

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM 24:7-10

Lift up your heads, O gates;
lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.
"Who is this King of glory?" *
"The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle."
Lift up your heads, O gates;
lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.
"Who is he, this King of glory?" *
"The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory."

SECOND READING

Hebrews 2:14-18

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Christ

**WE REMEMBER BEFORE GOD ALL PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHOSE
LIVES HAVE BEEN DISRUPTED
BY VIOLENCE OR WAR.
WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO WORK FOR PEACE
AND FOR NEW BEGINNINGS.**



AS WE PRAY, LET US REMEMBER

✦ Those in special need, especially Bob; Marion; Krista; Virginia & John; Morgan; Buddy; Sophie; Chloe; Matthew; Rob; Nathan; Mariam; Larry & Leslie; the Daniels family; Josephine; Yamile; Brayden; Jess; Pamela; Anthony; Wally; Kay; Roland; Keira .

✦ We pray for those who have died.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU FOR ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE POTLUCK LAST SUNDAY — everyone who helped with set up of tables, donated food, set food out, cleaned up, and took tables down — you made the potluck a great success. Blessings to all, Marykay

SOUP KITCHEN ON 'SOUPER' BOWL SUNDAY! We go to the soup kitchen this afternoon. If you plan on being there, let me know — and don't forget to bring chocolate milk! Please try to be there BY 4pm. Thanks! Dan Basche

THE MILITARY VETERANS MINISTRY

We welcome all parishioners to join our Military Veterans Ministry this Friday, 10 AM at the church to help prepare & transport food to serve approximately 80 veterans at the US Vets Center.

ST. JOHN'S CLOSET IS OFF TO A GREAT START WITH NEW ITEMS AND NEW IDEAS. There will be craft tables available on first Saturdays in conjunction with the Produce on Wheels Program. We will open at 8AM instead of 9AM on those Saturdays. We have a special sales promotion running through February 15. It is a Red Heart Sale. Anything red — clothing, household goods or décor — is 25% off. This may help with Valentine decorating or gifts so stop in to check things out. As always, we welcome donations whenever St. John's Closet is open, Fridays and Saturdays 9-1 (except for 1st Saturdays, open 8-12). Thank you to all our customers and supporters!

Our altar flowers are given
by Les Brown
In memory of
Phyllis Brown and Elwyn Brown

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today	Healing Litany & Holy Eucharist Rite I	8 AM
	Nursery care	9:30–11:15 AM
	Sunday School (CH 2 & 8)	9:45 AM
	Youth Group (CH 6)	9:45 AM
	Healing Litany & Holy Eucharist Rite II	10 AM
	Praise Band Practice	11:30 AM
	Chris Becker Dining Hall	4:00 PM
Tue.	Tuesday Night Bible Study	6 PM
	Joyful Noise practice	7 PM
Wed.	<i>Bible Study</i>	<i>4:30 PM</i>
	Holy Eucharist Rite II	6:30 PM
	<i>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</i>	<i>7:15 PM</i>
Fri.	St. John's Closet	9 AM—1 PM
	Military Veterans Meal Prep (K)	10 AM
Sat.	St. John's Closet/Thrift Shop	9 AM—1 PM
	Crafters Ministry (PH)	9 AM
Sun.	Holy Eucharist Rite I	8 AM
	Nursery care	9:30–11:15 AM
	Sunday School (CH 2 & 8)	9:45 AM
	Youth Group (CH 6)	9:45 AM
	Holy Eucharist Rite II	10 AM
	Praise Band Practice	11:30 AM

St. John the Baptist is equipped with two types of hearing assistance devices: a receiver with an earbud or a neck loop (for use with telecoil-equipped hearing aids and cochlear implants). Either device can be used at any seat in the church. Please speak with an usher for assistance.

FOOD PANTRY

pancake mix and syrup, cookies
canned tuna
Cookies
Hamburger Helper

BLESSING BAGS

Travel size or individually wrapped please
Fruit snacks, snack size, Oreos, granola bars,
Rice Krispie treats