

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

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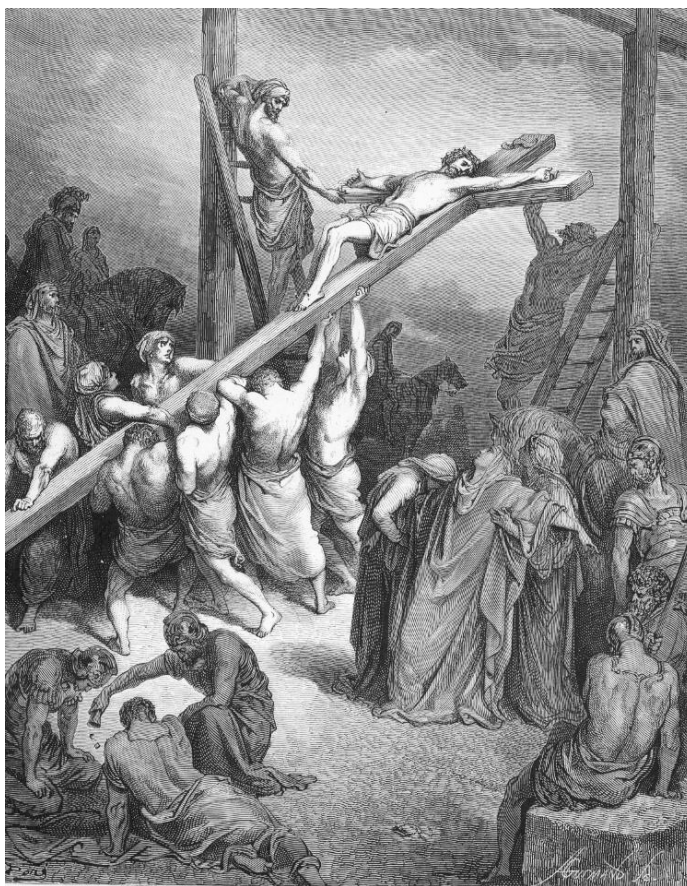
durhamlutheran.org

Rev. James Heckman, Pastor

Cell: 267-664-3160

March 10, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Lent



THE ERECTION OF THE CROSS

Introduction to Worship

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

You can find the live stream at the following locations:

www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Prelude: **Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross** - Crosby/Doane

GATHERING

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (Stand if you are able)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✠ Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Entrance Hymn: ELW 848

Give to Our God Immortal Praise!



1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and
2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and
3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of



truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to
dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to
kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er



God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through 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 – Numbers 21:4-9

Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

L: A reading from the twenty-first chapter of Numbers:

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

L: ¹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good for his steadfast love endures forever

C: ²Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble

L: ³and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south

C: ¹⁷Some were sick through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities endured affliction

L: ¹⁸they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death

C: ¹⁹Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress;

L: ²⁰he sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction

C: ²¹Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind

L: ²²And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.

A reading from the second chapter of Ephesians:

¹⁻⁶ It wasn't so long ago that you were mired in that old stagnant life of sin. You let the world, which doesn't know the first thing about living, tell you how to live. You filled your lungs with polluted unbelief, and then exhaled disobedience. We all did it, all of us doing what we felt like doing, when we felt like doing it, all of us in the same boat. It's a wonder God didn't lose his temper and do away with the whole lot of us. Instead, immense in mercy and with an incredible love, he embraced us. He took our sin-dead lives and made us alive in Christ. He did all this on his own, with no help from us! Then he picked us up and set us down in highest heaven in company with Jesus, our Messiah.

⁷⁻¹⁰ Now God has us where he wants us, with all the time in this world and the next to shower grace and kindness upon us in Christ Jesus. Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish! We don't play the major role. If we did, we'd probably go around bragging that we'd done the whole thing! No, we neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving. He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

Gospel Acclamation (*Please stand if you are able*)



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

The Gospel – John 3:14-21

To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the third chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you. O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)

Hymn of the Day: ELW 666

What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Apostles' Creed

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;**

he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;

**he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

P: Gracious God, your love unites. Give vision to the global church and foster cooperation in mission. Increase inter-religious understanding and ecumenical dialog. Make your church a sanctuary for all fleeing persecution, disaster, and war (areas in crisis may be named). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Creating God, your love enlivens. Restore balance to the earth's fragile habitats. Preserve wilderness lands, rainforests, and wildlife. Cleanse oceans and rivers (local water sources may be named). Make us good stewards of the earth. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Righteous God, your love liberates. We give thanks for those who courageously witness to your liberating love. Free all people from the evils of racism, religious strife, and hatred. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Merciful God, your love heals. Care tenderly for all whose loved ones perished from pandemic disease in every nation. Strengthen health care workers, first responders, and caregivers. Relieve all who live with chronic illness and pain. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Incarnate God, your love enlightens. Open our hearts and minds to fresh understandings of our faith. Deepen our love for you and for one another. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Abiding God, your love saves. Those who died in the faith are made alive in Christ. We give thanks for your promise that we also will be raised to newness of life. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: **Amen.**

OFFERING

Choir Anthem: ***Lord, For Thy Tender Mercies' Sake*** - K. Lee Scott

Presentation of the Gifts

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
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offering Prayer

P: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

C: **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

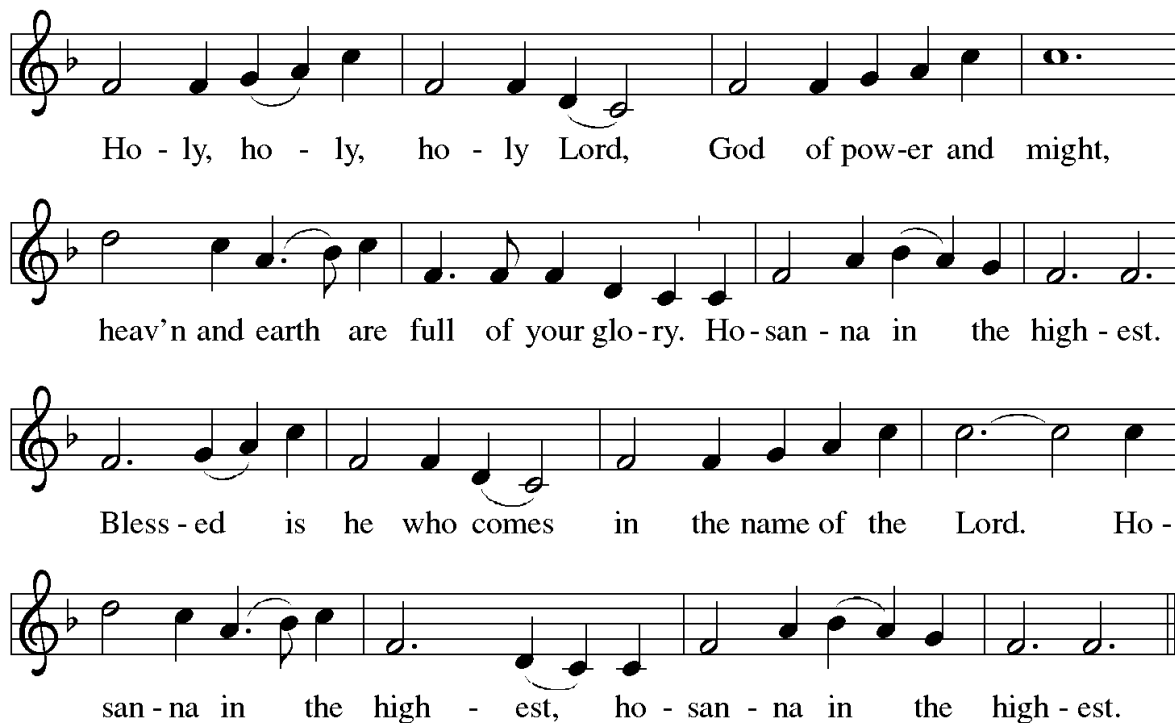
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface:

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

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.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

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: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine (please follow ushers)

Hymn during Communion: ELW 335

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

Prayer after Communion

P: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C: Amen.

Announcements

BLESSING

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: ELW 803

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Postlude: ***The Old Rugged Cross*** - Bennard/Cook

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

C: Thanks be to God.



The food basket is given in honor of Pat Zion's birthday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS			
March	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS
11	Brittany Froehlich, Ella Rose Michl		Suzane Maurer
15	Samantha Mueller		
THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES			
Sunday, March 10 Fourth Sunday in Lent	10:00 AM	Communion Worship	
	After Worship	Faith Conversations	
Monday, March 11	7:00 PM	Council Meeting	
Tuesday, March 12	7:00 PM	VBS Planning @ Trinity	
Wednesday, March 13	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM 12:00 PM 6:00 PM	Choir rehearsal. Care -A-Lot Visit Office Hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim Midweek Lenten Gathering - <i>Change of Heart</i> @Upper Tinicum	
Thursday, March 14	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's PALM Leaders meeting @ Trinity Pleasant Valley	
Friday, March 15	9:00 AM 12:00 PM 3:00 - 6:00 PM	Make Soup Potluck lunch Sell Cream of Broccoli soup	
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES			
Sunday, March 17 Fifth Sunday in Lent	10:00 AM	Communion Worship	
	5:00 PM	Confirmation class @ Durham	
Tuesday, March 19	4:00 PM	Building committee meeting	
Wednesday, March 20	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM 12:00 PM 6:00 PM	Choir rehearsal Care -A-Lot Visit Office Hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim	

		Midweek Lenten Gathering - <i>Change of Plans</i> @ St. Luke's, Ferndale
Thursday, March 21	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's
Friday, March 22	10:00 AM	WELCA @ Hlavaty's
Saturday, March 23	10:00 AM	Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, March 24 Palm / Passion Sunday	10:00 AM	Communion Worship
Wednesday, March 27	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM 12:00 PM 1:00 PM	Choir rehearsal Care -A-Lot Visit Office Hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim Seder meal preparation
Thursday, March 28	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Office hours No Adult Bible Study This week. Set up for Seder Meal Passover Seder meal in the Fellowship Hall Service of Holy Communion & Stripping of the Altar
Friday, March 29	7:00 PM	Good Friday Service @ Trinity
Sunday, March 31 The Resurrection of our Lord / Easter day	6:45 AM 8:30 AM 10:00 AM	Sunrise Communion Worship @ Sky Island, Upper Black Eddy Continental Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall Festival Communion service



For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Joanne & David Antoni; Brian Ashmore; Frank Erceg; Kenneth Hager; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Dot Peterman; Wes Simmons; Ed Xander; Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family:

Frank Allebach; Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Bob Benoure; Jason Bigley; Deb Carmichael; Jane Carr; Peggy Coleman; Stephanie Courtney; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Joe Erceg; Leon Errico; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Gabriella Froehlich; Debbie Gardner; Cindy Gilligan; Candie Gimbar; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Sue Kiry; Tim Koplin; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Sue Odor; Cindy Oswald; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Connie Rugen; Paul Sauter; Debbie Schultz; David Sebring; Laurel Sheetz; Shawn Stadt; Kay Stokes; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Annette von Watzdorf; Kelly Walsh; Jacqueline Ward; Regina Ward; Dean Erika Wesch; Henry Wong; Rostam Wong Chaffin and Scotty Yurconis.

For those who are Homebound:

Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Phyllis Lanshe; Frank Mammana; Jayne Miller; and Silas Rodenbach.

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Ronald Fox, Rev. Dennis Durasoff; Jean Pratt, Charles Reiman (Brittany Froelich and Dane Reiman's father)

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at:

prayerchain@durhamlutheran.org



The March Outreach envelope is for Achieve Now, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping children in Philadelphia learn to read. Achieve Now uses volunteers to work with children throughout the city to provide one-on-one tutoring to help them grow into readers.

Worship Assistants

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman
Organist / Choir Director	Carolyn Williams
Altar Guild	Miriam Anderson & Scott Gaun
Greeter(s)	Nancy Moskella
Acolyte	Landon Helfrich
Lector	Mary Crouse
Head / Communion Usher	
Council Counting Team	Dave Sauter & Ken Anderson
Administration & Technology	Ken Anderson
Custodian	Dianna Streletz



Easter Flowers Order Form

The 2024 prices of Easter flowers are as follows:

Mums – random colors	\$7
Tulips – random colors	\$6
Lilies – white	\$8
Daffodils	\$8



Name and Phone Number:		
_____	X \$7	_____
# of Mums		Total \$ for Mums
_____	X \$6	_____
# 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
<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor of or <input type="checkbox"/> In Memory of: (Please check 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, March 24 (Palm Sunday)*. Any questions, contact Victoria.

