

# SEPTUAGESIMA

January 28, 2024 ✝ 9:00 AM



## ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod ✝ [www.stjohns-mattoon.org](http://www.stjohns-mattoon.org)

200 Charleston Avenue, Mattoon, Illinois 61938

Church (217) 234-4923 ✝ School (217) 234-4911

St. John's Lutheran Church is a parish of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (lcms.org), where God's people gather to receive the gifts of Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament. Welcome in the name of the Lord!

We are blessed to have a vibrant and growing parochial school, St. John's Lutheran School (Preschool & K–9), serving the families of the church and the Mattoon community with a Christ-centered education. For more information, visit [stjls-mattoon.com](http://stjls-mattoon.com), or contact the school office at 217-234-4911.

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**GUESTS**, we pray you are comforted by the Gospel and feel welcome among us. We invite you to introduce yourselves.

**CHILDREN OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME** in the Divine Service. Restrooms and a cry room/nursery are located in the narthex.

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE** with all page numbers for the hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*, is found in this bulletin, as well as each week's Propers\*. The end of the bulletin contains St. John's weekly news and announcements. The large-print bulletins also contain the hymns and liturgy for the convenience of those who may need it.

*\*The Propers are the Psalm verses (Introit and Gradual) and Readings that are appointed for (or "proper to") the particular Sunday in the Church Year.*

# Septuagesima

Divine Service, Setting One,  
*Lutheran Service Book*, page 151



## Hymns

555 826

618 566

761 918

401

Prelude

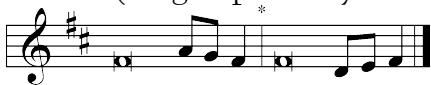
Announcements

Opening Hymn: *Salvation unto Us Has Come* .....555, sts. 1–5  
*Stand for the final stanza.*

Confession and Absolution .....page 151

Introit (sung responsively with cantor)

*Psalm 18:1–2a; 5–6a*



*The cords of Sheol en- | tangled me;\**  
*the snares of death con- | fronted me.*

**In my distress I called up- | on the Lord.\***  
**From his temple he | heard my voice.**

*I love you, O | Lord, my strength.\**  
*The Lord is my rock and my | fortress.*

**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.**

*The cords of Sheol en- | tangled me;\**  
*the snares of death con- | fronted me.*

**In my distress I called up- | on the Lord.\***  
**From his temple he | heard my voice.**

Kyrie & Gloria in Excelsis.....pages 152–153

Salutation and Collect of the Day .....page 156



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## Old Testament Reading

*Exodus 17:1-7*

<sup>1</sup>All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup>And the Lord said to Moses, “Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual (sung responsively with cantor)

*Psalms 9:9-10, 18-19a*



*The Lord is a stronghold for | the oppressed,\*  
a stronghold in times of | trouble.*

**And those who know your name put their | trust in you,\*  
for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who | seek you.**

*For the needy shall not always be for- | gotten,\*  
and the hope of the poor shall not perish for- | ever.*

**A- | rise, O Lord!\*  
Let not | man prevail.**

Epistle 1 Corinthians 9:24—10:5

<sup>24</sup>Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. <sup>25</sup>Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. <sup>26</sup>So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. <sup>27</sup>But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

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

Stand

Psalm 130:1-4



I cry to you, | O Lord!

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for | mercy!**

O Lord, | who could stand?

**But with you there is for- | giveness,\*  
that you | may be feared.**

Holy Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

## Matthew 20:1-16

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.

<sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup>and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ <sup>5</sup>So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And

about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ <sup>8</sup>And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup>And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?’ <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first last.”

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



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day:** *Salvation unto Us Has Come* ..... 555, sts. 6–10

**Sermon**

*Stand*

**Apostles’ Creed**..... page 159

**Prayer of the Church**

*Sit*

**Offering**

*Please take this time to fill out the red record of fellowship at the end of the pew.*

*Stand*

**Offertory**.....pages 159–160

# ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

**Our Teaching on the Sacrament of Holy Communion:** Attending communion at our altar indicates agreement with the doctrine and teachings of Scripture that our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod confesses. Therefore, only confirmed members of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod should come forward without first speaking to the pastor and being instructed. Thank you.

**Preface through Agnus Dei** .....pages 160–163

*Follow the lefthand column on pages 162–163.*

*Sit*

## **Distribution Hymns (as needed)**

*Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying* .....826

*I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table*.....618

*By Grace I'm Saved*.....566

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*.....761

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer* ..... 918

*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis through Benediction**.....page 165–166

## JANUARY HYMN OF THE MONTH

**Closing Hymn: *From God the Father, Virgin-Born*** ..... 401

## **Postlude**



## ***Septuagesima Sunday ~ Grace Alone***

The people of Israel contended with the Lord in the wilderness (Ex. 17:1–7). They were dissatisfied with His provision. In the same way, the first laborers in the vineyard complained against the landowner for the wage he provided them (Matt. 20:1–16). They charged him with being unfair, but in reality he was being generous. For the Lord does not wish to deal with us on the basis of what we deserve but on the basis of His abounding grace in Christ. The first—those who rely on their own merits—will be last. *“For they were overthrown in the wilderness”* (1 Cor. 10:5). But the last, those who rely on Christ, will be first. For Christ is the Rock (1 Cor. 9:24–10:5). He is the One who was struck and from whose side blood and water flowed that we may be cleansed of our sin.

*~ LCMS Lectionary Summaries*

**01/28/24**  
**Septuagesima**

**02/04/24**  
**Sexagesima**

<b>Celebrant</b>	Rev. Andrew Herzberg	Rev. Andrew Herzberg
<b>Organist</b>	Peter Eckardt	Peter Eckardt
<b>Head Elder</b>	Kurt Rankin	Scott Harris
<b>Asst. Elder</b>	Tom Roth	Kurt Rankin
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Terese Miller & Kim Ervin	Nancy Gass & Laura Zuhone
<b>Acolytes</b>	Sam Harris & Gunner Bartels	Ethan Pierce & Grant Jackson
<b>Ushers</b>	William Smith & Bryce Becker	Colin Richey & Corbin Richey
<b>Special Music</b>		Adult Choir

***Prayers of Sympathy to the family of Dennis Johnson,***

***Those in Need of Comfort, Health, & Recovery***

<p><b>Our Members:</b> Norma Schussler, Marge Anderson, Don Bareither, Connie Elder, Rich &amp; Clara Woelber, and Kay Pointon</p> <p><b>Those Shut In:</b> Pat Smith, Bob Zschau, Herman Janssen, Shirley Kolbus, Lorene Reinhart, Alvin &amp; Judy Schagemann, Art Zuhone, Dorothy Roling, Marlene Zuhone, and Sara Doehring</p> <p><b>Friends of our Congregation:</b> Douglas Blume, Jeff Ferree, Megan Gilbert, Charles Stodden, Bianca Stodden, Jim Duey, Larry &amp; Bebe Griffith, Susan Sochowski, Chris Greer, Brooklyn Dotson, Terri Fry, Connie McNeilius, Rick Ivester, John Bell, Gary Willenborg, Jessie Spence, Lee Pygott, Derick Shy, Linda Scheer, Larae Sharp, Dave Jones, Addison Orris, Clint Wilson, Raelle Jackson, Karen Phillips, and Les Sorenson</p>
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**Church Announcements**

**Midweek Lenten Meals:** Please let the church office know if you or your organization would like to sign up to host one of our Lenten meals this year. Below are the dates needed:

February 21 & 28

March 6, 13, 20, 28 (Maundy Thursday)



**Save the date** for a fundraising day at Jersey Mike's on **Thursday, February 1**. Dine any time that day and 20% will be returned to St. John's Lutheran School.

### **Adopt a Shut-In:**

**This time of year can be quite lonely for our shut-ins.** We would like to spread some cheer to those beloved church members. You have the opportunity this pre-Lenten season to "adopt a shut-in". We ask that you find some way, a card, a phone call, a gift, etc. to share some love with this person. If interested in adopting a shut-in, please contact the church office or Bryce Becker at [brycebecker@stjls-mattoon.com](mailto:brycebecker@stjls-mattoon.com) to sign up.

**Parish Life is hosting a "Soup"er Bowl Supper** on Saturday, Feb. 3rd from 5pm to 7pm. Bring a soup to share and join in fellowship with your fellow church members.

**Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>** we will celebrate Lutheran Hour Sunday. For over 100 years LHM has been committed to sharing the Gospel with those who need to hear it.

### ***School of Bach***

This Lent, experience the Passion of Christ through the lens of J.S. Bach by hearing, viewing, and studying his monumental *St. John's Passion* with Cantor Eckardt! We'll meet on three Sunday evenings in the Fellowship Hall with pot-luck style appetizers and refreshments. Cantor will lead the group through Bach's *Johannes-Passion* from superb live-recorded performances available on YouTube, pausing along the way to reflect and discuss. We'll look at the text in side-by-side German and English and even examine some of the score. If you enjoy any of the following—music, theology, Scripture, German, good food & drink, fellowship, conversation, learning—then this is for you! Join us **Feb 18, Mar 3, & Mar 17, 5:30–7:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall!

**CID LLL District Convention:** (Energizing Mission) Highlights include, speaker, Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler, speaker of the Lutheran Hour. Join on March 9, 2024 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Altamont, IL. Registration forms are available outside of the office.

**Car raffle tickets** are on sale NOW until the auction, **March 16**. They are \$100 each and available in the church or school offices. The 2024

Nissan Versa will be displayed on Charleston Avenue soon, so spread the word.

**Auction reservations:** Please follow this link to purchase Auction Tickets <https://cbo.io/tickets/homerun/tix>.

**Auction items and sponsorships:** If you'd like to donate an item or service or would like to become an event sponsor, please contact Chantel Thompson.

**Choices Pregnancy Center:** \$950 were received at last month's *Lessons & Carols* service and donated to Choices. Thank you to all who donated!

**The St. John's Service Team** will be selling baked goods, donuts, keychains, bracelets, and other items at the following home sports games and at church on Sunday mornings. All proceeds will go to the Jackson family to help with medical bills and other expenses they may have during Raelle's leukemia treatments in St. Louis. If you would like to make something, please contact Kallie Harris or Meghan Hagen and let them know what you will be bringing and for what date. Thank you!

Sporting Events: February 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>

Sundays at Church: January 28<sup>th</sup> – February 4<sup>th</sup>

**Attendance Last Sunday:** 179

**Giving Numbers:**

Budgeted: \$255,568

Received: \$254,143

**Stewardship Thought:** Mark 1:22 – "And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes." Authority is a word we are sometimes afraid of and don't like to hear. But that's just our sinful flesh talking. Jesus' authority is something we need. We need Him to show us what to believe and how to live, for Jesus' authority is always connected to his love.

### Schedule for January 28 – February 4

<b>Sun</b>	<b>9:00 am Divine Service (<i>Septuagesima</i>)</b> 10:20 – 11:20 am Adult Bible Study/Sunday School 5:00 pm FIRE
<b>Mon</b>	8:00 am Laborers of Love 5:30 pm School Board Meeting
<b>Tue</b>	6:30 am Men's Bible Study at Honey Bee Café 3:30 – 4:15 pm Youth Choir 4:00 pm Outreach Committee Meeting
<b>Wed</b>	8:30 am Chapel 6:00 – 7:30 pm Confirmation Class 7:00 – 8:30 pm Adult Choir
<b>Thurs</b>	10:00 am Bible Class 6:00 pm Volleyball Game vs ADSA 7:00 pm Men's Study in Windsor
<b>Sat</b>	5:00 -7:00 pm Soup-er Bowl Supper
<b>Sun</b>	<b>9:00 am Divine Service (<i>Sexagesima</i>)</b> 10:20 – 11:20 am Adult Bible Study/Sunday School

## Septuagesima and “Pre-Lent”

### *Terminology*

It's that time of year again where we have these strange names for the Sundays in worship. The names Septuagesima, Sexagesima, and Quinquagesima simply mean “seventieth,” “sixtieth,” and “fiftieth” in Latin, for these Sundays fall nearest the seventieth, sixtieth, and fiftieth days before Easter. This little three-Sunday season that occurs between Transfiguration and Ash Wednesday may be called *Gesimatide*, *Pre-Lent*, or simply *Septuagesima*. The roughly 70 days until Easter remind us of the 70-year exile of Israel under Babylonian rule.

### *History and Purpose*

The history of these Sundays in the Christian Church is very early, dating back to the mid-sixth century, and the season serves as a transition from the Epiphany season to Lent. Rather than plunging from the glorious Mount of Transfiguration straight into ashes, the Church has given us these two and a half weeks to gear up, as it were, for the austere Lenten journey that commences with Ash Wednesday.

### *Themes*

While these Sundays predate the Reformation by a millenium, many have noted that the themes of their appointed Gospels coincide nicely with the three *solas* of the Reformation. Septuagesima focuses on *sola gratia* (by grace alone) with the workers in the field (Matthew 20:1–16); Sexagesima on *sola Scriptura* (by Scripture alone) with the Parable of the Sower (Luke 8:4–15); and Quinquagesima on *sola fide* (by faith alone) with the Healing of the Blind Beggar. Look for these themes echoed in the other propers and hymns, as well.

### *Liturgical Changes*

With the shift in character that these Sundays bring come also liturgical changes. Beginning with Septuagesima, the *Alleluias* that are normally sung before the Gospel (or anywhere else) are omitted. As the Israelites hung up their harps in sorrow upon the willow trees of Babylon, so do we set aside these celestial songs until the Easter Triduum (hence the “farewells” to the Allelulia sung on Transfiguration Sunday). Historically, the *Gloria in Excelsis* was also omitted during *Gesimatide* and the colors of the paraments changed to violet, with the result that there was, in fact, very little liturgical difference between *Gesimatide* and Lent. To help mark the transition into Lent, we will wait until Lent itself to make those more noticeable changes.