

# THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 12, 2023

## *Water For The Thirsty*

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**Opening Hymn** ..... 631, "Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening"

**Order of Service (From Supplement)** ..... Gathering Rite on the Word of God, Page 11

**Prayer 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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### FIRST READING

**Psalm of the Day (On Insert)**..... Psalm 95C

### SECOND READING

**Gospel Acclamation Verse:** *Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst."*

### GOSPEL

**Hymn of the Day** ..... 839, "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

**SERMON**..... "Take a Drink of Living Water" John 4:5-26

**Offering Hymn** ..... 754 v. 2, "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness"

**Apostles' Creed** ..... Page 20

### Prayers/Lord's Prayer

**Hymn** .....517, "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

### Closing Prayer/Benediction

**Closing Hymn** ..... 552 vv. 1 & 2, "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

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## FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

**The children of Israel wanted to stone Moses because they were thirsty. So God, in his grace, gave this undeserving people water from a stone.**

*The entire Israelite community set out on their journey from the Wilderness of Sin as the LORD had commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why are you quarreling with me? Why are you testing the LORD?" But the people were thirsty for water there, so they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you ever bring us up out of Egypt to let us, our children, and our livestock die of thirst?" Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me!"*

*The LORD said to Moses, "Go in front of the people, and take the elders of Israel with you. Also take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Watch me. I will stand there in front of you on the rock in Horeb. You are to strike the*

*rock. Water will come out of it, and the people will drink." Moses did that in the sight of the elders of Israel. He named the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"*

## SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-8

**We were like people dying of thirst who were powerless to help themselves. But God's love has been poured out into our hearts like living water.**

*Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we also have obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand. And we rejoice confidently on the basis of our hope for the glory of God. Not only this, but we also rejoice confidently in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces patient endurance, and patient endurance produces tested character, and tested character produces hope. And hope will not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who was given to us. For at the appointed time, while we were still helpless, Christ died for the ungodly. It is rare indeed that someone will die for a righteous person. Perhaps someone might actually go so far as to die for a person who has been good to him. But God shows his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

## GOSPEL: John 4:5-26

**Jesus calls a Samaritan woman to faith, providing living water for her thirsty soul.**

*So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the piece of land Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Then Jesus, being tired from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour.*

*A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone into town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." "Sir," she said, "you don't even have a bucket, and the well is deep. So where do you get this living water? You are not greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave us this well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his animals." Jesus answered her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I will give him will never be thirsty ever again. Rather, the water I will give him will become in him a spring of water, bubbling up to eternal life." "Sir, give me this water," the woman said to him, "so I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus told her, "Go, call your husband, and come back here." "I have no husband," the woman answered. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say, 'I have no husband.' In fact, you have had five husbands, and the man you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true." "Sir," the woman replied, "I see that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews insist that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will not worship the Father on this mountain or in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know. We worship what we do know, because salvation is from the Jews. But a time is coming and now is here when the real worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for those are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (the one called Christ). "When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Jesus said to her, "I, the one speaking to you, am he."*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HEAD USHERS:** Lyle Moldenhauer/Chris Zwygart; next Sunday: Don Koch/Doug Schulz

**LWMS FREE-WILL OFFERING:** **TODAY** we are taking a free-will offering to help support the work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS). Cash or checks will be accepted. Checks should be made payable to: **LWMS**. We hope many of you will consider supporting the missionary efforts of LWMS!

**MR. LORGE RETURNS CALL!** For those who may not have heard, we are pleased to report that Mr. Lorge has returned his call to St. Paul's, Appleton. We are thankful that Mr. Lorge has decided to continue to serve the Lord here at St. Matthew's, and we pray that God continues to bless his work here!

**THE LENTEN SEASON CONTINUES:** Our Lenten services will be held on **Wednesday, March 15, at 3:15 PM** and **7:00 PM**. Our guest speaker will be retired Pastor Robert Pasbrig, who currently serves as the WELS Synod Secretary. Please join us!

**PIZZA-MAKING/ORDER PICK-UP TIMES:** We are still looking for volunteers to help make the pizzas from our recent PTL sale. This will be done on **Friday, March 24, from 3:15 PM – 9:00 PM** -and- **Saturday, March 25, from 7:30 AM – until done**. If you would be willing to help, please sign up on the sheets posted on the **SCHOOL** bulletin board in the school hallway. Any questions about this sale may be directed to **Brian Youngbeck (920) 296-1128**. Thanks, in advance, to everyone who helps with or supported this sale!

For those who have ordered pizzas, your orders will be ready to be picked up at the school on **Saturday, March 25, from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM**. We ask that you make every effort to pick up your pizza orders during those times!

**EASTER LILIES:** If you wish to order a lily (or lilies) to be placed in church for the services on Easter Sunday, please sign up on the sheet posted on the church bulletin board in the school hallway. Lilies will be purchased only for those who sign up! After the Easter services, the lily is yours to take home and enjoy. The cost is **\$16.50** per plant. The last day to order is **Palm Sunday, April 2**.

**PTL MEETING:** All school parents are reminded of the PTL meeting which is scheduled for **Monday, March 20**, beginning at **6:30 PM**. We urge all parents to take an active roll in what's happening at your children's school!

**WLA – HOT LUNCH:** St. Matthew's has been assigned the dates of **April 12-14, 2023**, to help serve hot lunch at WLA. The hours of service are from **9:30 AM – 1:30 PM**. If this is something you would be willing to do, please sign up on the sheet hanging on the church bulletin board. If you would like more information about helping, please contact **Wayne Schultz (920-948-1978)**. Thank you!

**LWMS SPRING RALLY:** This year's spring mission rally will be held on **Saturday, April 15, 2023**, at **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church** (777 S. Indiana Avenue, West Bend). It will be co-hosted by Shepherd of the Hills and St. John, Newburg. The speakers will be **Stefan & Kathy Feigenhauer**. Stefan is the Director of World Missions Operations. Stefan and Kathy will be giving the latest updates on our world mission work occurring in 44 countries. Stefan will also inspire those in attendance with his own journey to Christianity. A sign-up sheet to attend is posted on the LWMS bulletin board in the hallway by Mr. Lorge's classroom. Registration begins at **8:30 AM**. The rally concludes at **12:30 PM**. Women and men are invited to attend! Questions about the rally may be directed to **Becky Schulz**, our LWMS coordinator.

## OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

**Attendance:** Lenten Services: 46/39; Sunday: 104

**Offerings:** Lenten Services: \$1,362.00; Sunday: \$6,767.45  
(*Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$6,889.00*)

**Special Funds:** Debt Retirement: \$310.00; Undesignated Memorials  
(Debt Retirement): \$70.00; Church Refurbishment: \$25.00

**Memorials:** In Memory of Gerry Weiss: \$25.00 (*Church Refurbishment*);  
In Memory of Darlene Schellpfeffer: \$70.00 (*Undesignated*)

## OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday:                   Worship Service .....9:00 AM  
                              Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School ..... 10:15 AM

Mon. – Fri.:           **NO SCHOOL – SPRING BREAK**

Wednesday:           Lenten Worship Services.....3:15 PM/7:00 PM

Thursday:           **NO** Adult Choir  
**SCRIP ORDERS DUE**

Sunday:                   Communion Worship Service .....9:00 AM  
                              Adult & Teen Bible Class/Sunday School ..... 10:15 AM

