

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

Sunday
February 18,
2024
Lent 1

**Saint Matthew's
Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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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 Sunday in Lent

Divine Service 3 from Lutheran Service Book - begins on page 184

Opening Hymn

"A Mighty Fortress" - Hymn 657

**A mighty fortress is our God A sword and shield victorious
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod And wins salvation glorious
The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe
With craft and dreadful might He arms himself to fight
On earth he has no equal**

**No strength of ours can match his might We would be lost, rejected
But now a champion comes to fight Whom God Himself elected
You ask who this may be? The lord of hosts is he
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord God's only Son, adored
He holds the field victorious**

**Though hordes of devils fill the land All threat'ning to devour us
We tremble not, unmoved we stand They cannot overpower us
Let this world's tyrant rage In battle we'll engage
His might is doomed to fail God's judgment must prevail
One little word subdues him**

**God's Word forever shall abide No thanks to foes, who fear it
For God Himself fights by our side With weapons of the Spirit
Were they to take our house Goods, honor, child, or spouse
Though life be wrenched away They cannot win the day
The Kingdom's ours forever!**

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

Tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; setting: Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

Text (English): © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*

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 - page 184

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgression unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-evaluation

P: O Almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Kyrie - page 186

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and the Collect of the Day - pages 189-190

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

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 be to Thee, 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 be to Thee, 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.

Hymn of the Day

“God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It” - Hymn 594

**God’s own child I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it, Gave my full redemption price
Do I need earth’s treasures many? I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free, Lasting to eternity!**

**Sin, disturb my soul no longer: I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger; Jesus’ cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood Sprinkling me with Jesus’ blood?**

**Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I’ve traveled, All your might has come unraveled
And against your tyranny, God, my Lord, unites with me!**

**Death, you cannot end my gladness: I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes Faith’s assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine To make life immortal mine.**

**There is nothing worth comparing To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open eyed my grave is staring: Even there I’ll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising, Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ: I’m a child of paradise!**

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, b. 1957

Tune: Johann Caspar Bachofen, 1695–1755, alt.

Text: © 1991 Robert E. Voelker

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Sermon

 **Offertory** - page 192

**A: Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me
Cast me not away from Thy presence**

**And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation
And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For a mighty fortress is our God,

C: a sword and shield victorious.

P: Lord God, You are our sword and shield against the attacks of Satan. As we journey through this Lenten season, protect us from the assaults of the devil, remind us of our Baptism, and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus. For a mighty fortress is our God,

C: a sword and shield victorious.

P: Lord God, every good and perfect gift comes from You. Thank You for the many blessings You have poured into our lives. Help us to accept what You give and ask for what we need. Protect us from a life of perpetual dissatisfaction and lead us toward a life of gratitude. For a mighty fortress is our God,

C: a sword and shield victorious.

P: Lord God, You sent Jesus into our world to bear our temptations and share in our sorrows. Bring Your comfort to all those who are sick, suffering, or dealing with life's struggles, including: Ingrid, Kelly, Toni and Christian and their unborn child, Barbara, Tom, Laura, Ryan, Annaliese, Helmut, Bob, Evelyn, Kari, Cole, NJ District Steve Gewecke, Roxann, and Pastor Don. Have mercy upon them and restore them to health and renewed strength and love according to Your will.

C: a sword and shield victorious.

P: Lord God, we pray for all those who are not yet baptized into Christ, that the Spirit would lead them toward the promises of Baptism and the family of the church. For a mighty fortress is our God,

C: a sword and shield victorious.

P: Lord God, we pray for our nation and its leaders. For President Biden and Vice President Harris and their staffs, for Congress and all lawmakers, for the Supreme Court and all judges. We pray that You, Lord, would make Your ways and paths known to them, that You would lead them in the truth and teach them. For a mighty fortress is our God,

C: a sword and shield victorious.

P: Lord God, we commend all of these people and situations into Your hands, for You have promised to hear our prayers, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Service of the Sacrament

Preface - page 194

 P: The Lord be with you.

 C: **And with thy spirit.**

 P: Lift up your hearts.

 C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

 P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

 C: **It is meet right so to do.**

Proper Preface - page 194

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. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus - page 195

**A: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabbaoth
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest
Blessed is He, blessed is He,
blessed is He who cometh in the name of the Lord
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest**

Lord's Prayer - spoken, page 196

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.

The Words of Our Lord - spoken, page 197

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 ☩ 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 ☩ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

Pax Domini - page 197-198

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

C: **Amen.**

Agnus Dei - page 198

**A: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world
Have mercy upon us
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world
Have mercy upon us
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world
Grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

Communion Distribution

Communion Dismissal - page 198

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.

C: **Amen.**

Nunc Dimittis - page 198-199

**A: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace
According to Thy word
For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people
A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.**

Thanksgiving - page 200

P: O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.

C: and His mercy endureth forever.

P: Let us pray: 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.

Salutation and Benedicamus - page 202

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Bless we the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Benediction - page 202

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

 **C: Amen, amen, amen.**

Closing Hymn

“O Christ, You Walked the Road” - Hymn 424

**O Christ, You walked the road Our wand’ring feet must go.
You faced with us temptation’s pow’r And fought our ancient foe.**

**No bread of earth alone Can fill our hungering hearts.
Lord, help us seek Your living Word, The food Your grace imparts.**

**No blinding sign we ask, No wonder from above.
Lord, help us place our trust alone In Your unswerving love.**

**When lures of easy gain With promise brightly shine,
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first; Our wills with Yours align.**

**O Christ, You walked the road Our wand’ring feet must go.
Stay with us through temptation’s hour To fight our ancient foe.**

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–91; setting: *New English Hymnal*, 1986

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