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March 12, 2023

Third Sunday in Lent

Today's theme: Water for the Thirsty Welcome, guests! God's love welcomes you—no matter who you are or where you come from— and so do we. We believe that Jesus Christ is the true Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death, and triumphant resurrection he saves all sinners even without our help. Jesus Christ makes us special people, right with God and ready for life! We learn this from the Bible, God's authentic message of grace and guidance for us. Whether you are a first-time guest or a curious observer with little religious background, we are delighted to share our worship with you. Please come back and worship with us again.

If you would like to know more about Lamb of God, visit our website www.lambofgodlafayette.com, like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Lamb of God is a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod WELS (www.wels.net) est.1850.

Children's "My Worship Notes" are included in another document. They can be used by children of any age to keep notes during the service.

Water for the Thirsty

A person can survive between one and two months without food. But a person can survive only two to three days without water. Water is one of our greatest needs. Research shows that even slight dehydration will adversely affect your mood, memory, and motor coordination. Become seriously dehydrated, and life ends quickly. This helps us understand what Scripture means when it says things like, "My soul thirsts for God" (Psalm 42:2). If one is separated from God, he is adversely affected. If he remains separated from God, he will die an agonizing eternal death.

Not all admit it; yet it remains true for all. Everyone has a deep spiritual thirst. In our heart of hearts, we all long for everlasting

life. Unbelievers try to satisfy that deep thirst with worldly things, a strategy doomed for failure. Believers look to the One who has promised, "Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst." Jesus meets our greatest needs. He alone possesses the water that satisfies those who are spiritually parched. He alone grants eternal life.

Invocation

[We invoke, that is, call upon the name of the Triune God to be with us this morning. The name of the Triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.]

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

Stand

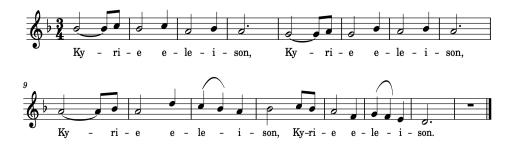
Gathering Rite God of Creation

Soloist will sing the verses. Congregation will sing the Kyrie.

Processional Song:

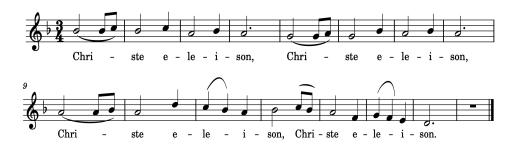
v.1 - God of creation, giver of life, be the light in our darkness; grant us peace in our strife.

Show us your mercy; give us new birth. You have made us your children to bear fruit on the earth.



v.2 - Lord our Redeemer, healer of souls, be the hope that restores us; with your touch make us whole.

Grant us your pardon, make us your own, give us strength for our journey to our heavenly home.



v.3 - Spirit most holy, comforter blest, be the fire that consumes us and our hearts' welcome guest.

Form us, renew us, call us by name. Raise us up from the ashes and create us again.





Confession CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

v.1 - Lord Jesus Christ, pour out your compassion; grant your people pardon.



v.2 - Lord Jesus Christ, bring healing and wholeness; give your people comfort.



v.3 - Lord Jesus Christ, the source of forgiveness, show your people mercy.



Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

v.4 - Up from the ashes we now arise, we now live for our Maker who has answered our cries.

Knowing God's mercy, we now are healed; through the means of God's grace his forgiveness is sealed.



The Word

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

The children of Israel wanted to stone Moses because they were thirsty. So God, in his grace, gave this underserving people water from a stone.

¹The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?"

³But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?"

⁴Then Moses cried out to the LORD, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me."

⁵The LORD answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 61 will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites guarreled and because they tested the LORD saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Rock of Our Salvation Psalm 95A







Come, let us sing for joy / to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the rock of our sal- / vation. Let us come before him with thanks- / giving and extol him with mu- / sic and song.

For the LORD is the / great God, the great King a- / bove all gods. In his hand are the depths / of the earth, and the mountain peaks be- / long to him. The sea is his, for he / made it, and his hands formed the / dry land. Refrain

Come, let us bow down in / worship,
let us kneel before the LORD our / maker;
for he is our God and we are the people of his / pasture,
the flock under / his care.

Today, if only you would / hear his voice,
"Do not hard- / en your hearts
as you did at / Meribah,
as you did that day at Massah in the / wilderness."

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. Refrain

Tune: May Schwarz

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Second Reading

Romans 5:1-8

We were like people dying of thirst who were powerless to help themselves. But God's love has been poured out into our hearts like living water.

¹Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we

have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

The Word of the Lord.

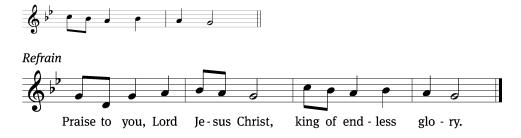
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 4:13,14

*Soloist will introduce the refrain. Congregation will repeat the refrain. Soloist will sing the verses. Congregation will sing the refrain.



Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again,

but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst."

Refrain

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GospelJohn 4:5-26
Jesus calls a Samaritan woman to faith, providing living water for her thirsty soul.

⁵So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" ⁸(His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

¹¹"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

¹³Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

15The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."
16He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."
17"I have no husband," she replied.

Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."

¹⁹"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

²¹"Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

²⁵The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

²⁶Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children's Sermon

Children are invited to sit in the front of the church.

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say CW 703

Sermon John 4:4-26 based on

Thirsty Souls Drink Living Water

Stand

Confession of Faith

† Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. The word creed comes from the Latin word "credo" which means I believe. The Apostles Creed is so named not because it was written by Jesus' apostles but because it is a brief statement of the gospel truths they taught. Its writing and use dates to the very early years of the Christian church.

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there 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.

Be seated

Offering

If you wish to give an offering you may do so on our website, www.lambofgodlafayette.com and click GIVE in the upper right corner or text any dollar amount to 84321 to give or mail a check to the church—1893 E 600 North West Lafayette, IN 47906, or you may scan this QR code:



Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

As the Deer Runs to the River CW 532

Prayer

Lord, we praise you for your marvelous creation and making us the sheep of your flock. Give us ears that listen to your voice so we never go astray. Let us rest in the green pastures where you lead us, that we may spend eternity acclaiming you King of kings and Lord of lords. Amen.

The Blessing

[This blessing has been spoken over God's people for the past 3,500 years, when God commanded Aaron, Moses' brother, to bless the Israelites, "...and so I will put my name on them." Numbers 6:22-27]

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and T give you peace.

Amen.

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Serving at Worship

Pastor Paul Horn Vicar Jonah Schlomer Vocal Leader: Becky Horn Violin: Becky and Sophia Horn

Piano: Liz Schmidt

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday Evening Prayer Service March 15th

During the season of Lent we offer an evening prayer service on **Wednesdays at 7pm**. This year's theme is: His Final Steps. The series ponders the significance of the people and places on Jesus' resolute final steps to the cross and three days later, his first steps from the tomb.

His Final Steps...

Mar 15 - ...Led to a dinner celebration

Mar 22 - ...Led to his Father's house

Mar 29 - Pizza and canvassing for Easter (6pm)

FAMILY BIBLE HOUR—SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:15

Pre-K—8th Grade—Bible history stories, apologetics, crafts, games, songs and more!

What are people saying about our current Bible study series?

"I've heard these stories since I was a child but I'm learning that there's so much more to them!"

"This has been one of my favorite bible studies."

"I have friends who are unchurched and ask these same questions that we're asking in bible study. This has been so helpful finding simple ways to have a conversation with them."

Spend some quality time with Jesus and your church family as we dig a little bit deeper into well known stories from the gospels. **Sunday mornings at 9:15am**. Bibles provided or bring your own!

Catechism Class—7th & 8th grade (after worship) - This class prepares young people for confirmation and receiving the Lord's Supper. We use Martin Luther's Small Catechism and the Bible as textbooks for an indepth study of the six main teachings of the Bible (Ten Commandments, Apostles Creed, Lord's Prayer, Baptism, Lord's Supper, Keys and Confession).

Building up the Body of Christ

It's amazing when you read Romans 12:3-8 and then look around at all the folks in our church family and see it in action... how God uses all of us with our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ and expand his kingdom. Here's a couple ways you can do that in the next couple of weeks.

Property Improvement

The leadership team has started remodeling the basement. If you are able to help with installing drywall, electrical work and finishing work contact Eric Becker, 42ofvarget@gmail.com, for more details.

Seminary Student Hosts

The Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary choir will be in concert at Lamb of God on **Thursday, April 6th**. We will need hosts to house students overnight. For more details contact Vicar Schlomer, jonah.schlomer@wisluthsem.org.

Seminary Choir Dinner Coordinator

Prior to the seminary choir concert on **Thursday, April 6th** we will provide a meal for them. If you and another family would like to coordinate this, please speak to Pastor Horn.

Easter Canvassing and Pizza Night (No training required!)
On Wednesday, March 29th, in place of our midweek Lent service, we will meet at church at 6pm to go out into the surrounding neighborhoods and hang door hanger invites to our Easter service. We'll go out for an hour and come back for pizza. Please register with Pastor Horn by sending an email loginlafayette@gmail.com to confirm your attendance.

Livestream Tech

If you would like to be on the livestream crew on Sunday mornings, broadcasting the Word of God to nearly 70 households every week, please see Pastor Horn for more information.

Bunco

Calling all ladies! The next Bunco game will be played at the church on **Friday, March 17**th at **7pm**. The sign-up sheet is by the kitchen.

Prayer Requests

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

Keep in your prayers this week:

All those in our midst who may be dealing with physical ailments, the loss of a loved one or emotional hurts; for Jim Holmes, Gail Rathgeber, Joan Bonnet, and Mark Klockziem's father who are experiencing health difficulties, for the Kennedy family as they grieve the death of Andy and Ben's father, Ron. For all those who are suffering from abuse in the home, that they might seek help.

That the Holy Spirit would work in the hearts of all those who join us for worship each Sunday. That our Lord would give us the means to show the love of Christ as we support our neighbors in need.

For our Pastors, teachers and staff ministers as they reach the lost sheep of their communities with the Good News of Jesus; Pray that the Holy Spirit will bless our outreach efforts as we invite friends, relatives, and neighbors to our Bible studies, worship, and fellowship events.

For all military families who are separated by deployment or other training/schools.

For our brothers and sisters in Christ in Ukraine and all those who are suffering in the war in Ukraine; that God grant peace between Ukraine and Russia as well as between the warring nations in Africa.

That the Lord grant wisdom to Governor Holcomb, President Biden, Vice President Harris, and for the 118th US Congress, that they be guided by sound reason and the wisdom that comes from God above to pass bills that allow us to flourish in our vocations and spread the gospel in peace; for the current state of our world, that we remember our God is still in charge and will sustain us and give us what we need.