

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

## LAETARE

March 14, 2021

### Service Notes:

**Divine Service Setting Three, page 184**  
 Hymns: 610, 743, 823, 718, 625, 635, 774  
 Old Testament Reading: Exodus 16:2-21  
 Epistle: Galatians 4:21-31  
 Holy Gospel: John 6:1-15  
 Sermon: "Bread of Life" John 6:1-15

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Lenten Service	03/03	4:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	75 18
Thursday	03/04	7:00 p.m.	42
Sunday	03/07	8:00 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	91 56

**FLOWERS** are given by the Gerloff family in memory of Michael Estes. Flowers are also given by the Cahill family in memory of Eunice Cutler and in celebration of Becky Nieznanski's birthday.

**HOLY COMMUNION** is celebrated today. As a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we follow the historic Christian practice of closed communion. According to the words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11, only those who share the same outward confession of faith join us at the altar. Members of other LC-MS congregations are welcome, but we ask that you please see the pastor before communing.

**MATINS** Pastor will be conducting Matins services Tuesday through Friday at 11:00 a.m., which will be livestreamed at the Our Father's Ev. Lutheran Church Facebook page, but are also available on the church website, [ofls.org](http://ofls.org). Join us in daily prayer and the Word of God.

**EASTER SERVICES** This year there will be three Divine Services, at 6:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 10:00 a.m. All three will include special music and have the Blessed Sacrament. There will be a sign-up genius page to use again, as we did with the Christmas Eve services. If you prefer, you may also call the church office to sign up for one of the three options.

**SCHOOL SPRING BREAK** There will be no school the week of March 15 to March 19 due to Spring Break. The school office will be closed. There will be limited hours for the church office. Please contact Pastor for any emergencies.

**FEEDBACK** The elders would like your opinion on changing the Thursday service from 7:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Please email or call Dave Felber at [davidfelber1@gmail.com](mailto:davidfelber1@gmail.com) or (414) 793-5193. Thank you.

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday	03/14	<b>DIVINE SERVICES</b>	<b>8:00 &amp; 10:45 a.m.</b>
		Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
Tuesday	03/16	<b>Matins</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>
Wednesday	03/17	<b>Matins</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>
		<b>LENTEN SERVICES</b>	<b>4:30 &amp; 7:00 p.m.</b>
Thursday	03/18	<b>Matins</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>
		<b>DIVINE SERVICE</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
Friday	03/19	<b>Matins</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>
Sunday	03/21	<b>DIVINE SERVICES</b>	<b>8:00 &amp; 10:45 a.m.</b>
		Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:30 a.m.

**WE PRAY** for Mary Ankerberg, Karen Awe, Mike Bice (brother-in-law of Todd Pfander), Barbara Blue, Kathleen Brook, Janet Brown, Jennifer Chapel (niece of Linda Christian), Karen Christiansen, Sandy Damms, Keith Domagalski, LaVerne Edenfield, Cheryl Fisher (sister of Lynn Hester), Daut Gaba, Gerald Garske, Carol Georgson, Glenn Georgson, Maynard Georgson, Judy Hanson, Jessica Hetts (niece of Virginia Scholz), Elaine Howe, Michelle Johnson, Delrose Krueger, Clarence Laube, Rhonda Lesniewski, Linda Metzfeld (sister-in-law of Don Metzfeld), Shirley Nelson, Konnie Otto, Ruth Pelican (sister of Virginia Scholz), Angeline Pence, Robert Schneider, Virginia Scholz, and Dave Sievert.

**SCRIP** The next order due date is Sunday, **April 11**. March profits were \$175.70, and YTD profits are \$421.95. A Scrip order box, order forms, and envelopes are in the narthex and church/school office. Place your order and check made out to Our Father's in one of the boxes, *OR* you may order online with the Presto Pay Plan at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). The website has a list of participating retailers. All profits are used to help pay staff health insurance. Call Linda Hojnacki with any questions at (414) 427-5949.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW – YTD TOTAL OFFERINGS**

YTD Offerings for Last Year (7/1/19-3/10/20)	\$391,992.63
YTD Offerings for Current Year (7/1/20-3/8/21)	\$411,100.29
YTD Offerings needed to meet Budget	\$411,161.41
YTD Offerings Surplus/(Shortfall)	(\$61.12)

**ADOPT-A-BILL PROGRAM** list includes: Gas Bill, Electric Bill, Front of Church Landscape, Health Insurance, High School Arrearage, Mortgage, Office Supplies, School Air Conditioner, School Boilers, School Storage Building, and Water Bill. Consider supporting this worthy cause. Envelopes are on the narthex bulletin board.

**WOODMAN'S GIFT CARDS** are available to purchase in the church/school office. All profits go to the Our Father's Scholarship Fund. Call Linda Hojnacki with any questions at (414) 427-5949.

**THRIVENT MEMBERS** This is a reminder to all church and school families who have Thrivent Financial Contracts that Thrivent Choice Dollars for 2020 must be directed by March 31, 2021. You need to log into your Thrivent account information to do this. You have many choices where your choice dollars can be given; but just as a reminder, you can designate these dollars to be given to Our Father's Lutheran Church or Our Father's Lutheran School. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Hojnacki at (414) 427-5949.

**FRIENDLY REMINDER** Please do not use the hymnals for the Lenten services. The entire service is in the bulletin. The hymnals have been cleaned and are ready for Thursday night service.

**PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE** do "**NOT**" put the used hymnals on the back two tables against the windows after services, as this is where the "**CLEAN**" ones are kept. They must go on the table in front of the bulletin board labeled "**USED.**" We have to follow the Health Department Guidelines with regards to safe COVID-19 cleaning. Thank you for following these rules.

## **THE READINGS AND PSALMODY FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT LAETARE**

**March 14, 2021**

### **THE OLD TESTAMENT READING**

#### **Exodus 16:2-21 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, <sup>3</sup> and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." <sup>4</sup> Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. <sup>5</sup> On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." <sup>6</sup> So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, <sup>7</sup> and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against the Lord. For what are we, that you grumble against us?" <sup>8</sup> And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the Lord has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the Lord."

<sup>9</sup> Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the Lord, for he has heard your grumbling.' " <sup>10</sup> And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. <sup>11</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, <sup>12</sup> "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.' " <sup>13</sup> In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. <sup>14</sup> And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup> When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat. <sup>16</sup> This is what the Lord has commanded: 'Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat.

You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.' " <sup>17</sup> And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. <sup>18</sup> But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of

them gathered as much as he could eat. <sup>19</sup> And Moses said to them, "Let no one leave any of it over till the morning." <sup>20</sup> But they did not listen to Moses. Some left part of it till the morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them. <sup>21</sup> Morning by morning they gathered it, each as much as he could eat; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## THE EPISTLE READING

### Galatians 4:21-31 (ESV)

<sup>21</sup> Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law?

<sup>22</sup> For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. <sup>23</sup> But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. <sup>24</sup> Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. <sup>25</sup> Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. <sup>26</sup> But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. <sup>27</sup> For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband." <sup>28</sup> Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. <sup>29</sup> But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now.

<sup>30</sup> But what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman."

<sup>31</sup> So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

### John 6:1-15 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup> And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. <sup>3</sup> Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. <sup>4</sup> Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. <sup>5</sup> Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" <sup>6</sup> He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. <sup>7</sup> Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." <sup>8</sup> One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup> "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus said, "Have the people sit down."

Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. <sup>11</sup> Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup> And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost." <sup>13</sup> So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten. <sup>14</sup> When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!" <sup>15</sup> Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE PSALMODY

### Psalm 132:8-18 (ESV)

<sup>8</sup> Arise, O Lord, and go to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. <sup>9</sup> Let your priests be clothed with righteousness, and let your saints shout for joy. <sup>10</sup> For the sake of your servant David, do not turn away the face of your anointed one. <sup>11</sup> The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back: “One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne. <sup>12</sup> If your sons keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, their sons also forever shall sit on your throne.” <sup>13</sup> For the Lord has chosen Zion; he has desired it for his dwelling place: <sup>14</sup> “This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it. <sup>15</sup> I will abundantly bless her provisions; I will satisfy her poor with bread. <sup>16</sup> Her priests I will clothe with salvation, and her saints will shout for joy. <sup>17</sup> There I will make a horn to sprout for David; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed. <sup>18</sup> His enemies I will clothe with shame, but on him his crown will shine.”

### INTROIT

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,\*  
all you who | love her;  
that you may nurse and be | satisfied\*  
from her con- | soling breast.  
I was glad when they | said to me,\*  
“Let us go to the house | of the Lord!”  
Our feet have been | standing\*  
within your gates, O Je- | rusalem!  
Pray for the peace of Je- | rusalem!\*  
May they be secure who | love you!  
For my brothers and com- | panions’ sake\*  
I will say, “Peace be with- | in you!”  
**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.**  
Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,\*  
all you who | love her;  
that you may nurse and be | satisfied\*  
from her con- | soling breast.

*Psalm 122:1-2, 6, 8; antiphon: Isaiah 66:10a, 11a*

## THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT LAETARE

*“Bread of Life”*

March 14 through March 20, 2021

*Laetare means rejoice. As one of the Sundays in the penitential season of Advent deals with rejoicing always, so one of the Lenten Sundays echoes this theme of joy in connection with the feeding of the true Jerusalem. The true Jerusalem is not the city located in Palestine but the household of faith, that is, all who live by faith in Christ alone. They are to be fed by the true meal of Jerusalem, Jesus Christ. Faith seeks nothing other than Christ—no work of the body or the soul, no path of purification, no ritual holiness, no higher plane of being. Faith hungers and thirsts for the righteousness of Christ, that is, it longs for the preaching of the Word and the Holy Supper which Christ prepares for His Church. Christ is only found in these things through which His Spirit works. We rejoice that He so freely spreads His table for us unworthy sinners, that being fed by Christ we live.*

**INVOCATION:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

### THE CREED

**VERSE:** <sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup> Love never ends. **1 Corinthians 13:7-8a (ESV)**

**COLLECT FOR THE WEEK:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

### PSALM OF THE WEEK:

66

**PSALMODY PRAYER:** Grant that my mouth may praise Your works before men at all times, O Lord. As You brought Your people through the waters of the Red Sea on dry land, so through the waters of Baptism deliver me from the evils of this world. I give thanks that You hear me in all my needs. **AMEN**

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday	Jonah 1
Tuesday	Jonah 2
Wednesday	Jonah 3
Thursday	Jonah 4
Friday	Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Saturday	John 8:42-59

### CATECHISM FOR THE WEEK: Table of Duties

#### What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors

The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. *1 Corinthians 9:14*

Anyone who receives instruction in the Word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. *Galatians 6:6-7*

The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." *1 Timothy 5:17-18*

**Luther, Large Catechism, Sacrament of the Altar (1528):** But suppose you say, "What shall I do if I do not feel this need nor experience hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?" Answer: To those of you whose state of mind is such that you do not feel your need, I can give no better counsel than to tell you to pinch yourselves and see if you still are flesh and blood. If you find that you are, then for your own good, turn to St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians (5:19, 20) and hear of what sort are the fruits of the flesh: "The works of the flesh are plain: immorality, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, anger, selfishness, dissension, party spirit, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and the like." So, if you cannot feel your need, at least believe the Scripture. Scripture will not lie to you. It knows you better than you do yourself. Yes, Saint Paul also concludes in Romans 7:18: "I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh." If Saint Paul can say that about his flesh, let us not make ourselves out to be any better or holier than he. But the fact that we do not feel our sinfulness shows that our condition is much worse than his. For it is a sign that our flesh is leprous and does not feel anything even though the disease is raging in us and eating our life away. If sin has deadened you so completely, you better believe the Scripture as it pronounces God's verdict against you. In short,

the less you feel your sins and flaws, the more reason you have to go to the Sacrament to seek a remedy. In the second place, look around you to see if you are still in the world. Or if you do not know whether you are, then ask your neighbor. And if you find, as you will, that you are indeed still in the world, do not think that there will be any lack of sins and troubles. Just begin acting as if you want to become a good person and stay with the Gospel, and then see if people will not turn against you, do you harm, injustice, and violence, thus giving you occasion for sin and wrongdoing. If you have not experienced this, learn it from Scripture, which everywhere testifies that this is what the world is like. (CPH, 1978, p 119-120)

**PRAYER:** Each day a different aspect of Christian life is covered.

Monday	Our Baptism, calling, and daily work
Tuesday	Deliverance from sin and temptation
Wednesday	Marriage, family, and schools
Thursday	The Lord's Supper, the Church, and Her Pastors
Friday	The Preaching of the Cross, the persecuted, and missions
Saturday	True repentance and restoration of the withering
Sunday	The Hope of the resurrection and faithfulness to the Word

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER:** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

### OR

**LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER:** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK:** LSB 743 "*Jesus, Priceless Treasure*" (stanza 3)

**LOOKING FORWARD TO  
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
JUDICA**

*March 21, 2021*  
“The Lord Provides”

**HYMNS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** 431, 430, 420, 544, 454, 642, 421

**READINGS**

Genesis 22:1-14  
Hebrews 9:11-15  
John 8:42-59

Only by faith, that gift of God, do we confess that Christ is one with the Father and the Spirit. The Jews were attacking Jesus by calling Him a Samaritan with a demon. They had the Scriptures, the Promise spoken to Abraham, yet they did not confess that they were saved by faith alone in Christ alone. They were no better off than the Samaritans who had mixed false gods with the true God of Israel. Who is the true God of Israel? He is the I AM, the God of Abraham, who is revealed in the Old Testament reading. This is the God of the living, not of the dead. This is the Father who is One with the Son. This is the Son who proclaims the Word by becoming the Word made flesh. This is the Word to which the Holy Spirit is united and through which He comes to work faith and life in the hearts of men. In fact, through the Word, the eternal Trinity is revealed to us. By faith, Abraham had believed the Word of God and saw the day of Jesus approaching. Such faith is revealed in Genesis 22 where Abraham lives out his faith in the resurrection of the body. He saw the day of Jesus' own victory over death approaching for he knew God the Creator is the giver of life.

***OUR FATHER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN  
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