



**St. James Lutheran Church  
2040 Oakwood Ave NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505**

*We Grow, We Go, We Gather*

+++++

**Office:** 616-363-7718  
**Email:** [office@stjamesgr.com](mailto:office@stjamesgr.com)  
**Website:** [www.stjamesgr.com](http://www.stjamesgr.com)  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/stjamesgr](http://www.facebook.com/stjamesgr)  
**Online Giving:** [www.stjamesgr.com/give](http://www.stjamesgr.com/give).

+++++

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Schaeffer  
[glenn.schaeffer@stjamesgr.com](mailto:glenn.schaeffer@stjamesgr.com)

# LENT 1

FEBRUARY 18, 2024

## SUSTAINED IN SICKNESS

### AS WE GATHER

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.

PRESERVICE MUSIC, CALL TO WORSHIP, & WELCOME

HYMN

"Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain" (*LSB* 435)

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 30:1–5*

- P** I will extol You, O LORD, for You have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.
- C** O LORD my God, I cried to You for help, and You have healed me.
- P** O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol; You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.
- C** Sing praises to the LORD, O you His saints, and give thanks to His holy name.
- P** For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.
- C** Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

**P** Let us make our confession to our God, seeking His grace and forgiveness.

## HYMN

“From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee” (*LSB* 607:1-3)

## ABSOLUTION

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

**C** Amen.

## SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. Let Your blessing be upon us, heavenly Father, as we pass through these holy days in which we remember the sufferings and death of our dear Lord. Grant that His holy example being ever before us, we follow Him in willing obedience, learn His gracious humility, and being filled with His love and spirit of self-sacrifice, learn the lessons of a life pleasing to You and helpful to all people; through Him who loved us and gave Himself for us, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## HYMN

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” (*LSB* 450:1-3)

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Psalms 103:1-14*

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from Psalms, the 103rd chapter.

<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! <sup>2</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, <sup>3</sup>who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, <sup>4</sup>who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, <sup>5</sup>who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. <sup>6</sup>The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. <sup>7</sup>He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the people of Israel. <sup>8</sup>The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup>He will not always chide, nor will He keep His anger forever. <sup>10</sup>He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. <sup>11</sup>For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him; <sup>12</sup>as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us. <sup>13</sup>As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear Him. <sup>14</sup>For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.

**A** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

*Psalm 41*

**P** Blessed is the one who considers the poor!

**C** **In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;**

**P** the LORD protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land;

**C** **You do not give him up to the will of his enemies.**

**P** The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness You restore him to full health.

**C** **As for me, I said, “O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against You!”**

**P** My enemies say of me in malice, “When will he die and his name perish?”

**C** **And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad.**

**P** All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.

**C** **They say, “A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies.”**

**P** Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.

**C** **But You, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!**

**P** By this I know that You delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.

**C** **But You have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in Your presence forever. Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**A** The Epistle is from James, the fifth chapter.

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. <sup>12</sup>But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. <sup>13</sup>Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. <sup>14</sup>Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup>Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

**A** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighth chapter.

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

<sup>14</sup>And when Jesus entered Peter’s house, He saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. <sup>15</sup>He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve Him. <sup>16</sup>That evening they brought to Him many who were oppressed by demons, and He cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick. <sup>17</sup>This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: “He took our illnesses and bore our diseases.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN

“Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing” (*LSB* 421)

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

SERMON

*Psalm 41:3*

OFFERING

THE GENERAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN INTRODUCTION

**P** In the second stanza of “*My Song Is Love Unknown*,” writer Samuel Crossman poetically expresses the amazing truth that Jesus willingly left His Father’s throne to take on human flesh and bring about the salvation of a lost mankind. He sees in Jesus “*my friend . . . who at my need His life did spend!*” We reflect on that selfless sacrifice of our Lord.

HYMN

“My Song Is Love Unknown” (*LSB* 430:1–2)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & DISMISSAL OF ONLINE WORSHIPPERS

A SONG:

“Jesus, Take All of Me (Just as I Am)”

**Verse 1**

Just as I am without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee  
O Lamb of God I come I come (**to verse 2**)

## **Verse 2**

Just as I am though toss'd about  
With all my conflict all my doubt  
Fightings and fears within without  
O Lamb of God I come I come **(to chorus)**

## **Chorus**

Jesus take all of me  
I run to You I run to You  
I lay ev'rything at Your feet

Let my life be Yours **(to verse)**

## **Verse 3**

Just as I am Thou wilt receive  
Wilt welcome pardon cleanse relieve  
Because Thy promises I believe  
O Lamb of God I come I come **(to chorus)**

## **Verse 4**

Just as I am Thy love unknown  
Has broken ev'ry barrier down  
Now to be Thine yes Thine alone  
O Lamb of God I come I come

## **Ending Chorus**

Jesus take all of me  
I run to You I run to You  
I lay ev'rything at Your feet  
Let my life be Yours **(Repeat Above Chorus One Time, then continue)**  
Let my life be Yours  
Let my life be Yours

CCLI Song # 6366049  
Brenton Brown | Charlotte Elliott | William Batchelder Bradbury  
© 2012 Thankyou Music  
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)  
CCLI License # 20021974

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE DISTRIBUTION

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

## BENEDICTION

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**C** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

“The Sound of Grace” (Kip Fox)

### Verse 1

Never-ending unrelenting constant source of hope  
Running down from lofty mountains  
Into springs below  
Oh I am soaked from head to toe in

### Chorus 1

*Grace sweet grace  
A fountain for my soul  
Grace sweet grace  
A mighty waterfall  
Drops of mercy all around  
Everywhere the sound of grace*

### Verse 2

All-consuming shadows looming  
Valleys of distress  
Draining every strength within me  
Til there's nothing left  
But I am endlessly refreshed in (Chorus 1)



**Bridge**

It never stops running over  
This rushing water on my shoulders (4Xs)

**Chorus 2**

Grace sweet grace  
A fountain for my soul  
Grace sweet grace  
A mighty waterfall  
Grace sweet grace  
A fountain for my soul  
Grace sweet grace  
A mighty waterfall  
Drops of mercy all around  
Everywhere the sound of grace

CCLI Song # 7032751  
Kip Fox | Matt Armstrong  
© 2015 Countless Wonder Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)  
Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Tunes (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)  
Wilt Creative Music (Admin. by CWC Music Publishing)  
Puffy Bear Music (Admin. by Fun Attic Music, LLC)  
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com  
CCLI License # 20021974

© 2023 Concordia Publishing House. Scripture: ESV®. Permission granted to purchaser to reproduce this page for use in congregational settings. All other rights reserved.

**This Week at St. James**

**Today (2/18)**..... Gizmo on FB – 8:00 AM  
**Communion Service - 9:30 AM**  
Bible Study – 11:00 AM

**Tuesday (2/20)** ..... Governing Board Meeting - 6:30 PM

**Wednesday (2/21)** .....Darrell Bible Study – 10:00 AM  
Lenten Dinner – 5:30 PM  
Mid-Week Lenten Service – 6:30 PM

**Thursday (2/22)**..... Adult Bells – 6:00 PM  
Adult Choir – 7:15 PM

Sunday (2/25)..... Gizmo on FB – 8:00 AM  
**Worship Service - 9:30 AM**  
 Bible Study – 11:00 AM

**Looking Ahead**

**Serving Today (2/18)**

Officiant ..... Pastor Glenn Schaeffer  
 Lector ..... Irene Talen  
 Organist..... Beth McKay  
 Deacon(s) ..... Craig Popma / Bryan Ensing  
 Ushers ..... Dale and Grace Rosema  
 Video/Sound/Recording..... Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss  
 February Altar Guild..... Cindy McAuliffe

**Serving Next Sunday (2/25)**

Lector ..... Marjie Weiss  
 Organist..... Beth McKay  
 Deacon(s) ..... Craig Popma  
 Ushers ..... Open  
 Video/Sound/Recording..... Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss  
 KidzTime ..... Open  
 February Altar Guild..... Cindy McAuliffe

**Financial Discipleship: Feb 11, 2024**

General Fund	\$3,410.00
<i>Needed each week for budget \$5,769.00 (-\$2,359.00)</i>	
<u>ISJ Academy</u>	<u>\$25.00</u>
<b>TOTAL Contributions</b>	<b>\$3,435.00</b>

**Announcements**

**Join us for our midweek Lenten services.** They are on Wednesday evenings starting at 6:30 p.m. Come for the preservice meal as well. We begin to serve the meal at 5:30 p.m. but arrive when you can. This week the meal will be prepared and served by the LWML.

**ISJ Fundraiser opportunity**...On February 22, 2024 from 4-8pm at Herb and Fire Pizzeria well be Raise Some Dough for ISJ. Flyers are located on the table in the Narthex.

**What's happening on Sunday, March 17th???** We are going to have a special meal (with some Rwandan cuisine) served following the service; Pastor Schaeffer will share with us what he will be doing in Rwanda when he travels there in April; and we will have an opportunity to financially support Pastor Schaeffer's trip. Reserve the date on your calendar and watch future bulletins and the March newsletter for more details.

**You're Invited to Participate in St. James' Leadership Retreat** -- On the weekend of April 12-13th you are invited to participate in St. James' leadership retreat. The retreat will begin on Friday evening (7 p.m.-9 p.m.) and will continue Saturday (9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.). The retreat will be held at the Warner Building (downtown Grand Rapids). We will spend the time in prayer and studying God's Word. We will identify the opportunities and challenges we are facing as a congregation and begin to develop a plan to address these opportunities and challenges. *If you plan to attend the retreat, please let Pastor Schaeffer know by **April 2.***

**Mark your calendar for the 16th Annual ISJ Golf Outing Fundraiser!** Dreaming of warmer days? This year's ISJ Golf Outing Fundraiser will take place on June 1st at Arrowhead Golf Course in Lowell. It's time to assemble your team and get signed up! This will be an 18-hole shotgun start scramble format like in years past. Early bird registration for a foursome runs through April 12th and costs \$375. After April 12th the cost for a foursome cost is \$400. If you are not able to golf but interested in supporting the event you can do so through the same link/QR code. Proceeds from this event support the school by providing additional resources, technology devices, and supplies for the classroom. If you have questions, please reach out to the school office at [isjoffice@mychristianschool.com](mailto:isjoffice@mychristianschool.com) or a school board member (Amy Ferris, Erin Reed) from the congregation.

**Christian Summer Children's Camp: Camp Concordia** 30 minutes north of Grand Rapids, Michigan, allows your children and grandchildren to experience a Lutheran Camp experience with trained cabin Leaders, lifeguards, and program leaders. Weekly experiences include meals, swimming, archery, canoeing, campfire, devotions, cookouts, Bible adventures and more all wrapped around a Christ-

centered message. Get more information at [www.campconcordia.org](http://www.campconcordia.org). There is also information on the bulletin board in the hallway.

### **A Statement on Holy Communion**

**We rejoice in the celebration of the LORD'S Supper** as the Lord Jesus comes to us in a very personal manner, giving to us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine in this sacred meal. St. Paul writes, *"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) It is out of love and care for every individual who comes to the Lord's Supper that we ask those who are not instructed in the faith and/or doubt the presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to refrain from attending the Lord's Supper.

Members of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations (and sister confessional Lutheran Church bodies), who:

- Repent of their sin;
- Believe in Jesus as their Savior;
- Trust that they are receiving, not only bread and wine but also the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of their sins; and
- Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as forgiven sinners resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the newness of life;

are invited to partake of this Holy Meal with us. We request that ALL guests who desire to commune, kindly speak to the Pastor before the service.

If you prefer to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion, please do so. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that the Pastor knows you want to receive a blessing.

**NOTE:** We provide gluten-free communion host and non-alcoholic grape juice. Just let the Pastor and/or the assistants know when you come for Holy Communion.