

**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT - Sunday, March 12, 2023**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

+ *Please stand as you are able.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.** Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Holy God, 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.**

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. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN:** *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* (next page)

## I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



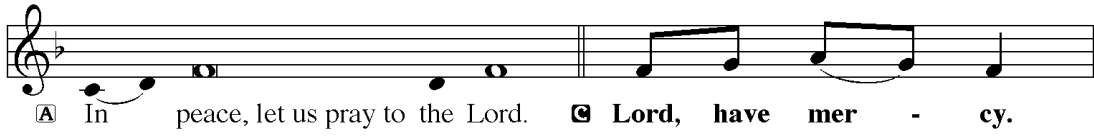
I found in him a rest - ing - place, and he has made me glad.  
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav - 'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889  
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

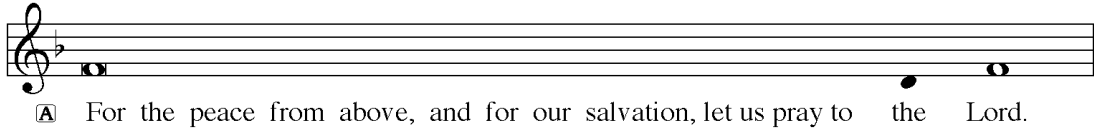
### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

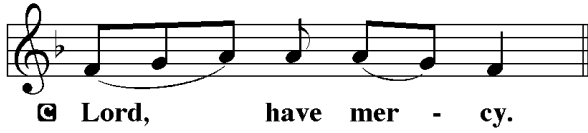
# KYRIE



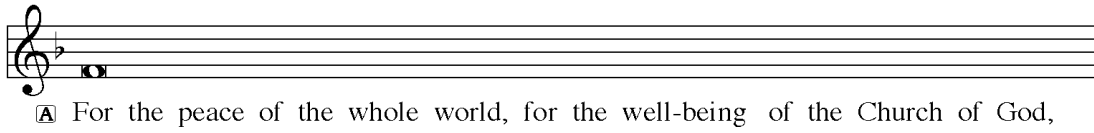
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



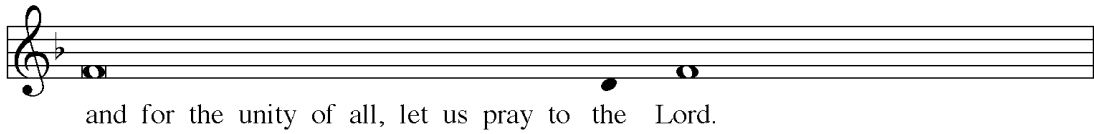
**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



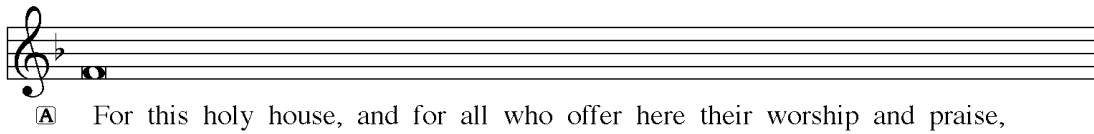
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



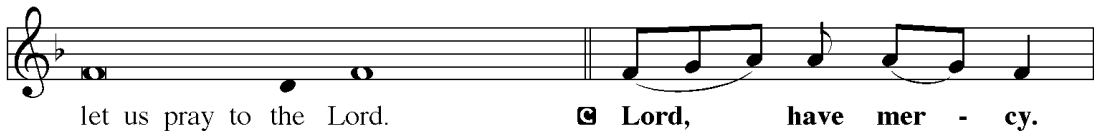
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



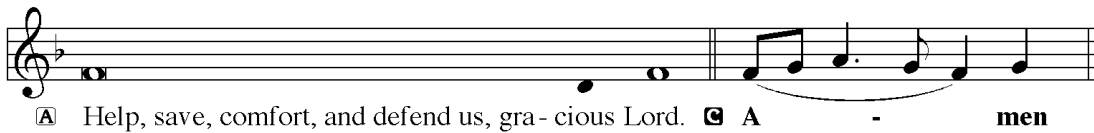
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



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

## HYMN OF PRAISE



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



**B** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+ *Please be seated*

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** *Blessed Redeemer*

## **FIRST READING: Exodus 17: 1-7**

The First Reading is from the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter of Exodus.

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord.     **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 95** (Please read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

<sup>2</sup>**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup>For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

<sup>4</sup>**In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

<sup>5</sup>The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

<sup>6</sup>**Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker.**

<sup>7</sup>For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

<sup>8</sup>**"Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

<sup>9</sup>There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

<sup>10</sup>**"Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, 'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'**

<sup>11</sup>Indeed I swore in my anger, 'They shall never come to my rest.'"

## **SECOND READING: Romans 5: 1-11**

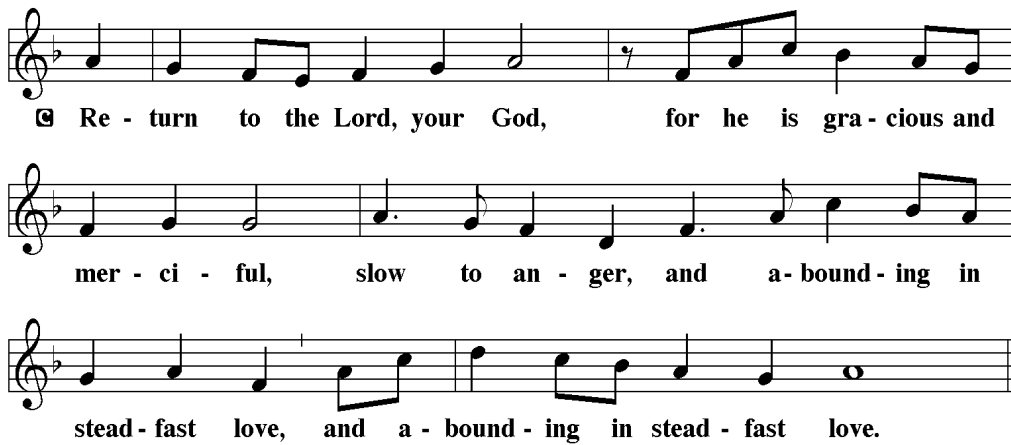
The Second Reading is from the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans.

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. <sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

+ *Please stand as you are able.*

### LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### GOSPEL: John 4: 5-42

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>5</sup>[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.<sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.<sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."<sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)<sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)<sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."<sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"<sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"<sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."<sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."<sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband';<sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"<sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."<sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."<sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.<sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.<sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.<sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."<sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."<sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"<sup>28</sup>Then the woman left her water jar and went back

to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup>“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” <sup>30</sup>They left the city and were on their way to him. <sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” <sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup>The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord.           **Praise to you, O Christ.**

+ *Please be seated. Children are invited to come forward for time with the Pastor.*

## **CHILDRENS' SERMON**

### **THE SERMON**

+ *Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Just as I Am, Without One Plea*           **LBW # 296**

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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.**

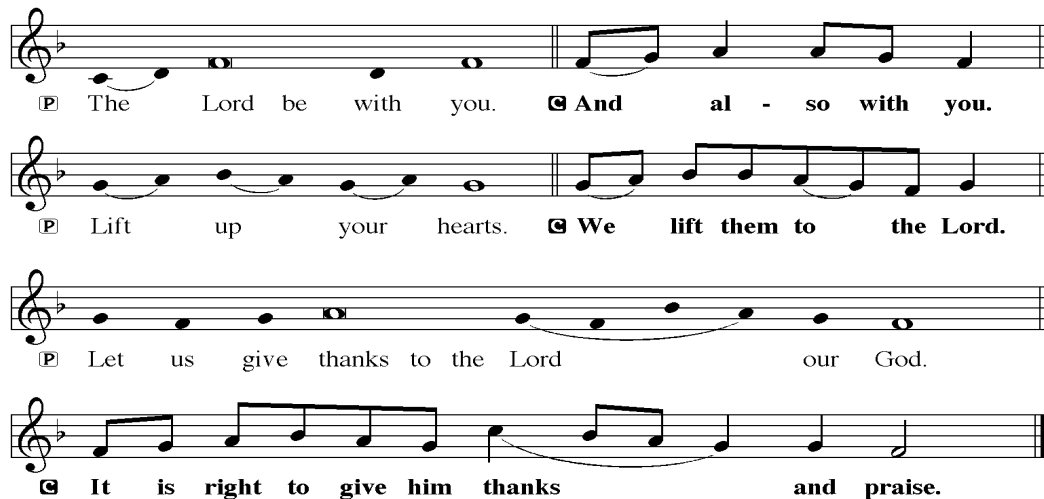
**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**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 THE PEOPLE

*Response:* Merciful God, receive our prayer.

### DIALOGUE



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

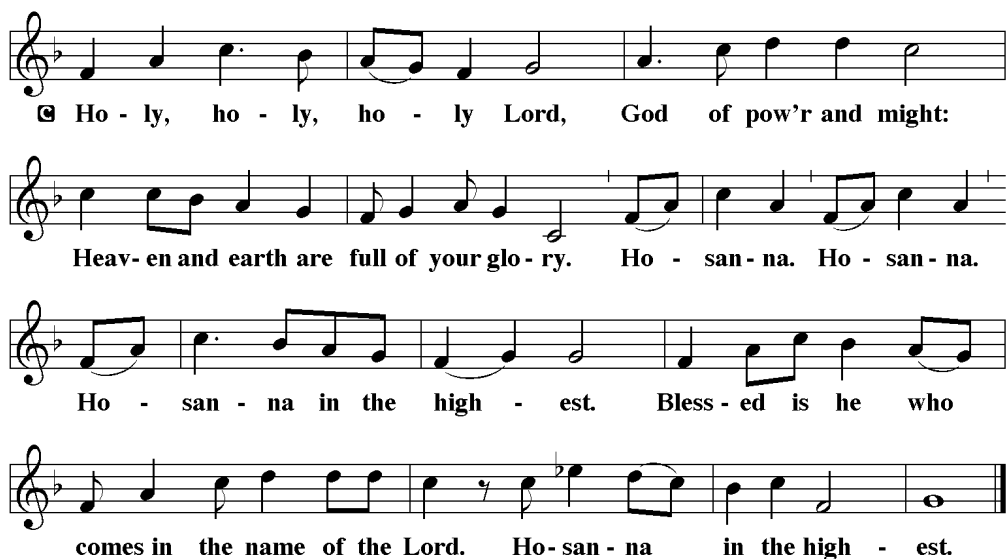
☐ Lift up your hearts. ☑ We lift them to the Lord.

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

### PREFACE

#### HOLY. HOLY, HOLY



☑ 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.

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.



## LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

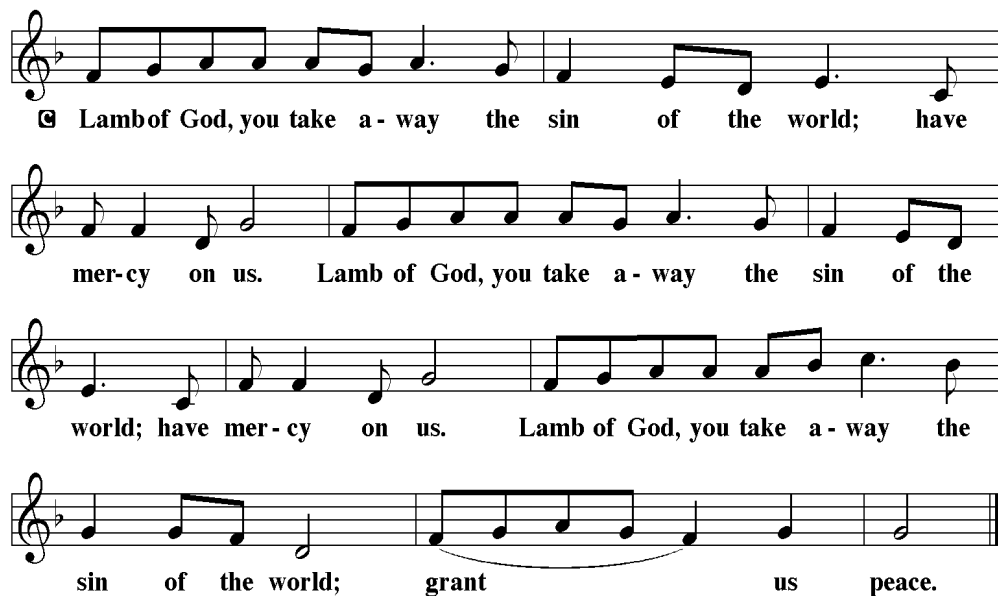
**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

+ *Please be seated.*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

## LAMB OF GOD



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## COMMUNION

*All baptized children of God are welcome at the Lord's Table, when we celebrate and receive the true presence of Jesus Christ in the bread and fruit of the vine.*

*Communion will be received in a continuous line. Come forward, forming a line down the center aisle. Stop at the end of the aisle, receive your bread, empty cup, and wine.*

*Grape juice is available in the pre-poured cups in the middle of the tray.*

*There is no need to hurry through Communion. Please take as much time as you wish for prayer and reflection.*

*If you are more comfortable remaining in your seat for Communion, individual bags containing Communion elements are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. For those with mobility issues, the Pastor can bring Communion to you at your seat.*

*As the bread and wine/grape juice are given, the following is said:*

The body of Christ, given for you.                      The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*Each person may respond **Amen**. As you receive the bread and wine/grape juice, saying “Amen” means “Yes, truly, it is so: this is the body and blood of Jesus, given for me.”*

*After you have received Communion, please place your empty cup in the bowl, then return to your seat.*

*After all have received Communion, the Pastor will ask the congregation to stand, then give a blessing, ending with the following words:*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. **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. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

God, the giver of love, ✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG:** *Guide Me, Ever, Great Redeemer*                      **LBW # 343**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may contact Pastor Stina at any time by email: [stinaschaeffer@gmail.com](mailto:stinaschaeffer@gmail.com) or phone: 570-374-9544.

**Communion:** If you prefer to remain in your seat, or have mobility issues, the Pastor will be happy to bring Communion to you at your seat.

**Offerings:** For your convenience, offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary to receive your offerings as you enter.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY!** Following the Worship Service, there will be a Congregational Meeting to vote on the proposed picnic grove renovation and improvement project. Please plan to attend.



**SANDWICH PICK-UP TODAY!** If you ordered sandwiches, please pick them up in the basement following the Worship Service. If you have not already done so, please pay for your sandwiches when you pick them up. They are \$5 each. Thank You to everyone who purchased and/or sold sandwiches! **Special Thanks** to Jess Moyer & Kelli Tyler for organizing the fundraiser and also to those who helped prepare sandwiches or helped in any way.

Reading today's lessons is Emma Moyer.

Choir Practice will be at 6:00 pm tonight.

***SIGHT & SOUND!*** **TODAY is the deadline** to pay for your tickets for our trip to *Sight & Sound*. The cost is \$135 per ticket and this includes your "Moses" ticket, bus, gratuity for the driver and lunch at 'Shady Maple'. Checks can be made payable to Milton Lutheran Church Please contact Brenda Stranko to sign-up and/or pay for your ticket(s). On **Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**, we will depart from Salem Lutheran Church at **8:30 am** and return is estimated to be 6:00 pm.

**SACC Easter Food Baskets** - Do you know a family in need who would benefit from a Food Basket? If so, please contact Judy Kuhn (570-374-4144 or [jkuhn@ptd.net](mailto:jkuhn@ptd.net)) **by NEXT SUNDAY, March 19<sup>th</sup>**. The information needed is: name, address, phone number, how many adults and how many children in the family, and ages of the children.



**"LUNCH & LEARN"** has been a big hit! We will gather every Wednesday throughout Lent to enjoy a lunch of soup and bread, followed by Bible Study. **Everyone is welcome!** This is not just for Salem folks, so invite family, friends and neighbors! The studies are not continuous, so if you cannot come every Wednesday, you will not miss out. Come when, and as often, as you can!  
**The next "Lunch & Learn" is THIS Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.**

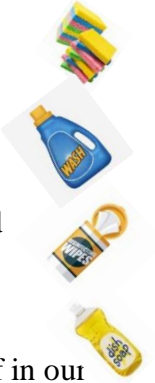
There are **NO** Prayer Meetings during Lent.



**SALEM DIRECTORY:** If you have any changes to the Directory – name, address, phone number, email address, or want to add a phone number – please contact Jane Korbar (570-374-1016 or [jkorbar@verizon.net](mailto:jkorbar@verizon.net)) or Linda Maurer (570-374-0339 or [lmaurer56@outlook.com](mailto:lmaurer56@outlook.com)) by March 26<sup>th</sup>. If you are not a member of Salem Church but attend often, please contact us and we will be happy to include you.

## 2023 LENT PROJECT!

This year during the season of Lent, we will be working with Zion Lutheran Church in Kratzerville to support the “DIG Furniture Bank”. You can visit their website at: [www.digfb.org](http://www.digfb.org) to learn more information about their mission. We will be collecting items to support their ‘housewarming baskets’. The items we are collecting are: **Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Sponges and Disinfecting Wipes or Sprays**. You can also make a monetary contribution by placing your donation in an envelope marked “DIG” and putting it in the offering plate.



This will be a friendly competition between the Zion and Salem Congregations! The real winner will be “DIG” and the families they support! Please bring your items to Salem **before Easter** and drop them off in our **designated collection area - the “Choir Loft”!**

To celebrate our “friendly competition”, the congregation who collects the **LEAST** amount of items **will host the other Congregation for lunch on April 23<sup>rd</sup>** ! Together we can learn more about “DIG” as an organization and enjoy time together.



Remember to continue to support our College Students and those in the Military. Cards of encouragement and gift cards are sent to them to let them know their Salem Family is praying for and thinking about them. Donation cans are always available on the back table and on top of the sound system. If you have questions, please ask Linda Carl ([dwarfgrumpy@yahoo.com](mailto:dwarfgrumpy@yahoo.com) or 570-556-8451). **Thank You** to all who continue to contribute.



The Reader’s sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Please stop by and sign-up to read the Sunday lessons. Readers are always needed and much appreciated. New upcoming Lessons have been posted for your convenience.

The 2023 Altar Flower Chart is hanging in the vestibule. Choose a Sunday, sign-up to provide altar flowers. If they are for a special occasion or in memory of someone, please contact the Secretary so it can be noted in the bulletin.



**ATTENTION YOUTH!** The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Easter Sunday, **April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am**. All youth ages up to 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend. Bring your basket or bag and see how many eggs YOU can find!

**Salem Grove Trivia:** In 1951, an agreement was made between the Commonwealth of PA and the Board of Directors by a special act #358 of the legislature. A trade was made to give 2-acres to the Commonwealth in exchange for the 2-acres in the picnic grove. After the church owned the land, the present building was constructed with free labor.

*(Special Thanks to Shirley Musser for providing the information.)*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 12 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am  
Holy Communion Worship – 10:30 am  
Congregational Meeting – following Worship  
Sandwich Order Pick-Up – following Worship

Monday, March 13 – Council Meeting – 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 15 – “Lunch & Learn” – 12:30 pm in the church basement

Sunday, March 19 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am  
Holy Communion Worship – 10:30 am

Wednesday, March 22 – “Lunch & Learn” – 12:30 pm in the church basement

Sunday, March 26 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am  
Holy Communion Worship – 10:30 am

Wednesday, March 29 – “Lunch & Learn” – 12:30 pm in the church basement



### **Mark your calendars for our Holy Week and Easter Worship Services and Events:**

Palm Sunday, April 2 – Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am  
Holy Communion Worship – 10:30 am  
“Family Ministry” – following Worship

Wednesday, April 5 – WELCA Ladies’ Meeting – 7:00 pm

Thursday, April 6 – Maundy Thursday Worship – 7:00 pm in the sanctuary

Friday, April 7 – Good Friday Worship – 7:00 pm in the sanctuary

Easter Sunday, April 9 – Sunrise Service w/Holy Communion – 6:45 am

Easter Ham & Egg Breakfast – 7:30 am

Youth Easter Egg Hunt – 9:00 am

Adult Sunday School – 9:30 am

Holy Communion Worship – 10:30 am