

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Lohman (Stringtown), Missouri
Phone (573) 782-3191 Cell: (573) 818-2112
Brian Whittle, Pastor
Email: stjohstringtown@gmail.com
Website: www.stjohstringtown.org
Facebook: fb.me/stjohstringtown/

March 6, 2024 † Midweek of Lent 3

SOON AND NEVER

King David's enemies said of him, "When will he die and his name perish?" (Psalm 41:5) Do you have enemies who wish the same fate on you? Regardless of your best efforts to "lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way" (1 Timothy 2:2), you are pursued unceasingly by three dread adversaries: the world, the devil, and your own sinful flesh. When will you die? When will your name perish? Christ silences your foes and your fears and will strengthen and keep you firm in His Word and faith unto the end.

OPENING SENTENCES

LSB, p. 229

P O Lord, open my lips,

C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C make haste to help me, O Lord.

C **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. Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.**

+ PSALMODY +

PSALM

Psalm 39:12a; 38:22; 86:6-7

P Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry;

C Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

P Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;

C listen to my plea for grace.

P In the day of my trouble I call upon You,

C for You answer me.

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.

+ Readings +

READING

Deuteronomy 7:22–26

P A reading from Deuteronomy, the seventh chapter.

²²The LORD your God will clear away these nations before you little by little. You may not make an end of them at once, lest the wild beasts grow too numerous for you.

²³But the LORD your God will give them over to you and throw them into great confusion, until they are destroyed.

²⁴And He will give their kings into your hand, and you shall make their name perish from under heaven. No one shall be able to stand against you until you have destroyed them.

²⁵The carved images of their gods you shall burn with fire. You shall not covet the silver or the gold that is on them or take it for yourselves, lest you be ensnared by it, for it is an abomination to the LORD your God. ²⁶And you shall not bring an abominable thing into your house and become devoted to destruction like it. You shall utterly detest and abhor it, for it is devoted to destruction.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

READING

Revelation 19:11–16

P A reading from Revelation, the nineteenth chapter.

¹¹Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹²His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems, and He has a name written that no one knows but Himself. ¹³He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which He is called is The Word of God. ¹⁴And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following Him on white horses. ¹⁵From His mouth comes

a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. ¹⁶On His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

READING

John 12:20–30

P A reading from St. John, the twelfth chapter.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

²⁷“Now is My soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to Him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not Mine.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” (*LSB* 439)

+ CANTICLE +

ANTIPHON

LSB, p. 231

MAGNIFICAT

LSB, p. 231

Presentation of Offering

+ PRAYER +

KYRIE

LSB, p. 233

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

LORD’S PRAYER

LSB, p. 233

COLLECTS

P O Lord, hear my prayer.
C And let my cry come to You.

P We thank You, our God and Father, that You have drawn us to Your Son, Jesus Christ. As we consider His sign of sacrifice and love, sustain us in our trials, comfort us in our sorrows, and strengthen us against temptation. Grant that the cross may be to us a continuing promise of the forgiveness of our sins as we observe a holy Lent. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our gracious Lord.

C Amen.

C 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.

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS *LSB*, p. 234

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB, p. 234

P The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

HYMN

“Christ, the Life of All the Living” (*LSB* 420)