

# *Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham*

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 ♦ 610-346-8500

[durhamlutheran.org](http://durhamlutheran.org)

Rev. James Heckman, Pastor

**March 17, 2024**

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**



*The Voice from Heaven.*

J. J. T.

## **Introduction to Worship**

*God promises Jeremiah that a “new covenant” will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God’s heart through Christ and draws God’s love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God’s love with all the world.*

You can find the live stream at the following locations:

**[www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran](https://www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran)**

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Prelude: ***What Wondrous Love is This*** - Southern Harmony

## 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 328

### Restore in Us, O God



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen-dor of your love; re -  
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from  
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -  
4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.  
fruit-less fear un - furl our lives like spring-time bud and flow'r.  
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.  
we, when all our search-ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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## Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in 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 – Jeremiah 31:31-34

*The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.*

L: A reading from the thirty-first chapter of Jeremiah:

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: Psalm 51:1-12

L: <sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**C: <sup>2</sup>Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.**

L: <sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

**C: <sup>4</sup>Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.**

L: <sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

**C: <sup>6</sup>You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

L: <sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**C: <sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

L: <sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

**C: <sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.**

L: <sup>11</sup>Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

C: <sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

### Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

*Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.*

A reading from the fifth chapter of Hebrews:

<sup>5</sup>Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

<sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup>and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

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



### The Gospel – John 12:20-33

*Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.*

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

C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell

you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup>“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you. O Christ.**

**Children’s Sermon / Sermon** (please be seated)

**Hymn of the Day: ELW 379**

## Now the Green Blade Rises

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,

wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,

love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;

love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

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## **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: God of the covenant, through the church you draw us into community. We give thanks for the means of grace around which we gather. Inspire writers, musicians, and artists whose creative gifts adorn our worship. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: God of all that exists, you lavish the earth with extravagant beauty. Preserve the rich and complex diversity of living things. Support local, national, and international efforts to protect the environment for future generations. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for any experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse in families and intimate relationships. Protect and comfort all who are vulnerable, especially those living in institutions. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: God of every time and place, you are with us. Support ministries of prayer and presence in this congregation. Move us to reach out to any who are homebound, lonely, grieving, in treatment, or ill. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: God of every time and place, you are with us. Support ministries of prayer and presence in this congregation (specific ministries may be named). Move us to reach out to any who are homebound, lonely, grieving, in treatment, or ill. 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: *Unfailing Love* - Karlsson/Wilson

## Presentation of the Gifts

### Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

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 lyrics are: '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.'

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.

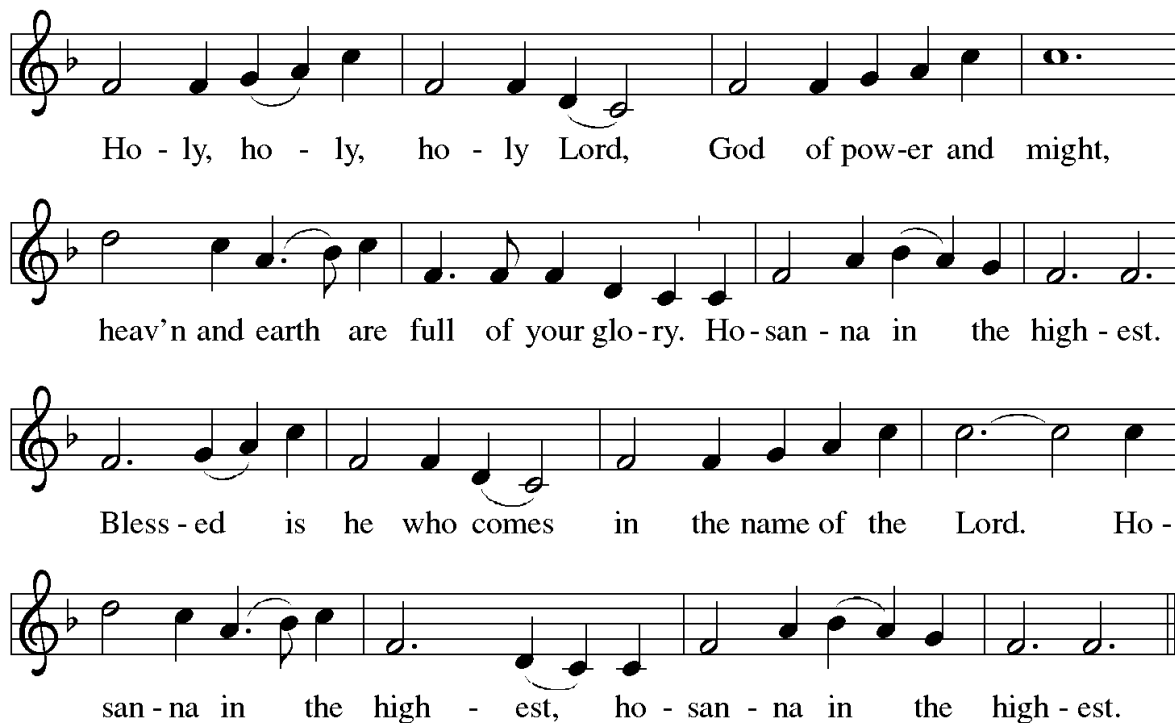
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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 465**

## As the Grains of Wheat



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres-ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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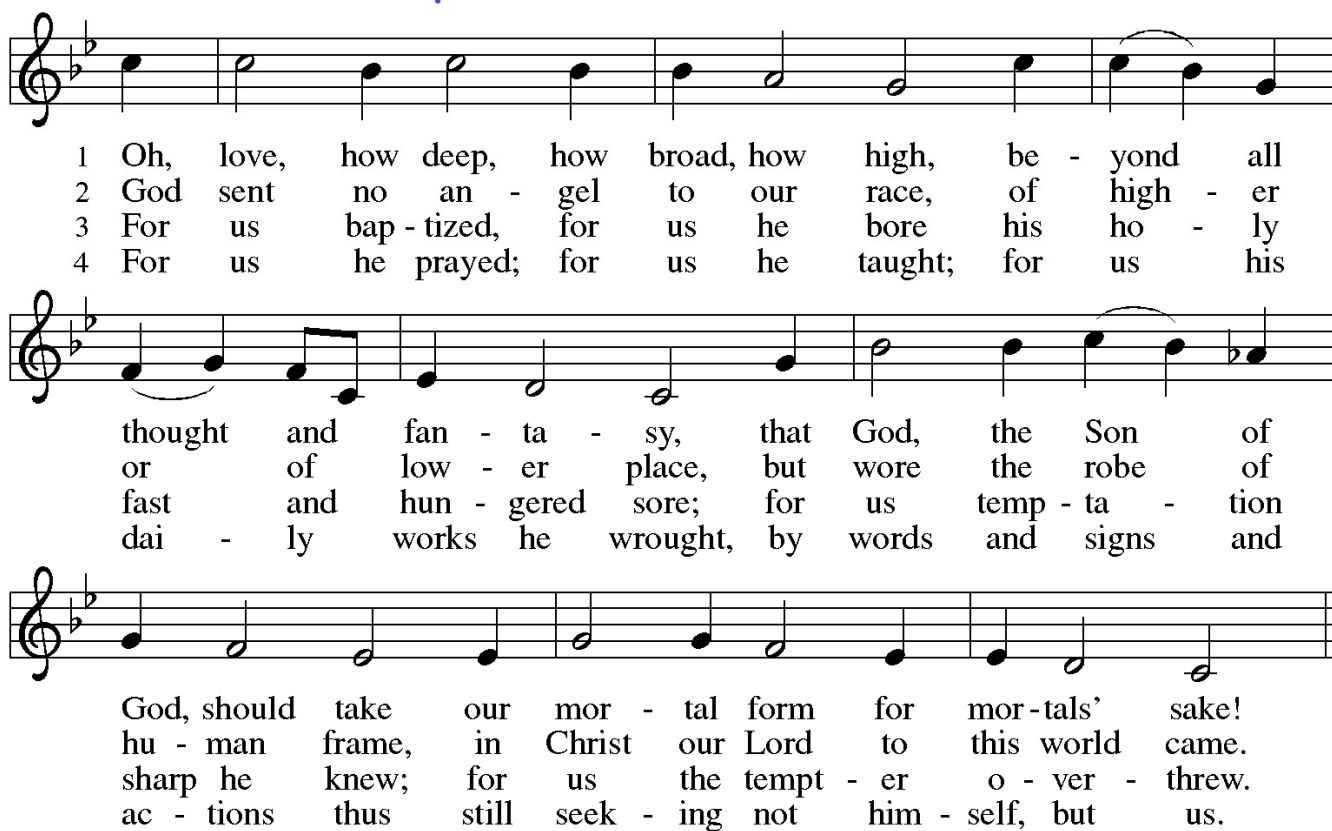
## Prayer after Communion

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.

Sending Song: ELW 322

## Oh, Love, How Deep



1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all  
2 God sent no an - gel to our race, of high - er  
3 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
4 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his  
thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of  
or of low - er place, but wore the robe of  
fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tion  
dai - ly works he wrought, by words and signs and  
God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!  
hu - man frame, in Christ our Lord to this world came.  
sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
ac - tions thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.

5 For us by wickedness betrayed,  
for us, in crown of thorns arrayed,  
he bore the shameful cross and death;  
for us he gave his dying breath.

Text: Thomas á Kempis, 1380–1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819–1885, alt.  
Music: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad, 15th cent.

## 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.

Postlude: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* - Baker/Dykes

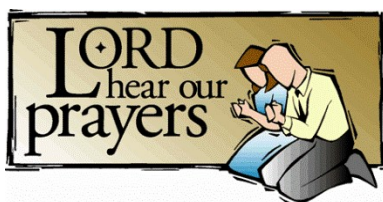
### Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS			
March	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS
17			Don Crouse
23			Rachael Roney
THIS WEEK’S 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 @ St. Luke's, Ferndale</i>	
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	
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES			
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 - 1:00 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 <b>5:00 PM</b>  7:00 PM	Office hours No Adult Bible Study This week. Set up for Seder Meal <b>Seder Supper / Service in the Fellowship Hall</b> <b>Service of Holy Communion &amp; Stripping of the Altar</b>
<b>Friday, March 29</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Good Friday Service @ Trinity</b>
<b>Sunday, March 31</b> The Resurrection of our Lord / Easter day	<b>6:45 AM</b>  8:30 AM  <b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Sunrise Communion Worship @ Sky Island, Upper Black Eddy</b> Continental Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall <b>Festival Communion Service</b>
Wednesday, April 3	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 12:00 PM	Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim
Thursday, April 4	10:00 AM - 11:00 PM 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Choir rehearsal Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's
<b>Sunday, April 7</b> Second Sunday of Easter	<b>10:00 AM</b> After worship 5:00 PM	<b>Communion Worship</b> Worship & Music Committee Confirmation @ St. Luke's



#### **For Healing of those in our Congregation:**

Joanne & David Antoni; Brian Ashmore; Frank Erceg; Joe 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; Stephen Bizon; Deb Carmichael; Jane Carr; Peggy Coleman; Stephanie Courtney; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; 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](mailto: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)	The Wagner Family
Acolyte	Colton Wagner
Lector	Kathryn Wagner
Head / Communion Usher	
Council Counting Team	Dave Sauter & Ken Anderson
Administration & Technology	Ken Anderson
Custodian	Dianna Streletz