

**Divine Service Setting Three –  
Third Sunday in Lent – March 7, 2021  
St. John Lutheran Church, Crete (Kramer), NE  
Welcome in the name of Christ Jesus**

Announcements

Bells

**Hymn of Invocation**

**420 Christ, the Life of All the Living**



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of  
2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast tak - en on Thee Bonds and stripes, a  
3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly That my wounds might  
4 Heart - less scof - fers did sur-round Thee, Treat - ing Thee with



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing  
cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on Thee,  
all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,  
shame - ful scorn And with pierc - ing thorns they crowned Thee.



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,  
O Thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst Thou my  
Rest to give my wea - ry soul; Yea, the curse of  
All dis - grace Thou, Lord, hast borne, That as Thine Thou



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.  
soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.  
God en - dur - ing, Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.  
might - est own me And with heav'n - ly glo - ry crown me.



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.

- 5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,  
That from pain I might be free;  
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:  
Thence I gain security;  
Comfortless Thy soul did languish  
Me to comfort in my anguish.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 6 Thou hast suffered great affliction  
And hast borne it patiently,  
Even death by crucifixion,  
Fully to atone for me;  
Thou didst choose to be tormented  
That my doom should be prevented.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,  
For Thy sorrows deep and sore,  
For Thine anguish in the Garden,  
I will thank Thee evermore,  
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,  
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,  
For that last triumphant cry,  
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

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## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

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

**C** Amen.

**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.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** 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 my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

**Introit** *See Insert*

### Kyrie

**C** ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** ♪ And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray. ... one God, now and forever.

**C**  Amen.

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading** *See Insert*

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Epistle Reading** *See Insert*

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Gospel**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

**C**  **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

*See Insert*

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

**C**  **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

**Apostles' Creed**

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

Sit

## 579 The Law of God Is Good and Wise



1 The Law of God is good and wise And sets His  
2 Its light of ho - li - ness im - parts The knowl - edge  
3 To those who help in Christ have found And would in  
4 But those who scorn - ful - ly dis - dain God's Law shall



will be - fore our eyes, Shows us the way of righ - teous -  
of our sin - ful hearts That we may see our lost es -  
works of love a - bound It shows what deeds are His de -  
then in sin re - main; Its ter - ror in their ear re -



ness, And dooms to death when we trans - gress.  
tate And turn from sin be - fore too late.  
light And should be done as good and right.  
sounds And keeps their wick - ed - ness in bounds.

5 The Law is good; but since the fall  
Its holiness condemns us all;  
It dooms us for our sin to die  
And has no pow'r to justify.

6 To Jesus we for refuge flee,  
Who from the curse has set us free,  
And humbly worship at His throne,  
Saved by His grace through faith alone.

*Text and tune: Public domain*

## Sermon

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C** Amen.

## 865 Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain



1 Lord, help us ev - er to re - tain The Cat - e -  
2 Help us Your ho - ly Law to learn, To mourn our  
3 Hear us, dear Fa - ther, when we pray For need - ed  
4 Lord, when we fall or go a - stray, Ab - solve and



chism's ——— doc - trine plain As Lu - ther taught the  
sin and from it turn In faith to You and  
help from day to day That as Your chil - dren  
lift us up, we pray; And through the Sac - ra -



Word of truth In sim - ple style to ten - der youth.  
to Your Son And Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One.  
we may live, Whom You bap - tized and so re - ceived.  
ment in - crease Our faith till we de - part in peace.

*Text and tune: Public domain*

*Stand*

### Offertory

**☞** **♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

### Prayer of the Church



## 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.

## Benedicamus

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** ♪ Thanks be to God.

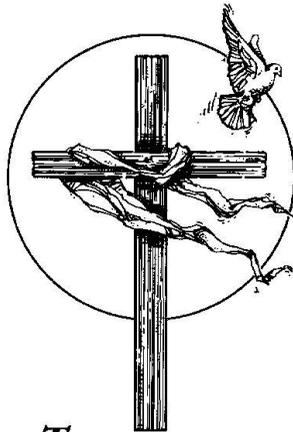
## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C** ♪ Amen, amen, amen.



*The Lord lift up  
His countenance  
upon you  
and give you peace.*

*-Numbers 6:26*

# Hymn to Depart

## 850 God of Grace and God of Glory



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On Your peo - ple  
 2 Lo, the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn the Christ, as -  
 3 Cure Your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e - vils



pour Your pow'r; Crown Your an - cient Church's sto - ry;  
 sail His ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
 Your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
 we de - plore; Let the gift of Your sal - va - tion



Bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,



grant us cour - age For the fac - ing of this  
 grant us cour - age For the liv - ing of these  
 grant us cour - age Lest we miss Your king - dom's  
 grant us cour - age, Serv - ing You whom we a -



hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.  
 days, For the liv - ing of these days.  
 goal, Lest we miss Your king - dom's goal.  
 dore, Serv - ing You whom we a - dore.

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### Acknowledgments

*Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book*

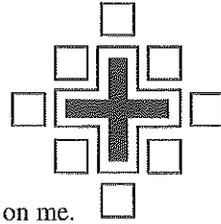
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# Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021



**INTROIT** Ps. 69:14–16; antiphon: Ps. 69:9

For zeal for your house has con- | sumed me,\*  
and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fall- | en on me.

Deliver me from sinking | in the mire;\*

let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep | waters.

Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swal- | low me up,\*

or the pit close its mouth | over me.

Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast | love is good;\*

according to your abundant mercy, | turn to me.

**Glorify 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.**

For zeal for your house has con- | sumed me,\*

and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fall- | en on me.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

**GRADUAL** Heb. 12:2

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,\*

the founder and perfecter | of our faith,

who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,\*

and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

## DAILY READINGS

**March 7:** Gen. 27:30–45; 28:10–22; Mark 9:1–13; **8:** Gen. 29:1–30; Mark 9:14–32; **9:** Gen. 35:1–29; Mark 9:33–50; **10:** Gen. 37:1–36; Mark 10:1–12; **11:** Gen. 39:1–23; Mark 10:13–31; **12:** Gen. 40:1–23; Mark 10:32–52; **13:** Gen. 41:1–27; Mark 11:1–19.

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## Old Testament Reading: Exodus 20:1–17

<sup>1</sup>And God spoke all these words, saying,

<sup>2</sup>"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

<sup>3</sup>"You shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

<sup>8</sup>"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, <sup>10</sup>but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

<sup>12</sup>"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>"You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>"You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>"You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

## Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18–31

<sup>18</sup>The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning  
I will thwart."

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age?

Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

<sup>26</sup>For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. <sup>31</sup>Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

## Holy Gospel: John 2:13–22

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. <sup>15</sup>And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

<sup>18</sup>So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking about the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
Crete, Nebraska. Rev. Maynard L. Toensing Jr.

**THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

**MARCH 7, 2021**

**WE WARMLY WELCOME YOU TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE ON THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT. *The Crucified and Risen Body of Jesus Is the True Temple of the Lord.*** The Lord rescues His people, Israel, “*out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery*” (Ex. 20:2) and makes His gracious covenant with them, defined by the Ten Commandments. Since He has become their God by His grace, they shall be His people, having “*no other gods*” before Him (Ex. 20:3). He is “*jealous*” for them as a husband for his wife and as a father for his children. He has named them with His name and called them to rest in Him (Ex. 20:5–9). The incarnate Son, Christ Jesus, is likewise jealous for His Father’s house, because it is to be a place of divine grace and Sabbath rest for His people, and not “*a house of trade*” (John 2:16–17). His zeal consumes Him as He gives up “*the temple of his body*” to the destruction of the cross, but in three days He raises it up again to be the true temple forever (John 2:17–21). By His crucifixion He cleanses the entire household, and in His resurrection He becomes “*wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption*” (1 Cor. 1:30). The readings today are as follows: the Old Testament Reading is Exodus 20:1-17, the Epistle Reading is 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, and the Holy Gospel Reading is John 2:13-22. **The text today is 1 Corinthians 1:22-25 and the sermon is "The Foolishness and Weakness of God Exceed Man's Ideals".**

**TODAY’S LIFE QUOTE...**“Whether you are five or 35 or 65, there will be days when it seems to you that God has dropped it. When that happens, when the darkness threatens to close in on you, just go back to the simple truth that God taught you in your youth. Go back to the Word of Light, the Word that is Christ. **‘Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.’** That will lighten the way for you, for us all.” *Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer, The Lutheran Hour – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

**\*\*\*Notice of addition to our Lenten Midweek Worship Services\*\*\***

**LENTEN MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICES – March 10, 2021**

“Return to the Lord, Who Will Raise You Up” Hosea 6:1-6

Lenten Service at **10:30 am**, mask optional and signup not required

Lenten Service at **7:30 pm**, mask required and signup required

**PRAYERS OF THE FAMILY OF GOD....**

**For God’s continued care:** *All who have been infected with COVID-19, Camdon (Betts' great-grandson), Petra Dewey, Becky Dittmer, Tim Hardt, Tammy Homolka, Norman and Alice Johnson (Linda Lee’s parents), LaVerna (Kate) Kattau, Titus Kotas (Heath Dewey’s close friend), Joy Kouba, Amy Munro Kounovsky, Linda Lee, Gary Peace (Deanna Eggert’s cousin), Abbey Reetz, Elmer Reetz, Mike Reiss (Del’s son), Tina Rockenbach, Verna Schultz, Judy Toensing, Noreen Wild*

**Those in our congregation who are shut in:** *Dan Murphy, Albert Vosika, August Wendelin*

**For our adopted Missionaries:** *Rev. Dr. Gerald and Heidi Paul*

**PARISH NEWS AND NOTES**

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU** to Rev. Tim Brisbois as he leads us in worship today. It is good to be here in the presence of the God whose name is Love.

**MEETINGS AND WORSHIP SERVICES THIS WEEK...****Quilting Group** will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, March 9 at 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. Sewing experience not necessary---just bring a scissors and a sack lunch and prepare to have fun!...**Lenten Worship Services** are Wednesday, March 10 at 10:30 am (mask optional) and 7:30 pm (mask required)...**Midweek/Confirmation Classes** are Wednesday, March 10 at 6:30 pm.

**SAVE THE DATE!** The spring Easter Egg hunt will be **March 27 at 10am** on the church grounds. We’re accepting candy donations---must be individually wrapped and peanut free. Donations can be placed under the table in the narthex. Bring your friends!

**THANK YOU** for the cards, letters and prayers as we celebrated our 55<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. These made it all so very special. Roger and Donna Brunelle

**SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL** time is here again for the **Lutheran Witness**. If you wish to renew your subscription or add a new subscription the cost is an annual fee of \$15.96, you may leave your check in the offering plate made payable to the church. NEW subscribers or if you wish to cancel your subscription please let Chris know, the sign-up deadline is March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**MAIN STREET LIVING NEWS RELEASE...** The angels appeared to the shepherds (Luke 2:8-14) in Boaz’s field (Ruth 2:3) declaring Jesus’ birth. Come along and see where this happened on The Eternal Rock Tour, at the time Main Street Living airs on your local station on **Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021.**

**MARCH NEWSLETTER** is available in the Narthex for those who want a paper copy. **ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN** Facts Summary and Wish List is also available in the Narthex.

**CORRECTION ON MARCH CALENDAR...**There is no VBS Workshop on March 11

**BIDS...**The Board of Trustees has accepted the bid from Janice Reetz for rent of church farm ground for the year of 2022.

**CRETE CARES...**The LWML is holding a food collection drive to benefit Crete Cares. After the holidays many are still in need of food. We ask that you place your **non-perishable** food items in the donation box located in the narthex. Thank you for thinking of your neighbors.

**WORSHIP SERVICE** attendance for Sunday, February 28, 2021 Worship Services has been reported as 69, with 62 joining in Holy Communion. The attendance for Lenten Worship Service on Wednesday, March 3, was 22. Both worship services were recorded and put on **www.stjohnkramer.org** website. Once again, thank you to all who have made this possible for all of us!

**OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR FEBRUARY, 2021:**

General Budget	\$ 11,417.00
Missions	\$ 270.00
Lent Worship Services	\$ 81.00
Scholarship Fund	\$ 15.00
Lambs of Christ	\$ 15.00
Church Beautification Fund	\$ 25.00

**St. John Lutheran Church – 11400 West Panama Road – Crete, NE 68333**  
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**Secretary Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:15 - noon**  
**Website: [www.stjohnkramer.org](http://www.stjohnkramer.org)**

**OUR MISSION...**Share the Joy of His News by growing inward through God's Word, Sacraments and fellowship and by growing outward through words, actions and mission outreach.

**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE, you may contact Pastor Toensing at 402-418-8760 or by email at [pastortoensing@gmail.com](mailto:pastortoensing@gmail.com)**

**ABOUT THE COVER...**When Jesus spoke of the temple being razed, no one understood that He was speaking of His own body. Instead, they had their eyes set on the temporary temple in Jerusalem. However, the temple of Jesus' body was razed on the cross for the sins of the whole world and then raised three days later on Easter morning. Praise be to God that Jesus was raised for our justification. He turns our eyes from the temporal things of this world to the eternal things of God!