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Events of the Week: March 27 – April 2, 2023

Monday	No Monday Service
Tuesday	6:30 p.m. Discovery Class
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. Darrell’s Bible Class 5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner

	7:00 p.m. Lenten Service
Thursday	6:00 p.m. Bell Choir
	7:15 p.m. Adult Choir
Friday	Pastor's Day off
Sunday	8:00 a.m. Gizmo on FB
	9:30 a.m. Worship
	11:00 a.m. Bible study

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: March 19, 2023

General Fund	\$4,139.25
Building Fund	\$0.00
ISJ Academy	\$50.00
Tessaro Ministry	\$0.00
Memorials	\$200.00
Evangelism	\$0.00
Maintenance/ Repairs	\$10.00
TOTAL	\$4399.25

Those Who Serve Today March. 26th.

Officiant: Pastor Glenn Schaeffer
Lector: Marjie Weiss
Organist: Beth McKay
Deacons: Bryan Ensing
Ushers: Dale and Grace Rosema / Caleb Butler
Video/Sound/Recording: Nathan Urbanski, John, and Marjie Weiss
March Altar Guild: Kim Urbanski & Carol Bifulco

Those Who are Serving Next Week: April 2nd.

Officiant: Pastor Glenn Schaeffer
Lector: Charles Kirt
Organist: Beth McKay
Deacons: Bryan Ensing / Craig Popma

Ushers: Jim & Nancy Spears / Dave Hood

Video/Sound/Recording: Nathan Urbanski, John, and Marjie Weiss

March Altar Guild: Deb, Kelsey, and Lynelle Butler

Announcements

Knit / Crocheted Together in Love: Please join us on Sunday April 16, 2023 after church from 10:45am to 1:00pm. Anyone ages 13 and up who is interested in learning the basics of knitting / Crocheting to Advanced. Make sure you bring a snack or lunch for yourself, knitting needles or crochet hooks and yarn if you have some! No need to sign up just join the group.

LWML Grand Rapids Zone Spring Rally: “Raising Christin Children/Grandchildren in Today’s World” You are invited to attend the LWML Spring Rally being held at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Caledonia on Saturday, April 22nd, 9:00am- noon. We are excited and blessed to have Jo Fleming and her daughter Amy Nuttleman, both wives of Lutheran pastors in the Grand Rapids area as our speakers on the topic “Raising Christin Children/Grandchildren in Today’s World”. The admission fee will be \$10.00 which includes breakfast. More information and a sign-up sheet will be coming soon, but be sure to make your calendars now!

The EGGS-traordinary Easter Carnival:

This EGGS-tra special event will be a basket full of carnival fun including egg hunt, games & activities, crafts & music and the Eggs-trodinary account of Jesus’ Resurrection from the dead! This year St. James is partnering with ISJ Academy the ISJ PTL to share the Jesus love with the Creston community. So please join us on Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 1-3p.m. and check out the newsletter for ways to get involved.

LCMS Foundation: We can discover great joy by thinking of the benefit that will come from the gifts we give from our estates. Sometimes you know a certain ministry to support but don't know exactly what would be the best way of supporting it in the future. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can facilitate conversation with ministry leaders to drill down on the right gift. Contact Julie Burgess Gift Planning Counselor Church Extension Fund Email: Julie.burgess@lfnd.org Mobile: 713-822 5284

Good Friday Tre Ore Service: Please join us on April 7, 2023, from 12:00pm – 3:00pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church. To hear the seven last words of Jesus. You may come and go as you are able during this three-hour service. A man's last words are often the most significant. For more information and to see a list of speakers please see the bulletin board. Our very own pastor Schaeffer will be speaking on "My God, My God".

St. James LWML Invites you to Show Your Heart for Africa!!!
Join us **TODAY** for **Coffee and Refreshments after the Worship.**

A free will offering will be collected for Single Mothers and Babies in Rwanda!



All donations will be sent to Pastor Eldaphonce, a Lutheran Pastor who serves a church in a small town in Rwanda. His congregation is helping support 20 unwed teenage mothers and their babies by providing them with cereal flour, wheat flour, maize flour, sorghum, millet and soya beans, rice, sugar, cooking oil, soap, cosmetics, and fabric. Rwanda has many young single mothers who do not have the means to support themselves and care for their babies. Many of these young women became pregnant by

selling themselves as a means to ward off starvation. The number of women in this situation has increased in the wake of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Pastor Eldaphonce and his congregation are putting Jesus's love into action. It takes \$300 to provide one woman the basic staples for living for one year. 20 mothers times \$300 is \$6,000 – which is a lot of money for the community church. Our brothers and sisters in Christ thank God for our partnership! If you have a heart for this ministry of the Reformed Lutheran Church of Rwanda, you can make your donation to the LWML and earmark it for “Rwandan Mothers and Babies” or place it in the donation basket at the “Coffee Time”!

Portals of Prayer: The new issues of Portals of Prayer are now on the table.