



About the Cover

As we begin the season of Lent, there is great joy in knowing that God has not withdrawn His Word from us. It is near—in our mouths and hearts. Even if everything around us gets stripped away, the Word will remain. It remains because it has come from God Himself through the preaching of the Word. The Word of God says Jesus, our Savior, has overcome all trials and temptations, going all the way to the cross, dying, and rising to redeem us to everlasting life.

Food for the Soul

Everyone must eat. Our bodies are custom-made for digestion and the processing of energy provided by the food we eat—an apple a day, three square meals, the food pyramid, four food groups, chocolate. Everyone must eat in order to survive, but physical survival is only part of the equation.

Paul wrote, “‘Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food’—and God will destroy both one and the other” (1 Corinthians 6:13). His point? Life is more than just eating, drinking, and making merry. The body is not the totality of our being. It’s just the most visible part of it. Hence why Jesus quoted Deuteronomy while being tempted by food in the wilderness: “Man shall not live by bread alone” (Luke 4:4). God created us with a soul too. The soul demands its own kind of food—nourishment without which it will surely die.

The work of God is the salvation of our souls. The plan of God is the renewal of our spirits. Through Christ, God heals our soul’s disease by forgiving our sins. In the Lord’s Supper, we are nourished with Christ’s body and blood for the remission of sins. May God keep us hungry for His Word!

Feed me, O Bread of Life, and give to me a foretaste of the feast to come. Amen.

PORTALS
of PRAYER

Adapted from *Portals of Prayer* © Concordia Publishing House
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*The word
is near you*

Romans 10:8b



First Saint John Lutheran Church
Kensington, Kansas 66951

Pastor: Dave Hutson
Address: 332 North Adams
Office Phone: 785-476-2246
Pastor's Cell: 785-476-7532
Pre-School Phone: 785-476-2247
Pastor Dave E-mail: 1stjohn@ruraltel.net
Parish Coordinator E-mail: pc1stjohn@hotmail.com
Church Website: 1stjohnlutheran.com

March 09, 2025
Lent 1

Welcome; *The Children feed the Pig*

Video

OPENING HYMN; #563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

O Lord, open my lips,

And my mouth will declare your praise;

Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

Make haste to help me, O Lord. 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 for ever. Amen.

O Almighty God, merciful Father,

C. We recognize that we are sinful people. The good things we want to do, we don't do. And the evil we want to turn away from, we still do. Our lives often struggle with sin and death. But you sent Jesus to bring us life. Help us, Father, to trust in your grace in Jesus, and for His sake, forgive our sinfulness.

Hymn: #611 Chief of Sinners, Though I Be (vs. 1-3)

P. God forgives our sins by faith in Jesus. May He continue, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to hold us close, to help us amend our ways in repentant faith, and grant us peace. In Jesus' name;

Amen.

The Introit and Collect; - on the insert in the bulletin.

Parish Joys and Concerns; Prayer requests; after each petition

P. Lord in your mercy; **C. Hear our prayer.**

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS; After each lesson;

P. This is the Word of the Lord; **C. Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: Count It All Joy

1. Life has its ups and downs.

You struggle to just hold on.

It's hopeless if you try

to navigate on your own,

on your own.

You need a steadfast guide,

At the helm of your restless ride.

And there could be none other,

than God the Holy Father,

To steer you through the storm.

Chorus;

2. If "hang on" is all you do,

You're reaching for a hand,

If you need a helping hand,

With Jesus as your brother,

To make it through the day.

And you manage to just get by.

to guide you on you way, on you way.

you can trust in the Son of Man.

you're helping one another,

So ... **Chorus;**

Chorus; *Count it all joy, my brothers.*

Count it all joy, my sisters.

Count it all joy,

to be led by the Father's hand.

Whether he takes you through the valley,

Across the plains;

Over the Mountains or back again,

Count it all joy. Count it all joy.

Count it all joy.

THE MESSAGE;

THE CREED; The Apostles Creed; on the inside of the back cover of the hymnal.

The Offering;

The Prayers;

General prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer;

The Lord's Prayer; Sung;

P. I cry to you, O Lord;

C. In the morning my prayer comes before you.

O Let my mouth be filled with your praise;

And with your glory all the day.

Hide your face from my sins, O Lord.

And blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

And put a new and right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence,

And take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Help us, O Lord, this day;

To live without sin.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us.

O Lord, let your mercy be on us;

As our trust is in you.

O everlasting Jesus, who early in the morning sought strength from your Father, be with us, we pray, at this hour as we seek his grace and mercy, that throughout the day, we may find peace and joy in all we do to your glory. Let us bless the Lord;

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless us and keep us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

The Closing Hymn; #763 When Peace, Like a River

This Week at First Saint John;

Today; Daylight Savings Time Begins;

Monday; GriefShare - meeting in the parish Hall; 2:00—4:00 p.m.

Tuesday; Mar 11 - gospel of John Study; 9:00 a.m. P. Hall

Wednesday; Women's Study Group; PAC, 9:00 a.m.

Lent 1 Service: 7:00 p.m.

Church Council to follow;

Attendance last Sunday; 64

Offering last Sunday: \$2518.00

Attendance 2/23/25: 74

Offering 2/23/25: \$1457.00

(Needed weekly to meet budget - \$3476.03)

Lent Services Continue;

Our Lent 1 Service at First Saint John; Kensington, starting at 7:00 p.m.

Refreshments will follow the service. We will follow a series based on

"Jesus, the Bread of Life." Come and worship with us for these evening devotional services. It all leads to and is fulfilled with the Easter morning!

March Church Council meeting;

We will meet on Wednesday, Mar. 12

After the Lent service at 7:00.

Birthdays This Week:

Marcus Allen Mar. 9

Alyssa Bienhoff Mar. 12

Annie Adams Mar. 14

(Pi - Day) Why?

Garrett Levin Mar. 14

Ruth levin Mar. 14

Anniversaries This Week

Today; Jerry and Dixie Rietzke

Mar. 09-1974

Alan & Judy Bates; Mar. 11, 1978

Brian & Angie Arment Mar. 11, 2000

Bill & Joann Brooks Mar. 15, 1996

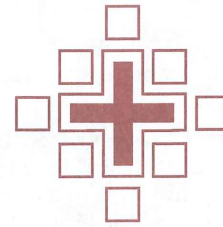
EVERYTHING WE HAVE COMES FROM GOD AND IS GIVEN TO US TO ENABLE US TO SERVE HIM BY HELPING OTHERS.

"Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them..." (Romans 12:6).



First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025



INTROIT *Ps. 91:9–13; antiphon: Ps. 91:15–16*

When he calls to me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in | trouble;*

I will rescue him and | honor him.
With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.

Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—*
the Most High, who is my | refuge—
no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,*
no plague come | near your tent.

For he will command his angels con- | cerning you*
to guard you in | all your ways.

On their hands they will | bear you up,*
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.

You will tread on the lion and the | adder,*
the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.

**Glory 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.**

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in | trouble;*
I will rescue him and | honor him.
With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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 9: Gen. 4:1–26; Mark 2:18–28; **10:** Gen. 6:1–7:5; Mark 3:1–19; **11:** Gen. 7:11–8:12; Mark 3:20–35; **12:** Gen. 8:13–9:17; Mark 4:1–20; **13:** Gen. 11:27–12:20; Mark 4:21–41; **14:** Gen. 13:1–18; Mark 5:1–20; **15:** Gen. 15:1–21; Mark 5:21–43.

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Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1–11

¹“When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ³And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.’ ⁴Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God.

⁵“And you shall make response before the LORD your God, ‘A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. ⁶And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. ⁷Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. ⁹And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me.’ And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God. ¹¹And you shall rejoice in all the good that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you.”

Epistle: Romans 10:8b–13

^{8b}“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and

believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Holy Gospel: Luke 4:1–13

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ²for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. ³The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” ⁴And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’” ⁵And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸And Jesus answered him, “It is written,

“‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’”

⁹And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

“‘He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,’

¹¹and

“‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’”

¹²And Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.