

# Wednesday Lenten Services

## WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

2415 Silas Creek Parkway Winston-Salem, NC 27103 336-725-1651

www.stjohnsws.com

**LENTEN MIDWEEK 1** 

March 4, 2020 - 7:00pm

<u>St. John's Mission</u>: To help one more person get to Heaven by pointing them to Jesus Christ.

#### Theme of the Day

Change: It's often said that the only person who likes change is a baby with a wet diaper! Change. That's God's plan for Moses. That's also God's plan for us!

Prelude: "Reflections on Southwell" set by David Lasky

(Please Rise)

Opening Hymn: #440 "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" (vs. 1-4)

#### Invocation and Call to Worship: Psalm 77

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy spirit.

C: Amen.

P: I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.

C: You are the God who performs miracles.

P: You display your power among the nations.

C: With your mighty arm you redeemed your people.

P: The very depths were convulsed.

C: The waters saw you, O God, the waters saw you and writhed.

P: The very depths were convulsed.

C: Your path led through the sea.

P: Your way through the mighty waters.

C: Though your footprints were not seen.

ALL: You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron!

#### **Confession and Absolution**

#### Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, right where we are, you love us with an everlasting love. But you love us too much to let us remain there. Give us faith and humility to accept your process of change so that – more and more – we become like Jesus. We pray in His name,

ALL: Amen.

(Be Seated)

#### First Lesson: Exodus 3:1-14 (Sermon Text)

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup> And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. <sup>3</sup> Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn."

<sup>4</sup> So when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!"

And he said, "Here I am."

- <sup>5</sup> Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand *is* holy ground." <sup>6</sup> Moreover He said, "I *am* the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.
- <sup>7</sup> And the Lord said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who *are* in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their [a]sorrows. <sup>8</sup> So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. <sup>9</sup> Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. <sup>10</sup> Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."
- <sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, "Who *am* I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"
- <sup>12</sup> So He said, "I will certainly be with you. And this *shall be* a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."
- <sup>13</sup> Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, *when* I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What *is* His name?' what shall I say to them?"
- <sup>14</sup> And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.' "

#### Second Lesson: Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your breasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

(Please Rise)

Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

(Be Seated)

Sermon Hymn: #440 "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" (vs. 5-6)

Sermon: "God's Call to Change"

Offering

Offertory Solo: "Steal Away" spiritual set by Harry Burleigh

Jennifer Rodda, mezzo soprano

### **Closing Prayer**

#### Lord's Prayer

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.

#### **Benediction**

(Please Rise)

Closing Hymn: #827 "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling"

Postlude: "Reflection on Southwell" Lasky

Join us on Wednesday's during Lent, March 4 – April 1, at 7:00pm for service

Dinner at 5:30pm – March 11 – Elders

March 18 – Cancer Ministry

March 25 – Youth (fundraiser)

April 1 – TBD