

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

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February 26, 2023

First Sunday in Lent

Introduction to Worship

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

You can find the live stream at the following locations:

www.facebook.com/durhamlutheran

www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Welcome

Opening Hymn – *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* ELW #886

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy. Holy God,

C: we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life.

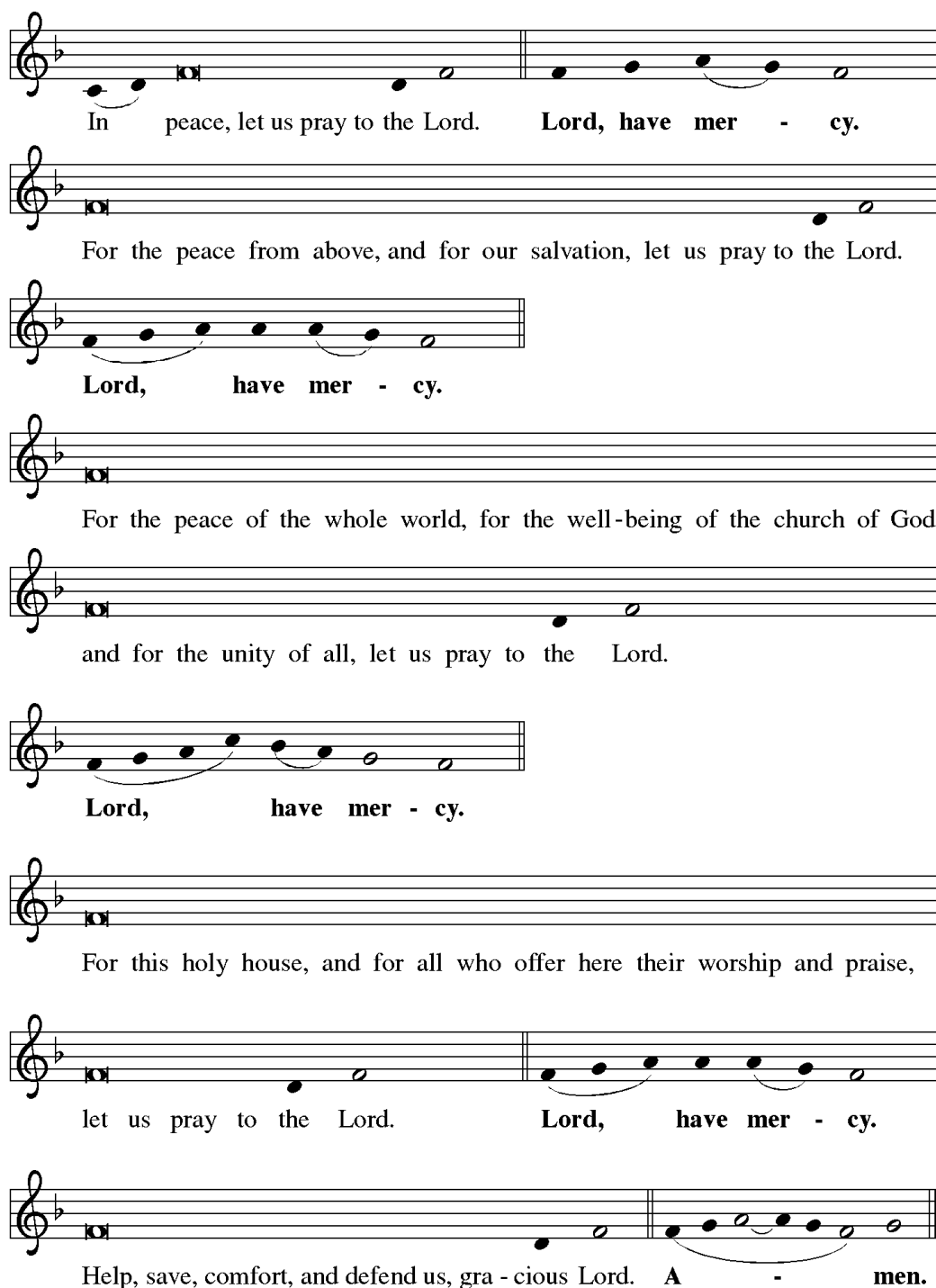
Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, ☩ forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: Amen.



Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray... Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

L: A reading from Genesis.

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Psalm: Psalm 32

Mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord. (Ps. 32:10)

L: ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

C: ²Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

L: ¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

C: ²Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!

L: ³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

C: ⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

L: ⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

C: ⁶**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

L: ⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

C: ⁸**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.**

L: ⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

C: ¹⁰**Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

L: ¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

L: A reading from Romans

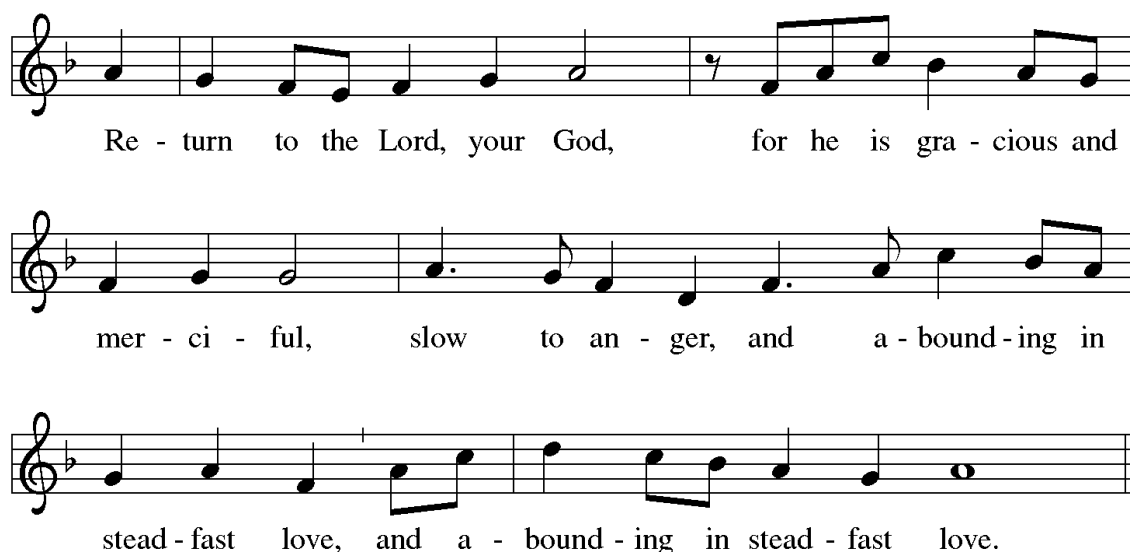
¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Gospel Acclamation (Please stand) ELW 142



The Holy Gospel - Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the seventeenth chapter:

C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

(Be seated after the gospel)

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn – *Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies*..... ELW #553

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation

A brief silence.

P: You alone are God. Sustain your church in times of wilderness. Give vision and wisdom to bishops, their staff, and all entrusted with the ministry of administration (especially). Counsel all who faithfully lead your people into the future. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: You create verdant gardens and expansive deserts. Tend to the needs of every living creature. Bless those who work in fields and orchards (local sources of food and food distributors may be named), that the world is nourished by the fruits of their labor. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: You know our temptations. Sustain those who govern and legislate. Instill in them a sense of your justice and righteousness, that equity and peace would pervade all the regions and nations of the world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: You are a hiding place for all in distress. Draw near to exiles, and accompany all refugees and immigrants, especially children who travel alone. In times of trouble, trauma, or illness, surround your people with your steadfast love (especially). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: You offer abundance to all. Bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Care for those who tend to the needs of others, especially worship greeters, (other ministries of care and hospitality may be named).. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: You alone are God. We praise you for the faithful departed in every age. Unite our prayers with theirs, until our wilderness journey is complete, and we rest in you. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Offertory Choir Anthem - *O Love, How Deep* by Richard Williamson

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Offertory - "Create in Me a Clean Heart" ELW #186

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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Offertory Prayer

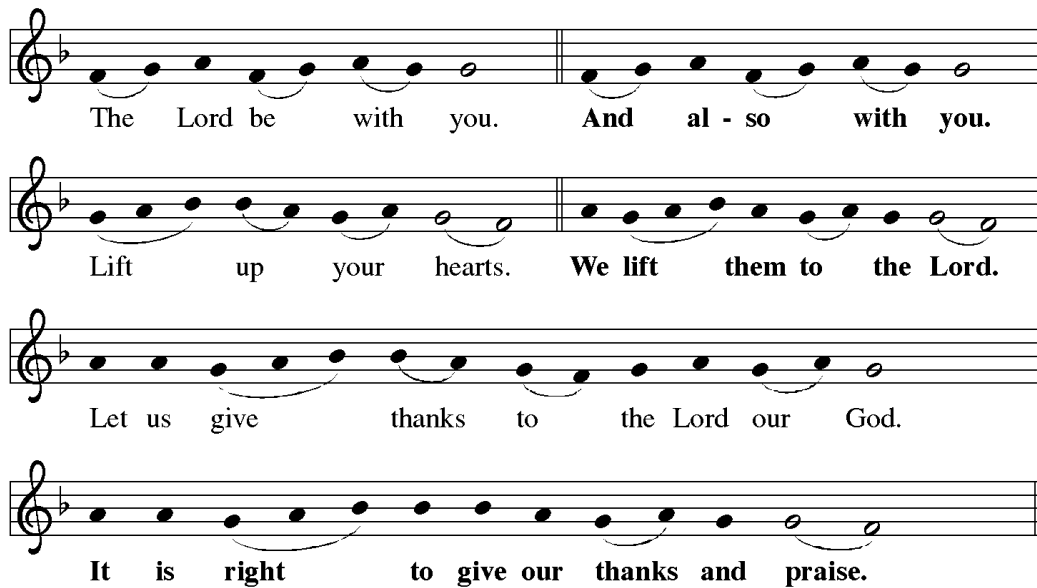
P: Let us pray. God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

C: Amen.



THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface (spoken by Pastor)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord” ELW P114

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a comma, the second with a period, the third with a period, and the fourth with a double bar line.

Eucharistic Prayer (said by Pastor)

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

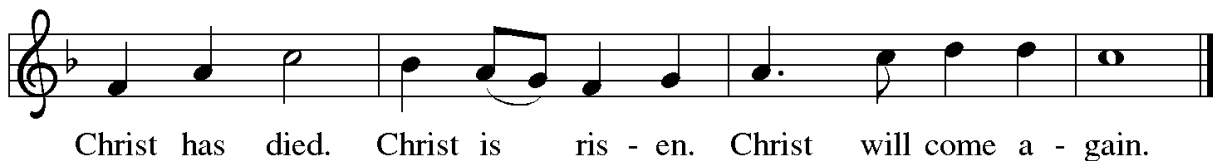
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

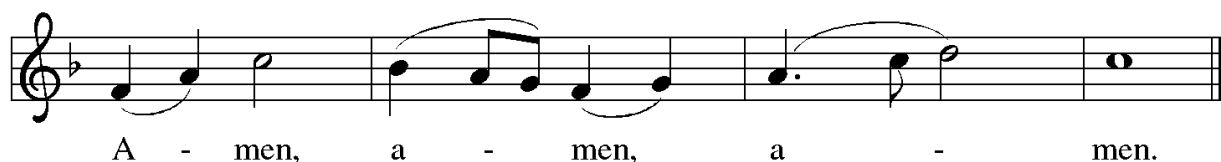
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

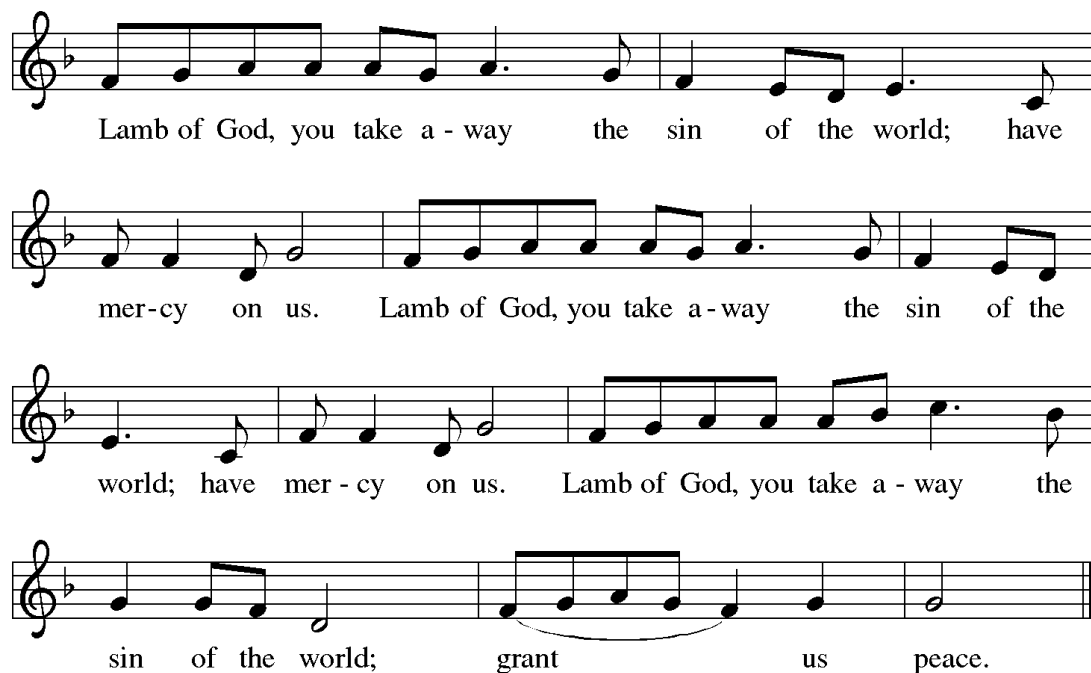
C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

P: Come and taste the joy of God.



"Lamb of God" ELW P 136



Hymn during Distribution - *Alas and Did my Saviour Bleed* ELW #337

Table Blessing (spoken by pastor – Congregation remain seated)

Prayer after Communion

P: Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

C: Amen.

Announcements



Sending Blessing

P: God, the giver of love, ✝ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

C: Amen.

Sending Song - *Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer* ELW #618

Dismissal.

P: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
BAPTISMS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARY

	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS
<i>February</i>			
26			Tom Gaun, Doug Litzenberger
27	Tanya Naska		
28	Grace Litzenberger, Rowan Froehlich		Nicole Crouse
29	Becky Harrison		
<i>March</i>			
1			Mike Rhine
2	Michael Altemus		
4	Amanda Harrison		

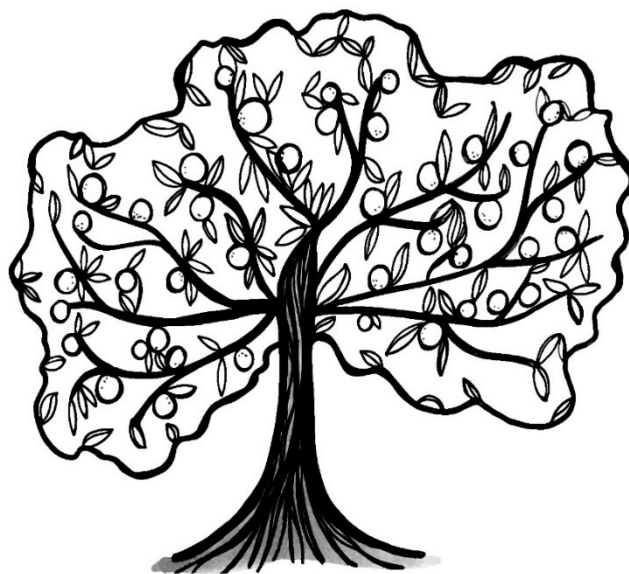
<u>THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES</u>		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Sunday February 26, 2023 First Sunday in Lent	9:30 AM 10:30 AM 5:00 PM	Adult Forum – Current events Worship Reverse Advent Calendar celebration dinner @ Trinity Pleasant Valley
Wednesday, March 1, 2023 Trinity Lutheran Church Pleasant Valley	1:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM	Bible study @ Hlavaty's Soup Supper Lenten devotions <i>Perseverance with Endurance</i>

<u>UPCOMING ACTIVITIES</u>		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Sunday, March 5, 2023 Second Sunday in Lent	9:30 AM 10:30 AM 2:00 PM	Adult Forum – Current events Worship Upper Bucks (Koinonia) Conference Annual Assembly

Wednesday, March 8, 2023 St. Peter's Riegelsville	1:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM	Bible study @ Hlavaty's Soup Supper Lenten devotions <i>Inheritance of Faith</i>
Sunday, March 12, 2023 Third Sunday in Lent <i>Daylight Savings - Spring Forward!</i>	9:30 AM 10:30 AM After Worship	Adult Forum – Current events Worship New Member Orientation
Wednesday, March 15, 2023 Upper Tinicum Upper Black Eddy	1:00 PM 5:30 PM 6:15 PM	Bible study @ Hlavaty's Soup Supper Lenten devotions <i>Faithful in Prayer</i>
Friday, March 17, 2023 Vegetable Soup Sale	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Soup Preparation Soup Sales

Chat & Chew – Pastor Jim will be available in the church office each Thursday at 12:30 PM for Chat & Chew. Bring a bag lunch and join the conversation!

February Outreach - The offering envelopes are being collected for the Allentown Rescue Mission (allentownrescuemission.org) homeless shelter. We are also collecting soup for local food banks. You can sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex to donate an Outreach Basket. You can either buy the supplies for the basket or Helen Dungan can shop for you.



Please lift up in prayer the following:



Keep in your
PRAYERS

For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Barbara Altemus; Michael Altemus; Esther Crouse; Joanne & David Antoni; Frank Erceg; Virginia Hager; George Kreitz; Joan Mammana; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Barbara Naska; Donnie Pyne; Ed Xander; and Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family:

Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Michael Barats; Anthony Beck; Aiden Benoure; Jason Bigley; Kelly Bordelon; Emma Brown; Ollie Butler; Melissa Carafa; Deb Carmichael; Stephanie Courtney; Miriam Deal; Rev. Dennis Durasoff; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Chris Fear; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Anna Gachev-Friedel; Debbie Gardner; Joann Gary; Candie Gimbar; Penni Griffith; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Lauren Keebler; Martine King; Cecelia Kukuchka; Chelsea Marley; Jim McAnally; Sean McNulty; Sue Odor; Lucia Otero; Debra Patten; Jennifer Phelps; Tom Ross; Connie Rugen; Linda Saunders; Lani Schlegel; Debbie Schultz; David Sebring; Alex Sempt; Shawn Stadt; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Nancy Vetter; and Henry Wong.

For those who are Homebound:

Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Betty Kreitz; Phyllis Lanshe; Jayne Miller; Silas Rodenbach; and Hal Taylor.

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Wanda Altemose; LaDonna Gibbs; Mary Ellen Jonczyk; Robert Newcomb; Lisa Pezzino; Donald Seipt; Linda Wilson

Helping in Worship

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman
Organist/Choir Director	Carolyn Williams
Acolyte	TBD
Altar	Mark Harwick & Bea von Watzdorf
Lector	Mark Harwick
Greeter(s)	Frank & Joan Mammana
Communion Usher	Mark Harwick
Council Counting Team	Barb Naska & Becky Praster
Administration & Technology	Ken Anderson
Custodian	Dianna Streletz

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE - MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

FEBRUARY 2023 [ELCA.org/disaster](https://elca.org/disaster)



On Feb. 6 two powerful earthquakes, one a magnitude 7.8 and the second a magnitude 7.5, hit Türkiye and significantly impacted neighboring Syria. The two quakes devastated both countries, killing thousands of people and collapsing thousands of buildings.


Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to supporting ACT Alliance and other partners in responding to the earthquakes. ACT Alliance member organizations are providing immediate aid; a comprehensive response will be coordinated as the full extent of the impact becomes clearer.

Gifts to “Middle East Crisis” will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the earthquakes and other disasters in the region. Together we can provide immediate and long-lasting support. Give today to support this response and others like it.

Yes, I want to help!

- Lutheran Disaster Response: Where needed most \$_____ DDG0010
- Lutheran Disaster Response: Middle East Crisis \$_____ IDG0038

Name	
Address	
City State ZIP code	
Email address	

 **ELCA** Give through your congregation or make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to: **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gifts Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009** and write “Where needed most” or “Middle East Crisis” on your check’s memo line.

Easter Flowers Order Form

The 2023 prices of Easter flowers are as follows:

Mums – random colors \$9
 Tulips – random colors \$9
 Lilies – white \$8
 Daffodils \$8

Name and Phone Number:

_____	X \$9	_____
# of Mums		Total \$ for Mums
_____	X \$9	_____
# of Tulips		Total \$ for Tulips
_____	X \$8	_____
# of Lilies		Total \$ for Lilies
_____	X \$8	_____
# of Daffodils		Total \$ for Daffodils
_____		_____
Total # of Plants		Total \$ for Order

In Honor or In Memory of:
(Please circle one)

Place your check and order form in the offering plate, or mail to Victoria Phillipps (100 Meadows Lane, Riegelsville 18077). The deadline to order flower is Sunday, April 2 (Palm Sunday). Any questions, contact Victoria .