

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. David Gruoner, **Vacancy Pastor** Mrs. Sheila Stuenkel, **Organist**
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Member – Linn Lutheran School Association

Mr. David Beikmann – Principal & Teacher; Email: linnluth@bluevalley.net;
Mrs. Laura Stunkel, Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl & Mrs. Shawna Spiehs – Teachers

March 24, 2019

Third Sunday in Lent

Welcome to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church. If you are a guest or visitor with us today, we welcome you and invite you to come and worship with us again. Please take the time to introduce yourself to Pastor Gruoner, and we hope to see you again soon.

Remember that the Worship Service begins when you enter. As the Music for Meditation begins, you are invited to join in quiet, preparation time for worship. Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

Liturgy – Divine Service Setting Three (Page 184)

***Reminder:** Since we are in the season of Lent, we forego singing the **Gloria in Excelsis** (LSB 187-189) and the **Triple Alleluia** (LSB 190)

Opening Hymn: 908 "Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear"

Sermon Hymn: 765 "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"

Communion Hymn: 628 "Your Table I Approach"

Communion Hymn: 760 "What God Ordains Is Always Good"

Closing Hymn: 861 "Christ Be My Leader"

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please e-mail prayer requests to Pastor Holtorf at gholtorf@bluevalley.net.

Prayer requests will remain for 2 weeks unless you specify a length of time.

Robbie Oelschlager – chronic pain

Kay Bott – cancer recovery

family of Henry Maseman

Kelly & Quinn Rhoades

Acolytes this Sunday - Sophia Bott & Conner Ohlde

Acolytes next Sunday - Ella Thalmann & Mason Tiemeyer

Ushers this Sunday - *Trey Voelker, Lance Gerleve, & Jacob Bott

Ushers next Sunday - *Andrew Tiemeyer, Brett Peters, Eli Ohlde, & Nathan Ohlde

Upcoming Events

March 24

8:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
9:45 a.m. Adult Bible class & Sunday school

March 27

2:00 p.m. Lenten Midweek 3 service at Zion, Linn
5:30 p.m. St. John Midweek
7:00 p.m. Lenten Midweek 3 service at Zion

March 31

8:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
9:45 a.m. Adult Bible class & Sunday school

April 3

2:00 p.m. Lenten Midweek 4 service at Zion, Linn
5:30 p.m. St. John Midweek
7:00 p.m. Lenten Midweek 4 service at Bethlehem

Announcements

- * The Ash Wednesday special offering towards the church extension fund will be collected during **today's service**.
- * The Mixed Choir will be singing during the service on Sunday, April 4th, and the last Wednesday evening Lenten service, April 10th. Please arrive a half hour before the service begins in order to practice the hymn. Thank you!
- * The Call Committee has narrowed the field of candidates and is considering interviewing the final group of pastors. The members of the congregation have the right to submit questions that they would like addressed to the Call Committee. Please contact one of the Elders to have them submitted.
- * St. Peter's Lutheran, south of Barnes, has rescheduled the spaghetti dinner to **TODAY**, serving from 11:00-1:00. Pasta, salad, bread sticks, and dessert will be available. Free-will donation for local food banks and Orphan Grain Train. Hope to see many of you at St. Peters for dinner and visiting.
- * Thrivent Choice Dollars expire Sunday, March 31. Because they expire on a Sunday and Thrivent is closed that weekend, online is the only option to designate your Choice Dollars those two days. Only about 1/3 of Thrivent members take advantage of this, which means charities lose 2/3 of the Thrivent Choice Dollars. There are two ways to direct your Choice Dollars.: go to www.thriventchoice.com or call 1-800-847-4836 and say "choice dollars" at automation.
- * Bethlehem Lutheran of Bremen is having a German Heritage Dinner in their parish hall on Sunday, April 7th, from 4:30-7:00 p.m. A free will donation will be collected. Details, including the full menu, are posted in the hallway bulletin board.
- * Pastor Holtorf will be officiating the Palm Sunday (and Confirmation) service on April 14th. We will be having that service at **9:30 a.m.**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His Table those who trust His words, repent all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily, according to Holy Scripture, do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain from communing with us until such a time as they are properly instructed.

A short, more detailed explanation of our Confessional practice is available from our Ushers or Elders. If you would like to learn more about the Sacrament of the Altar and our confessional position, I would be happy to visit with you.

-Rev. David Gruoner, Vacancy Pastor, St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

In preparation for Holy Communion, you may use the following statements as part of your self-examination

- I admit that I am a sinner. (1 John 1:8-10)
- I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from all sin, from Satan and death. (Acts 4:10-12, John 14:6)
- I desire to live as God wants me to. (John 14:15, 1 John 2:6)
- I am sure of my eternal salvation because Jesus died for me and rose again. (John 3:16, Romans 8:14 & 1 John 5:11-12)
- I believe the Risen Christ is really present in Holy Communion and that with the bread and wine I receive His Body and Blood. (Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 4:22-24, 1 Cor. 10:16, 22:23ff, Luke 22:17-20)
- I forgive those who have wronged me.

Please email any announcements for the bulletin to Theresa at theresa_meier@yahoo.com by noon on Friday.



Introit

For the Lord knows the way of the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

For you are not a God who delights in | wickedness;*
evil may not | dwell with you.

The boastful shall not stand be- | fore your eyes;*
you hate all evil- | doers.

You destroy those | who speak lies;*
the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and de- | ceitful man.

But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will en- | ter your house.*

I will bow down toward your holy temple in the | fear of you.
Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my | enemies;*
make your way straight be- | fore me.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

For the Lord knows the way of the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

Collect for the Third Sunday in Lent

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 Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Listen to Worldwide KFUF.org, your radio station for practical Lutheran talk, daily Bible and Confession studies, daily worship opportunities, and current issues from a Lutheran worldview. Programs are archived at KFUF.org for 24/7 on-demand listening. You can also find our programming wherever you get your podcasts! Have a question or comment? Find us at @KFUFradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

This week on KFUF.org, we celebrate the Annunciation of our Lord in Chapel with Divine Service on 3/25 at 10:00 a.m. CT, continue digging into the Truth in Genesis on Sharper Iron with Rev. Jonathan Fisk and guest pastors (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study the book of Ezekiel on Thy Strong Word with Rev. William Weedon and guest pastors (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuf.org or wherever you get your podcasts.

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-20

7“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. 8If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. 9But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

10“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ 11Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

12“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. 13Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. 14Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, 15if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. 16None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

17“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. 18When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. 19And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. 20Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

1I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, 2and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3and all ate the same spiritual food, 4and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. 5Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

6Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. 7Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” 8We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. 9We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, 10nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. 11Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. 12Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. 13No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:1-9

1There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? 3No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. 4Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? 5No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

6And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. 7And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ 8And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. 9Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

CATECHETICAL REVIEW

THE LORD'S PRAYER

as the Head of the Family Should Teach It in a Simple Way to His Household.

The Sixth Petition:

And lead us not into temptation.

What does this mean? God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

The Seventh Petition:

But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

The Conclusion:

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.*
Amen.

What does this mean? This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”

*These words were not in Luther's Small Catechism.

From Martin Luther's 1528 Confession of Faith

Nor dare we make a sacrament of matrimony and the office of the priesthood; they are orders holy enough in themselves. And likewise repentance is nothing else than the use and power of Baptism; so that besides the Gospel there remains Baptism and the Supper of our Lord in which the Holy Ghost richly offers, gives and applies to us the forgiveness of sins.

**from The Distinctive Doctrines of the Different Christian Confessions in the Light of the Word of God* by Karl Graul (1814-1864). The 1897 English translation by D. M. Martens is in the public domain.

“Behold the Man”

2019 Midweek Lenten Worship
Each Wednesday in Lent beginning March 6

Afternoon Services – 2:00 @ Zion, Linn
Evening Services @ 7:00 pm as printed below

“Behold the Man!”

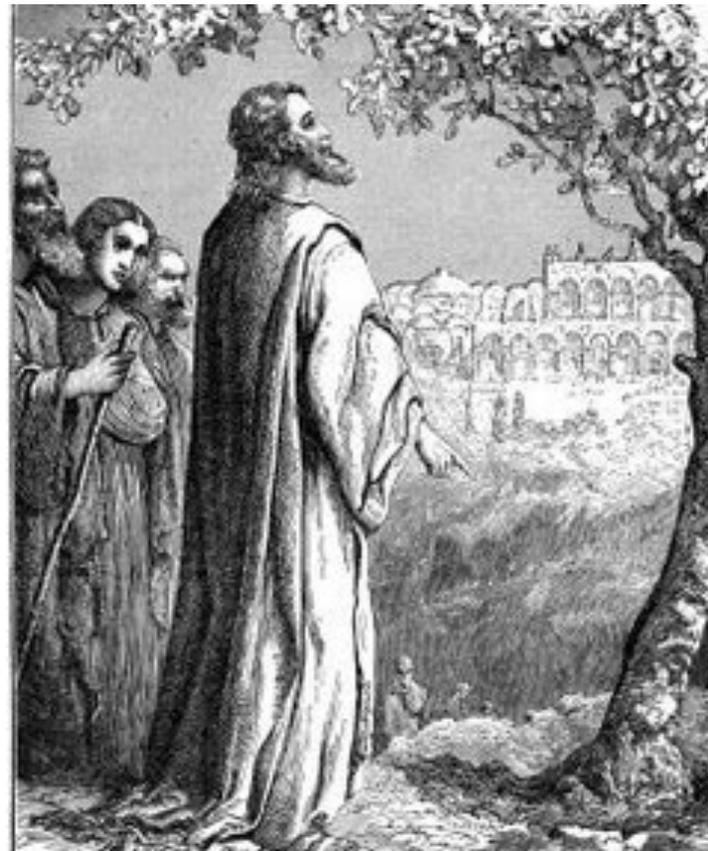
The short, yet powerful words of Pontius Pilate.

As we move through this season of Lent, we will look upon this man, Jesus of Nazareth, God Himself. Our prayer is that as we do, the Spirit will make it increasingly clear why God became man – to live this physical life among us in order to be nailed to a cross for us.

Come! Behold the man! Who has led the way for us through Death to our own physical resurrection and everlasting life as the Father's own! What could be more incentive than that to gather Together once more at the cross.

Ash Wednesday w/Holy Communion – March 6 – Zion, Linn
Lenten Midweek 1 – March 13 – St. John, Palmer
Lenten Midweek 2 – March 20 – Immanuel, Linn
Lenten Midweek 3 – March 27 – Zion, Linn
Lenten Midweek 4 – April 3 – Bethlehem, Greenleaf
Lenten Midweek 5 – April 10 – St. John, Palmer

*And if it bears fruit, well.
But if not, after that you can cut it down.*



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