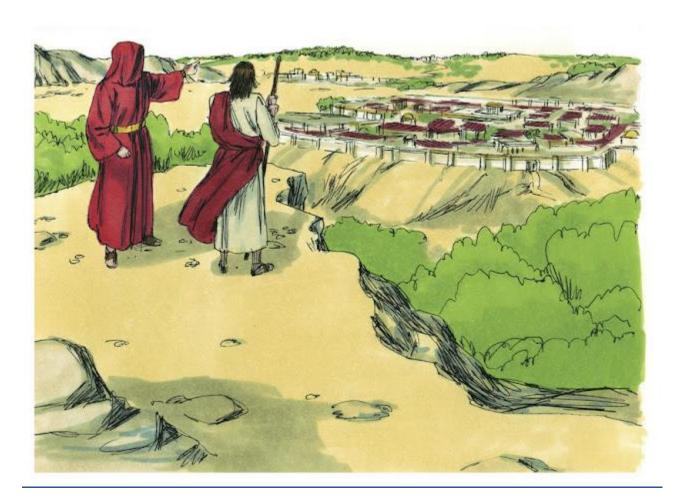
## Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

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

Reverend James Heckman, Pastor 267-664-3160 / pastor@durhamlutheran.org



# March 9, 2025 First Sunday in Lent

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares.

The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

You can find the live stream at the following location:

#### www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Prelude: "If You But Trust in God to Guide Thee"

Please take this time to silently reflect on the journey of Lent, praying for God to make our hearts clean.

#### **GATHERING**

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

#### **CONFESSION ANDS FORGIVENESS**

#### (Stand if you are able)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

#### C: Amen.

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

P: Compassionate One,

C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In + Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

#### C: Amen

#### **Gathering Hymn: ELW 333**

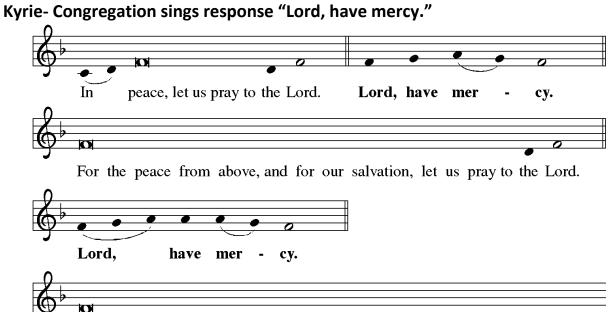
## Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land



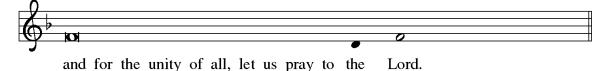
P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the community of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

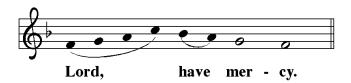
## C: And also with you

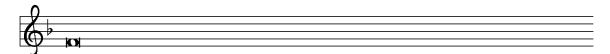




For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

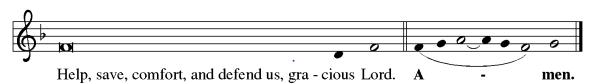






For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,





## **Prayer of the Day**

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, 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-Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.

L: A reading from the twenty-sixth chapter of Deuteronomy

<sup>1</sup>When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, <sup>2</sup> you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup> You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." 4When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, <sup>5</sup> you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. <sup>6</sup> When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, <sup>7</sup> we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; <sup>9</sup> and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup> So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. <sup>11</sup> Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## Psalm: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

- L: <sup>1</sup>You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—.
- C: <sup>2</sup> you will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust."
- L: <sup>9</sup> Because you have made the <sup>1</sup> Lord your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,
- C: 10 no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.
- L: <sup>11</sup> For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.
- C: 12 Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.
- L: <sup>13</sup> You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.
- C: <sup>14</sup> I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.
- L: <sup>15</sup> They will call me, and I will <sup>I</sup> answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.
- C: 16 With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

## Second Reading - Romans 10:8b-13

Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.

L: A reading from the tenth chapter of Romans.

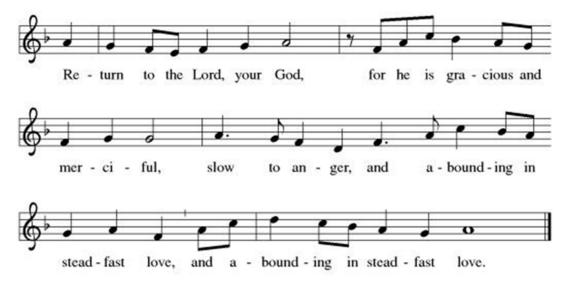
<sup>8b</sup> "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup> because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup> The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup> For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

- L: The Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.



## **Gospel Acclamation:**



## The Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called "the Son of God."

P: The holy gospel according to Luke, the fourth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: <sup>1</sup>Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup>And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

<sup>9</sup>Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,'11 and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' " <sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)

## Hymn of the Day: ELW 321

## Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church



Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931-2003

Music: OLD 124TH, Trente quatre pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551

Text © Thomas H. Cain. Used by permission of estate.

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## **Apostle's Creed**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

The pastor will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read the other prayer aloud as they feel called. The congregation may turn and face the aisle.

P: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

## A brief silence.

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. God, in your mercy,

#### C: Receive our prayer.

Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations. God, in your mercy,

## C: Receive our prayer.

Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and juries, presidents, and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. God, in your mercy,

## C: Receive our prayer.

Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share. God, in your mercy,

## C: Receive our prayer.

Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who are ill (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

## C: Receive our prayer.

Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life (*especially*). Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. God, in your mercy,

## C: Receive our prayer.

## Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

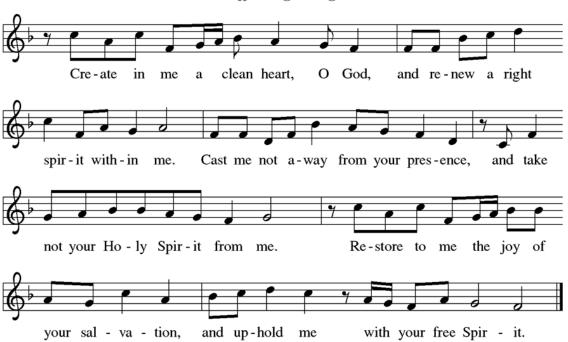
#### C: Amen.

#### **OFFERING**

Choir Anthem: "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" – Lloyd Larsen

#### PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

## Create in Me a Clean Heart Offering Song



Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## **Offering Prayer**

P: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

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.

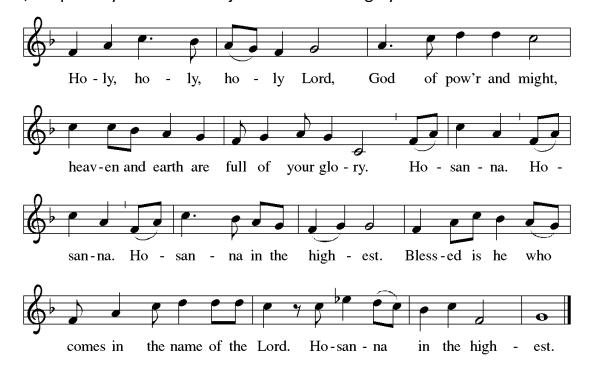
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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; who on this

day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE** (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.

## C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.

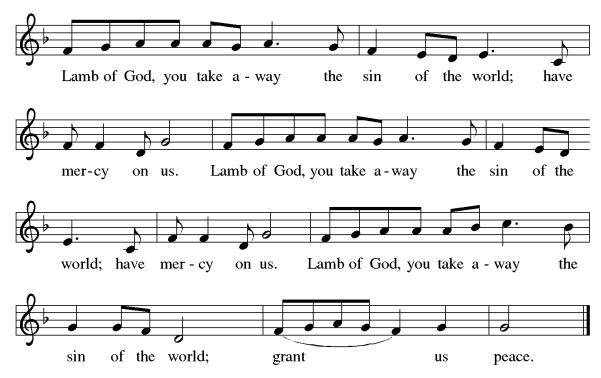
To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

#### C: Amen.

- 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: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.



**Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine** (please follow usher)



#### **SONG DURING COMMUNION: ELW 325**

#### I Want Jesus to Walk with Me



Text: African American spiritual Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

## **Prayer after Communion**

P: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### C: Amen.

#### **Announcements**

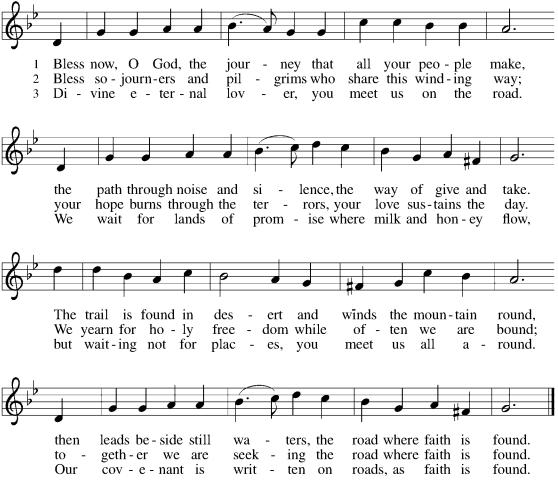
#### **BLESSING**

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ⊕ bless you now and forever.

#### C: Amen

#### Sending Song: ELW 326

## Bless Now, O God, the Journey



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent. Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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#### **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### Postlude:

Our Outreach envelopes for March will be given to Lutheran Disaster Relief.

<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>				
MARCH	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS	
9		Clayton & Darby Leichliter (3)		
10	Pat Zion			
11	Brittany Froehlich, Ella Rose Michl		Suzane Maurer	
15	Samantha Mueller			

Janiantia ivid	Circi		
	THIS WEEK'S	ACTIVITIES	
Sunday, March 9	9:15 AM	Adult Sunday school in the library	
First Sunday in Lent	10:00 AM	Communion Worship	
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME	2:00-4:00PM	Upper Bucks Conference Annual Assembly	
		at St Peters Hilltown	
Monday, March 10	1:00 PM- 3:00	Admin Office Hours	
,	PM		
Tuesday, March 11	7:00 PM	Council Meeting	
Wednesday, March 12	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Office Hours	
	10:00 AM	Mid-Week Choir Rehearsal	
	1:30 PM	Christian Education Meeting	
	6:00-7:30PM	Lenten Soup Supper St. Peters Riegelsville	
Thursday, March 13	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Office hours	
	12:00 PM	Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim	
	1:00 - 3:00 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's	
Friday, March 14	10:00 AM	WELCA Meeting	
	UPCOMING	ACTIVITIES	
Sunday, March 16	9:15 AM	Adult Sunday School in Library	
Second Sunday in Lent	10:00 AM	Communion Worship	
	5:00PM-7:00PM	Confirmation Class @ St Peters Riegelsville	
Monday, March 17	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours	
Tuesday, March 18	7:00 PM	Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting @Trinitiy	
Wednesday, March 19	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Office Hours	
	10:00 AM	Mid-Week Choir Rehearsal	
	6:00-7:30PM	Lenten Soup Supper at ELC Durham	
Thursday, March 20	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Office hours	
	12:00 PM	Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim	
	1:00 - 3:00 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's	
Sunday, March 23	9:15 AM	Adult Sunday school in the library	
Third Sunday in Lent	10:00 AM	Communion Worship	
Monday, March 24	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours	
Wednesday, March 26	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Office Hours	
	10:00 AM	Mid-week Choir Rehearsal	
	6:00-7:30PM	Lenten Soup Supper at Upper Tinicum	
Thursday, March 27	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Office hours	
	12:00 PM	Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim	
	1:00 - 3:00 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's	



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

David Antoni; Esther Crouse; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Joanne Ziegenfuss

#### For Healing of Friends and Family:

Frank Allebach; Phyllis Allebach; Bob Benoure; Jason Bigley; Stephen Bizon; Clay Butler; Doris Calverley; Deb Carmichael; Jane Carr; Peggy Coleman; Stephanie Courtney; Dan Crooke; David Davis; Nancy Davis; Nancy Edelen; Carol and Leon Errico; Gabriella

Froehlich; Barbara Foster; Debbie Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Baree Lee Goodman; Jason Gourley; Rev. Bradley Gow; Penni Griffith; Andrew Hales; Krista Heyer; Penny Houck; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Tim Koplin; Mary Lily; Jim McAnally; Charleigh McCade; Letitia McCrea; Connor McDevitt; Patrick McNaulty; Stacy Mechum; Nancy Morris; Sue Odor; Lucia Otero; Leslie Patience; Jennifer Phelps; Lisa Ridge; Adrienne Rozzi; Connie Rugen; Tammy Sassman; Paul Sauter; Laurel Sheetz; Holly Snyder; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Joe V.; Kelly Walsh; Jacqueline Ward; Dean Erika Wesch; Henry Wong; Wayne Yeisley; Barbara Yob.

#### For those who are Homebound:

James Altemose; Cleo Eck; Jayne Miller.

#### For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Fred Foerster; Norma Fox ;Kenneth Hager; Frank Mammana; Silas Rodenbach; Bart Shaw; Ed Xander and Bobby Ziegenfuss

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: <a href="mailto:joanmammana@icloud.com">joanmammana@icloud.com</a>

#### **Worship Assistants**

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman	
Organist/Choir Director	Carolyn Williams	
Altar Guild	Miriam Anderson and Nancy Moskella	
Greeter(s)		
Acolyte	Josephine Williams	
Lector	Linda Sauter	
Head / Communion Usher	Ben Williams (with help)	
Council Communion	Dealers' choice	
Counting Team	Becky Praster, Cathy Mueller and Dave Sauter	
Technology & Livestreaming	Ken Anderson	
Administrative	Kathryn Wagner	
Custodian	Dianna Streletz	



Food bank requests: Spaghetti , pancake mix, 15oz cans of Chicken Noodle and Cream of Mushroom soup, Stewed tomatoes and whole tomatoes

Any Donations are appreciated! Helen and Miriam dropped off 103.6lbs of food to the Lord's Pantry and 95.8 lbs. to Project Easton last week! Thank you and keep up the good work!