



**AT THE
CROSSROADS**
A SPECIAL SERIES FOR LENT



DECLARATION

BUFFALO NORTH MID-WEEK LENT SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14TH, 2018 7:30PM
LENT 4

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, DEPEW NEW YORK

♩ Opening Hymn *“In the Cross of Christ I Glory” LW #101*

Opening Litany

- P: In the name of the Father, and the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**
- P: Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy,
- C: **Always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.**
- P: But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you.
- C: **And you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.**
- P: For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.
- C: **Therefore, we give glory to God who raised him up and gave us the promise of salvation. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

- 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.
- C: **Lord, we confess that we are often tongue-tied and silent when we should speak, we are often bound up in ourselves when we should act in your name. Forgive us, Lord, for our reluctance to proclaim the Good News that we treasure. Forgive our selfish clinging to what we need for ourselves and our unwillingness to offer your gifts freely to those around us. Forgive our empty promises, our silent passing by, our blindness to others, Lord. Equip and empower us. Send us mightily into your world. Fill us so full of your gracious love and forgiveness in Jesus that we cannot but shout his name and overflow with his gifts of grace.**
- P: Hear the Good News: The Lord, our God, is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love (Joel 2:13). God hears the cries of the repentant and

forgives our sins. 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 our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

♪ **Responsive Hymn.....** *“Hark the Voice of Jesus...” LW #318*

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, your mercies are new every day, and though we have in no way deserved your goodness, you still abundantly provide for all our wants of body and soul. Give us we pray, your Holy Spirit that we may heartily acknowledge your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through your son Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The First Reading

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!” And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!” Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.” And I heard the voice of the Lord saying,

“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Acts 2:22-28

“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Verse

C: Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 22:54-62

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 22nd chapter verses 54-62

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house, and Peter was following at a distance. And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, “This man also was with him.” But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.” And a little later someone else saw him and said, “You also are one of them.” But Peter said, “Man, I am not.” And after an interval of about an hour still

another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

♫ **Sermon Hymn..... "Savior Thy Dying Love" LW #374**

**1. The Lamb, the Lamb,
O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes
God will provide the Lamb of
price!**

**Refrain: Worthy is the Lamb
Whose death makes me His
own! The Lamb is reigning on
His throne!**

**2. The Lamb, the Lamb,
One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb,
Let earth join heav'n
His praise to sing.
(refrain)**

**3. The Lamb, the Lamb,
As wayward sheep their
shepherd kill
So still, His will
On our behalf the Law to fill.
(refrain)**

**4. He sighs, he dies,
He takes my sin and
wretchedness.
He lives, forgives,
He gives me His own right-
eousness.
(refrain)**

**Sermon Dialogue Rev. Galen Purpura
Elder Rod Lorenz**

Offering and Offering Hymn

The Prayers of the Church

P: Let us bring our prayers and petitions to God, who hears and answers the pleas of our hearts. We pray for this world and for our own nation.

P: Lord, send your Spirit into our nation and this pain-filled world. Be with those who are suffering because of violence, terrorism, war and hunger. Strengthen those in need and

give them courage to face the evil that surrounds them. Make us agents of healing in this hurting world. In your mercy,

C: Hear us, Lord.

P: We pray for your church in this place and throughout the world. Send faithful pastors, teachers and leaders, so that they might clearly proclaim your Word and shepherd your people. In your mercy,

C: Hear us, Lord.

P: Be with us we pray, by the power of your Spirit. Fill us with your presence so that we might be about the task that Jesus sent us to accomplish, that we might proclaim in word and deed the Good News of God's salvation in Jesus. Help us to go into all the world teaching all nations what Jesus has taught us. Make us more confident of his promise to be with us to the end of the age. In your mercy,

C: Hear us, Lord.

P: We also pray for the sick, the suffering, the grieving and the lonely, especially those we name in our hearts. We commit them to your loving care. Heal, help and comfort them according to your will. In your mercy,

C: Hear us, Lord.

P: These and all other petitions and requests we bring before you in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

C: 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 Benediction

P: Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you! The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace! In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Silent Prayer

♪ Closing Hymn

..... *“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” LW #114*



ST. JOHN'S



Lutheran Church
Depew, New York

Mid-Week Lenten Services
(6pm, Soup & Sandwich meal;
7:15pm, Hymn Sing; 7:30pm, Worship Service):
3/21—Our Savior, Buffalo

Palm Sunday, 1st Holy Communion

Worship Services with Holy Communion

Saturday, March 24th, 4:30pm

Sunday, March 25th, 8:30am & 11:15am

Seder Meal, Wednesday, March 28th, 6:30pm

RSVP sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex,
or send an email to the office.

Maundy Thursday, March 29th

Worship Service with Holy Communion, 7:30pm

Good Friday, March 30th, 7:30pm, Worship Service

Easter Vigil, March 31st

Worship Service with Holy Communion, 4:30pm

Easter Sunday, April 1st

Worship Services with Holy Communion:

6am, 8:30am, 11:15am

