

# TODAY'S BULLETIN

**As We Gather:** "Get Behind Me, Satan! I'm Baptized!"

We focus today our attention on the Gospel reading from Mark 1, where Jesus is baptized and then sent into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. In our lives, we face temptations just as Jesus faced. Just as Jesus can remember His Baptism and the Father's words to Him, "You are My beloved Son," so too when Satan tempts us, we remember our Baptism. We remember the Father's words to us that we are His beloved children, that we are forgiven in Jesus.

**EASTER LILIES:** Forms for Easter Lilies will be available next month, but you can order them now on the church website. Fill out the form on the web page; you can also pay for them there.

## **LENTEN MIDWEEK CHURCH SERVICES:**

Our Midweek church services here at Saint Matthew's will be held on Thursdays beginning this Thursday, February 22nd at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm.

**THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS:** This week, we continue our study of our Midweek theme - "Be Gracies to Me." Since the fall into sin, no part of our human nature has escaped the ravages of original sin. Not only has sin separated us from God to our spiritual detriment, but our bodies, created for perfect health, endure sickness and injury. King David announces God's answer to this catastrophe in Psalm 41:3: "The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness You restore him to full health." This is a beautiful promise, but what does it mean for you and your infirmities? As all the Scriptures bear witness to Jesus, the gifts contained in these words are only revealed by your Baptism into Him by whose wounds we are healed.

## **SAINT MATTHEW'S CHINESE NEW YEAR DINNER:**

Thank you to everyone who attended, set up, cleaned up, and organized our annual fellowship effort. Special thanks goes out to Ed Geiger for all of his hard work! Thanks Ed!



## **Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church**

New Milford, NJ  
LCMS — New Jersey District

Saturday  
**February 17,**  
**2024**  
Lent 1

**Saint Matthew's  
Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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**OFFICERS**  
Edwin Geiger  
**Congregational President**

Thomas Williams  
**Congregational Treasurer**

Stephanie Coppola  
**Elder**



**Serving in Our Church Service This Sunday:**

Jody Wangerin

**Sunday's Reader:** Pastor Iovine

**Serving Next Sunday:** Ed Geiger

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK:** Our verse is taken from Mark 1:15

**(Jesus said) "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."**

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:**

- Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16 (God renames Abram as Abraham.)
- Romans 5:1–11 (Christ died for the ungodly.)
- Mark 8:27–38 (Jesus is the Christ who must suffer, die, and rise again.)

**HYMNS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:**

- "Chief of Sinners Though I Be" - Hymn 611
- "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" - Hymn 425
- "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy" - Hymn 434

**NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP SERVICES**

February 24 & 25 - Lent 2

- At Saint Matthew's - Saturday, February 24, beginning at 5:00pm
- At Saint Matthew's - Sunday, February 25, beginning at 9:30am
- At Holy Trinity - Sunday, February 25, beginning at 11:30am
- At Holy Trinity - Wednesday, February 21, beginning at 7:30am
- At Saint Matthew's - Thursday, February 22, beginning at noon
- At Saint Matthew's - Thursday, February 22, beginning at 7:00pm
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**FOOD PANTRY UPDATE:**

Packaged mashed potatoes - Stuffing - Crackers - Chips & jarred or canned dip - Hot chocolate - Canned or jarred fruit - Syrup - Canned mushrooms - Canned chicken - Paper towels = Iced tea mix - Parmesan cheese - Small sugar packs - Small flour

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# First Saturday in Lent

Blended Church Service - Divine Services 3, 4, and Creative Worship

## Welcome & Church Announcements

## Moment of Prayer

## Invocation & Opening Sentences

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: It was in this triune name of God that we were baptized—

C: **the name of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

P: As we begin our Lenten journey, we remember our Baptism.

C: **We remember we were washed and forgiven.**

P: We remember we were made members of God's family.

C: **We remember we were united with Jesus.**

## Confession and Absolution

Psalm 99:4, 9

P: Though we are baptized and united with Jesus, we often act as if we were separated from Jesus. There are times when we fall prey to Satan and his temptations. There are times when sin reigns within us. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and He invites us to draw near to Him in repentance, asking for forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection.*

P: Heavenly Father,

C: **we have ignored Your help in resisting Satan and His temptations. We have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. Yet our entire lives are lives of repentance. Have mercy on us. Forgive our sins, and lead us in righteousness, on account of Jesus. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus Christ, to endure temptation, suffering, and death for us and our salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen. We are forgiven. We are baptized into Christ.**

## Salutation and the Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray: Lord Jesus Christ, You endured the temptations of Satan in the wilderness. Be present with us on our Lenten journey toward the cross and empty tomb, always mindful of our identity as those baptized in Your name, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

Genesis 22:1–18

(God spares Isaac.)

L: The Old Testament Reading for the First Sunday in Lent is taken from Genesis, Chapter 22:

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Epistle Reading**

James 1:12–18

(Every good and perfect gift comes from God.)

L: The Epistle Reading is taken from James, Chapter 1:

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Holy Gospel Reading**

Mark 1:9–15

(Jesus is baptized, tempted, and begins His ministry.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st Chapter:

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

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Apostles' Creed

**A:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.**

## Today's Sermon

### Prayer of the Church

Please take out the prayer insert.

### Service of the Sacrament

#### Preface

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P:** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was revealed as Your beloved Son in the waters of the Jordan and who walked the road of temptation without sin.

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P:** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to be our mighty fortress against the assaults of the devil, so that we Your baptized children might

praise You without fear. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **The Words of Our Lord**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\mp$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\mp$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**A: 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.**

## **Pax Domini**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: Amen.**

## **Distribution**

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Meal. Help us to resist temptation by daily reminding us of our identity as Your baptized children; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## **Benedicamus and 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 ✠ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

## **Moment of Prayer**