

**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT  
SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2013**

**\*PLEASE OBSERVE SILENCE AS WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

Pre-Service Voluntary:

*“Prelude and Fugue in E Minor”*

– J. S. Bach

Welcome / Announcements

**† WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP †**

Prelude: Variation on *“Beach Spring”*

- D. Cherwien

*“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”*

*A brief silence is observed.*

**† GATHERING †**

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

**Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**\*THE GATHERING SONG:**

**Hymn #777:** *“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”*

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

P: In the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*\*Please stand if you are able*

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (a brief silence is observed)

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin  
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and  
deed,**

**by what we have done**

**and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**

**so that we may delight in your will**

**and walk in your ways,**

**to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

P: Almighty God, who is rich in mercy, loved us  
even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive.

You have been saved by grace.

In the name of † Jesus Christ,

your sins are forgiven.

May Almighty God

strengthen you with power

through the Holy Spirit,

and may Christ live in your hearts

through faith.

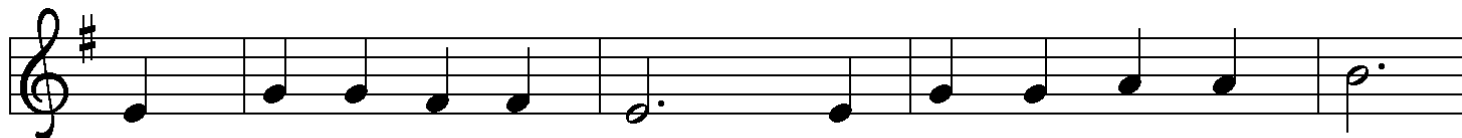
**C: Amen.**

## GREETING

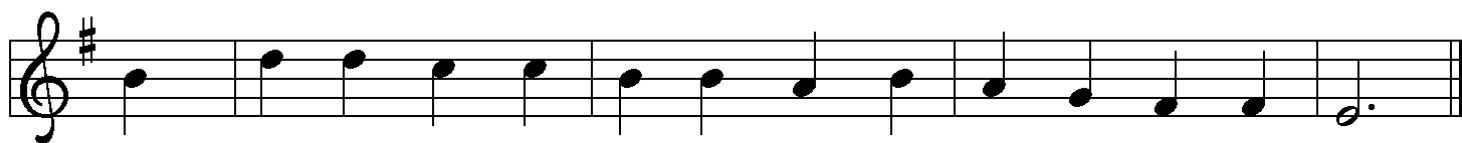
**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** And also with you.

## THE KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## \*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Let us pray.

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## † GOD'S WORD †

### THE FIRST READING

**Isaiah 55:1–9**

**L:** A reading from Isaiah the 55<sup>th</sup> chapter.

*To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to the Lord will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.*

Ho, everyone who thirsts,

come to the waters;

and you that have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

<sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

<sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me;

listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

<sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.

<sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know,

and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,

for he has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while he may be found,

call upon him while he is near;

<sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way,

and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways

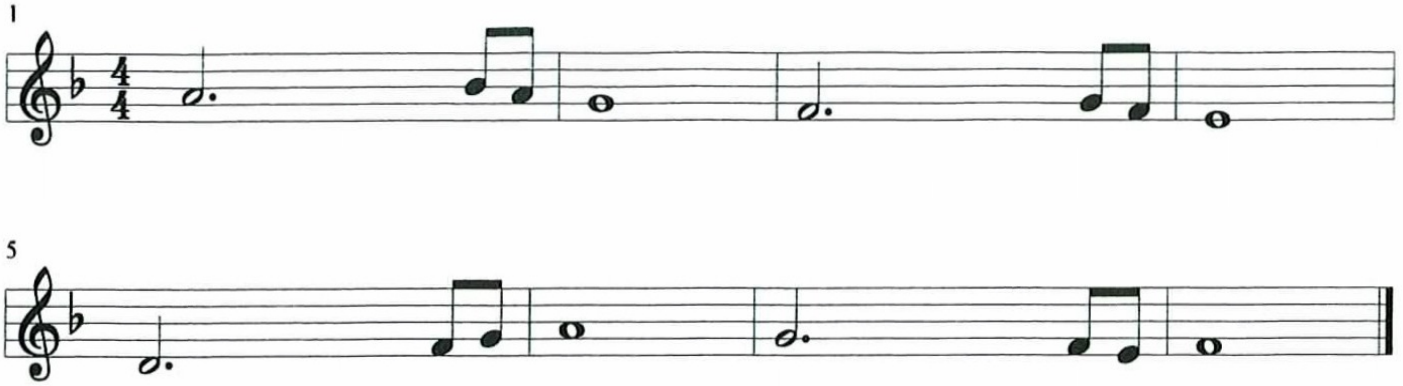
and my thoughts than your thoughts.\

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALMODY

Psalm 63:1–8



<sup>1</sup>O God, you are my God; eager- | ly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and  
weary land where there | is no water.

<sup>2</sup>Therefore I have gazed upon you in your | holy place,  
that I might behold your power | and your glory.

**<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is better than | life itself;  
my lips shall | give you praise.**

**<sup>4</sup>So will I bless you as long | as I live  
and lift up my hands | in your name.**

<sup>5</sup>My spirit is content, as with the rich- | est of foods,  
and my mouth praises you with | joyful lips,

<sup>6</sup>when I remember you up- | on my bed,  
and meditate on you in | the night watches.

**<sup>7</sup>For you have | been my helper,  
and under the shadow of your wings I | will rejoice.**

**<sup>8</sup>My whole being | clings to you;  
your right hand | holds me fast.**

## PSALM RESPONSORY:

*"The Lord Is A Mighty God"*  
Chancel Choir

- F. Mendelssohn

## THE SECOND READING

**1 Corinthians 10:1–13**

L: A reading from 1 Corinthians the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

*Paul uses images from Hebrew story and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.*

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup>And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup>These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup>So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup>No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**\*LENTEN VERSE**



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 HOLY GOSPEL**

**Luke 13:1–9**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.** (spoken)

*Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.*

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them — do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' <sup>8</sup>He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.** (spoken)

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**

Page 227

**BAPTISMAL HYMN #781:** "Children of the Heavenly Father"

**SERMON:** "The Spiritual Rock In the Wilderness"

**HYMN OF THE DAY: #624:** "Jesus, Still Lead On"

## † WE OFFER TO GOD †

\*P: Returning to the Lord with all our heart, let us pray for the whole people of God, the earth, and all who cry out for healing.

*A brief silence.*

P: Cultivate in the church a spirit of repentance, that we may bear the fruits of faith, mercy, and compassion. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Turn the nations from violence and bloodshed to genuine concern for the common good, and care for the earth we inhabit. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Bless our Jewish sisters and brothers, fellow heirs of God's promises, even as we confess to them our sins and past failures. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Nurture the faith of those tested by illness, grief, addiction, or anxiety (*especially*) and give them a spirit of endurance. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Sustain us in our Lenten journey with spiritual food and drink, that we may bring forth the fruit of conversion. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: Gather us around the tree of life in the garden of paradise with all our holy ancestors who trusted in your covenant of mercy. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Hear us according to your steadfast love, O God, and in your great compassion bring us to resurrection and rebirth in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**



## \*THE PEACE

***(UNTIL THE THREAT OF THE FLU DIMINISHES PLEASE GREET ONE ANOTHER BUT REFRAIN FROM SHAKING HANDS!)***

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**P:** The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

## OFFERING

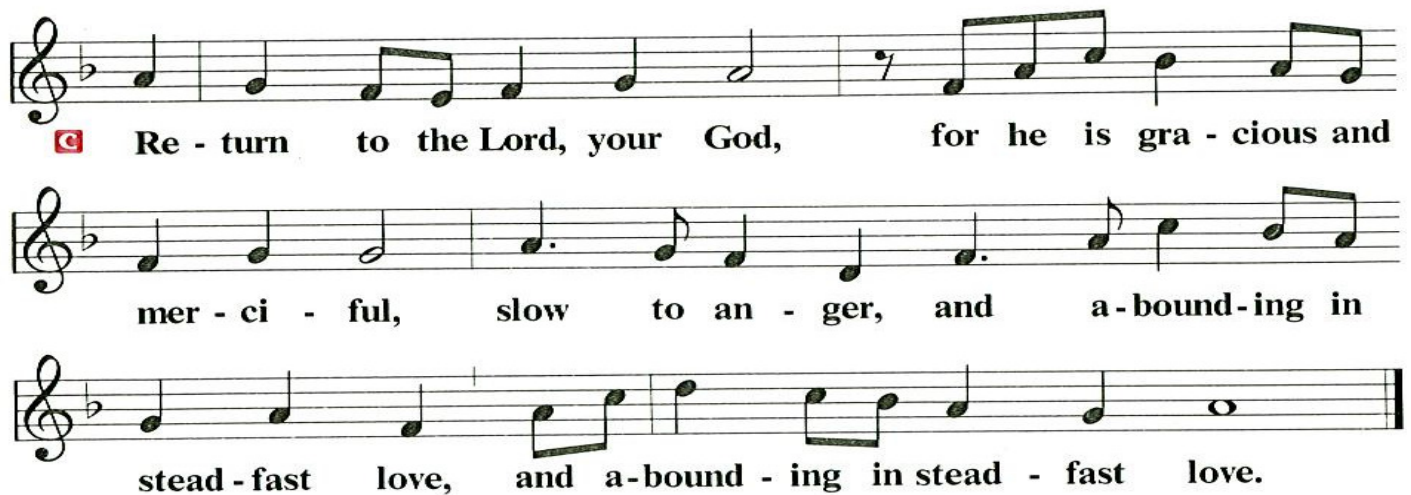
### ORGAN OFFERTORY:

Variation on "Seelenbrautigam"

- G. Young

Tune of Hymn of the Day

## \*OFFERING HYMN



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.

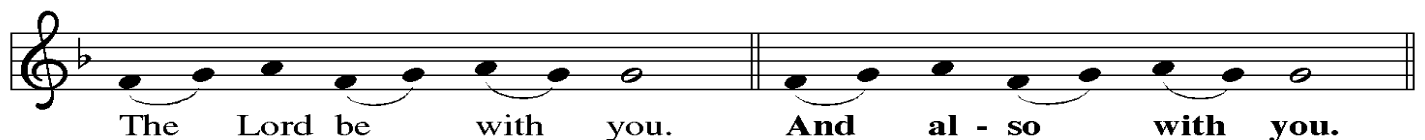
## \*OFFERING PRAYER

**P:** Let us pray.

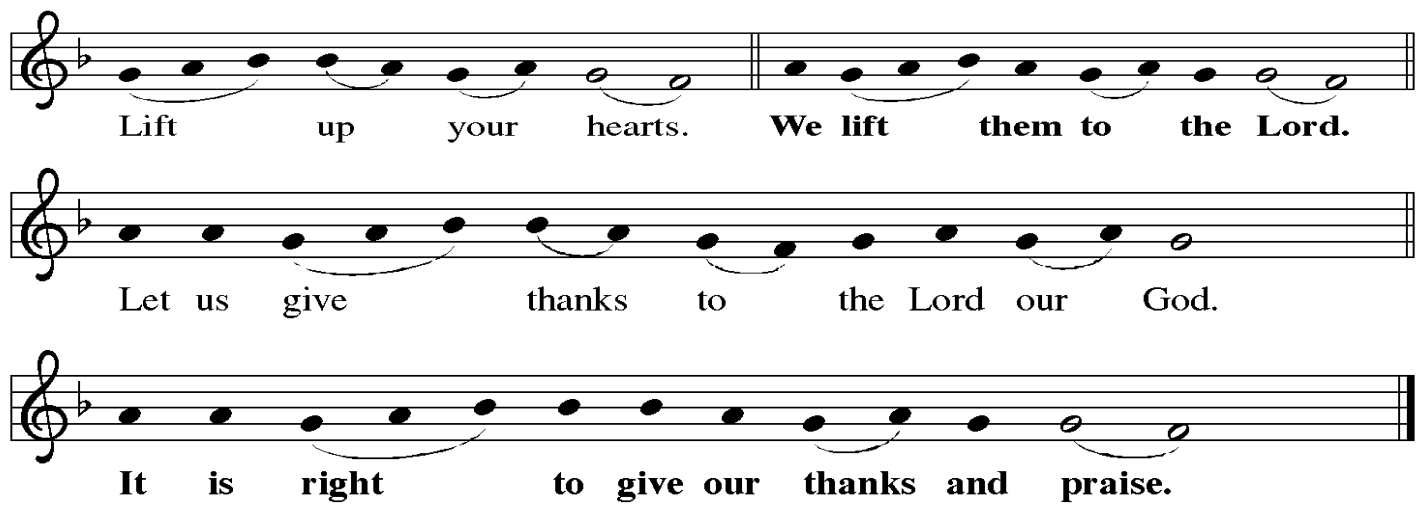
**C:** God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

† WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER †

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



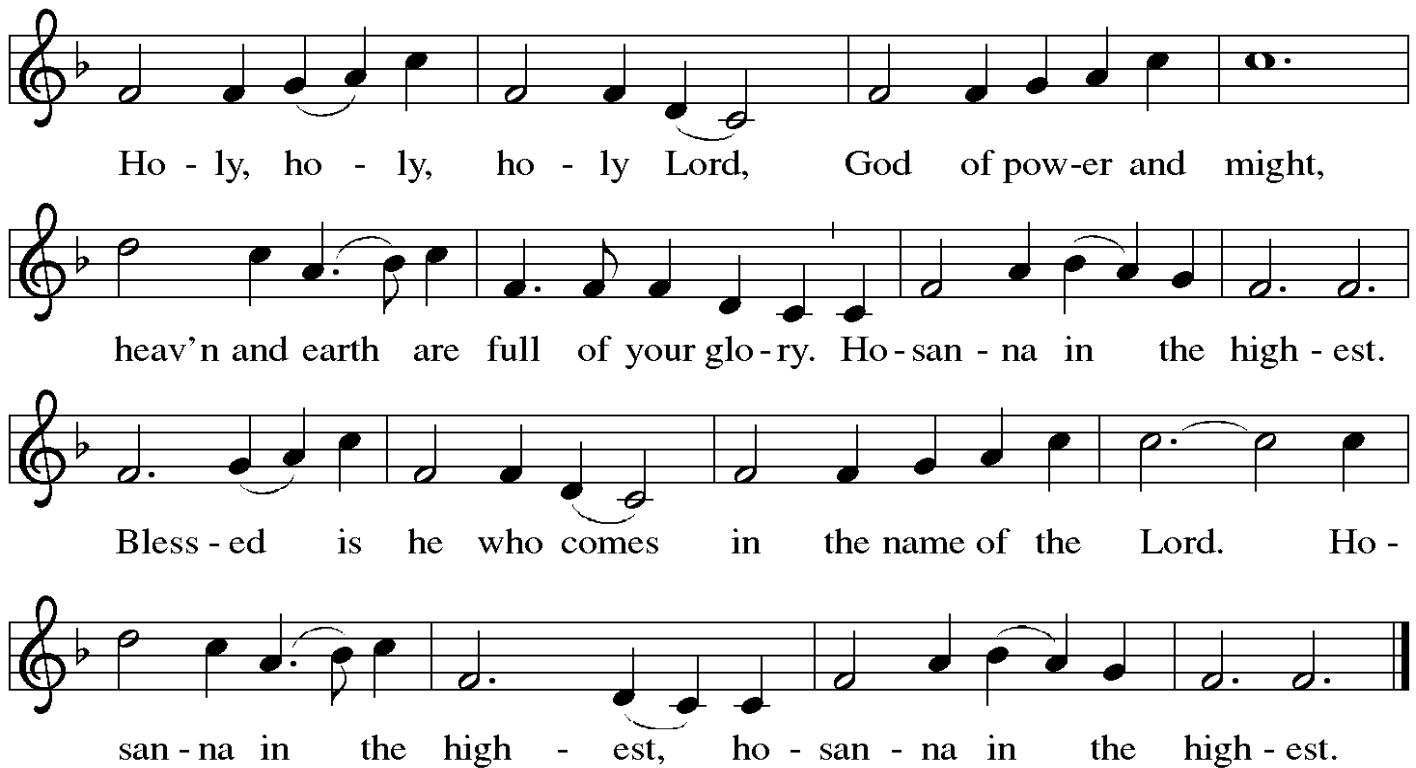
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



### \*THE PREFACE:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....  
We praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

### \*THE SANCTUS



### \* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.

**\*TRADITIONAL LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**\*DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**\*THE AGNUS DEI**



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.

**All Baptized Christians Are Invited To Receive Holy Communion at the Communion Rail or On the Lower Level. We Ask Parents to Bring Their Non-communing Children with Them. Pick Up an Empty Cup. A Grape Juice Option Is Provided. If You Cannot Come To the Chancel or Lower Level, Communion Will Be Taken To You. Please Notify An Usher.**

During Communion

**Hymn 647:** *"Glorious Things of You Are Spoken"*

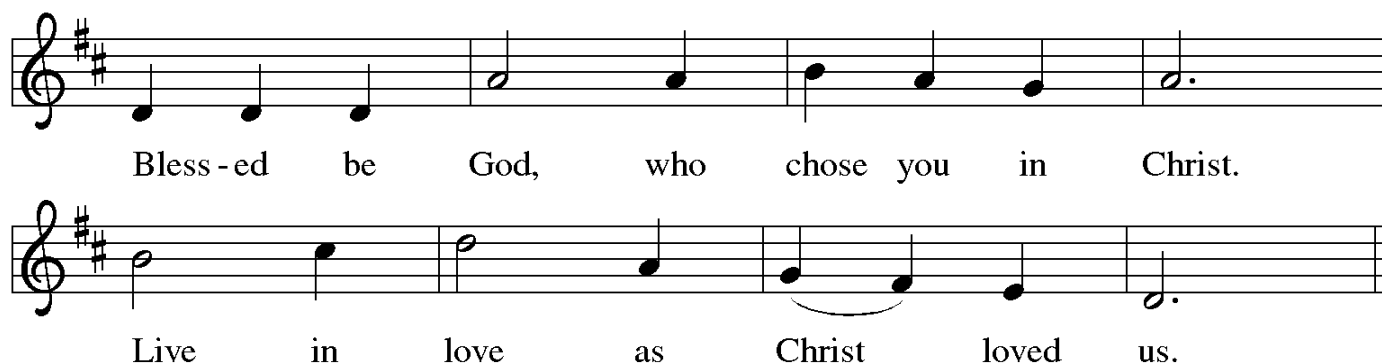
**Hymn 623:** *"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"*

**Hymn 335:** *"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"*

**Hymn 616:** *"Jesus, Remember Me"* (sing 3 times)

\*Post Communion Blessing

\*Post Communion Cantic



\*Post Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

**† WE LEAVE TO SERVE †**

**\*BENEDICTION AND BLESSING WITH SUNG "AMENS"**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**C: Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG:**

**Hymn #651: “Oh, Praise the Gracious Power”**

Stanzas 1, 3, 4 and 7

**DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord with joy.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:** “Introduction and Fughetta in E Minor” – P. Piel

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**HAND SANITIZER IS AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX, LIBRARY, AND OFFICE FOR YOUR USAGE!**

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**Acolyte:** Gus Barr

**Communion Assistants:** Joan Moore (B/A), Shirley Sweigart (W/A) and Amanda Drexel (W/D)

**Lay Worship Leader:** Scott Brubaker

**Scripture Reader:** Mel Brubaker

**Nursery:** Sally Leed

**Greeters:** Ron and Vivian Gehr, Vicki, Daniel and Alex Klopp

**Ushers:** Gail Harker (Head), Kristi Leonhard, Tess Freeman, Mike Leed, Ron Gehr (Alt)



**The Altar Flowers and Bulletins** Are Dedicated to the Glory of God by Verna Kieffer in Memory of her Husband Nevin.

**TODAY WE WELCOME CAYDE ELAINE MEANS** through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Cayde was born on January 26, 2005 in Ephrata, PA. She is the daughter of Kelly Moore Means and Ray Means. She is the granddaughter of Joan Moore. Cayde's sponsors Joan Moore and Reed and Sue Means.

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**\*Welcome to all!** If you have come as a visitor, we hope that you'll leave as a friend who's been blessed by worshiping in this house of God. We encourage you to join us again.

**\*Hearing Assistance Units Are Available** for anyone who has difficulty hearing. Prior to worship, please contact an usher if you wish to use one of the units during worship.

***\*Worship Bags For Children** are available on the first pew in the back of the church. Please take one during worship. Just return the bag, crayons, and storybook – the rest can be kept. Thank you!*

***\*Cushions Available for Seating** during worship are located on the back pew.*

### **WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

- ***Needed:** Lay Worship Leaders, Acolytes, Candlebearers, Crucifers and Nursery Attendants. Anyone interested in participating in worship as a leader in this way should contact Pastor Tim or the Church office.*
- *VESPERS (February 12, March 12) will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:45 pm. Come and find peace.*

### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR WEBSITE USERS**

*[www.mellingers.org](http://www.mellingers.org) has a new look! It is currently under construction and the bulletins, newsletter and council meeting information is already available. We are working on enhancing the website with committees and groups, the history of Mellingers, etc. We hope that you take a look at our new site and enjoy the changes and enhancements we are making.*

### **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS AT 2:00 AM ON SUNDAY, MARCH 10**

***Don't forget to spring forward by setting your clocks ahead 1 hour on Saturday night, March 9<sup>th</sup>.***

## **PRAYER CORNER:**

*Please keep the following people in your prayers this week:*



**HOSPITAL:** Donald Facenbaker

**EPHRATA HOSPITAL:** Fred High, George Rudisill, Leon Weaver

**LANCASTER GENERAL:** Clair Adams

**HERSHEY MEDICAL CENTER:** Rodger Martzall

**EPHRATA MANOR REHAB:** Lilyann Hertzog

**JOHN HOPKINS:** Rev. Dave Johnson

**DENVER HEALTH & REHAB:** Kenneth Getz

**MAGNOLIA PLACE, Lancaster:** Esther Fuehrer

**CHURCH MEMBERS AT HOME:** Joyce Auker, Maddy Brown, Grace Burkholder, Mary Burkholder, Gladys Care, Betty Cordes, Kim Craven, Wren Dillon, Lorriane Eberly, Ella Felker, Barbara Fetter, Bessie Fetter, Vivian Gehr, Sue Gray, Kathryn Hertzog, Etta Holsinger, Janice Hostetter, Jeane & Yuki Jones, Anna Maria Leed, Lottie Leshner (w/son Ron), Jennifer Mentzer, Ruth Messner, Readith Petery (home hospice), Margaret Rabold, Pat Rampolla, Mavis Roy, Linda Weaver, Bonnie Weinhold, Joan Wentzel, Deb Wingenroth, Rick Dillon, Paul Hehnly, Sam Heiser, Robert Hemling Jr., Shawn Jeffers, Richard Keller, Jeff Moyer, Dan Rhoads, Robert Royer, Amos Sawyer, Dan Sensenig, Ernie Shimp, Luke Showalter, Larry Weaver, Ron Weinhold, David Wilhide, Jerry Zerbe, Jill and Deklan Fischbach; Leonard and Patty Gehman, Alvin and Ella Hollinger, Leroy & Alberta Lutz, Michael & Marvin Showalter, Paul & Verna Snyder, Joan and Harry Wentzel Sr., Richard and Betty Weik

**FAMILY & FRIENDS AT HOME:** Judie Walter-Burke, Dee Childs, Marylou Crum, Nancy Duttry, Carol Gordon, Audrey Halbfoerster, Donna Harpster, Jessica High, Shirley High, Shirley Kring, Michelle Long, Denise Miller, Marion Nagle, Jean Newell, Denise Smith, Adele Weaver, Kailey Witter, Carter and Weston Alexander, Doug Beard, Mark Bittner, Terry Bixler, Matthew Coleman, Eric Fichtorn, Clair Fritz, Jamie Gahring, Rev. Robert Harting, Hal Hartman, Robert Henry, Gary High, Nolan Himes, Dave Ihde, Christopher Mallory, Jim McCabe, Dick Mumford, Craig Nemchik, Clarence Roesch, Larry Shimp, Ernesto Tamyo, Donald Townsley, John Zangari (Hospice), Don and Alice Craven

**We pray for friends and family at home. If you have family or friends in need of prayer, please contact the office. Then contact the office WEEKLY regarding the status of those we are praying for.**

**GRIEVING FAMILIES OF:** Roger Spotts, Jaxson Krimes, Victor Stimmell, Elizabeth Bold, Timothy Sheaffer, Rev. Dr. Eric Gritsch, Lloyd Good, Phoebe Weaver, Betty Swisher, Dave Haller, Clarence Bitner, Joan Duncan, Rev. Dr. Eric Gritsch, Ada Rovine

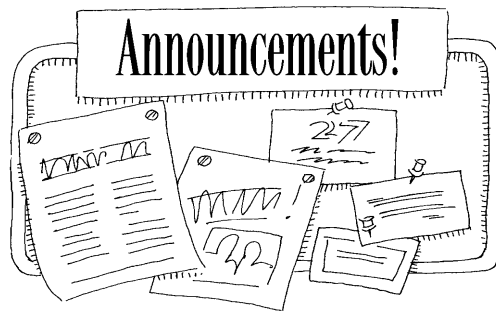
**ARMED FORCES:** Dennis Hartlove, Jeff Barnett, Eric Clavier, Jason Freeze, Michael Guigley, Stefan Heitz, Patrick LeBourdais, Chris Weidman

**PRAYER MENTOR PROGRAM:** Piper Leonhard, Ella Shortuse, Emma Witter, Daniel Engle, Marlee Martin

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Office Hours  
Monday - Thursday  
10:00 am – 2:00 pm



**Pastor's Contact Information**

Home: (717)738-3838

Mobile: (717)468-9049

Work: (717)336-8800

\* Call anytime on cell phone

† **ACTIVITIES** †

**TODAY'S ACTIVITIES:** 9:00 am Holy Communion; Coffee Social Time Follows; 10:30 am Sunday School.

**THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES:** **Monday:** 9:30 am Women in Prayer; 6:30 pm Social Ministry Committee Meeting; 7:00 pm Boy Scouts; **Tuesday:** 6:30 pm Bible Study "Minor Prophets"; 7:00 pm Cub Scouts; **Wednesday:** 1:30 pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting; 7:00 pm Lenten Service at St. Paul Adamstown with Pastor Bob Kramer Preaching; **Thursday:** 3:30 pm Holy Communion with Pastor Kramer at Ephrata Manor; 6:00 pm Hand Bell Choir; 6:00 pm Free Community Meal at First United Methodist, Ephrata; 6:45 Chancel Choir; **Saturday:** 8:30 am Men's and Women's Bible Study Breakfasts at Ephrata Diner.

**ACTIVITIES FOR MARCH 10, 2013:** Pastor Tim is away; April Newsletter Articles Due to Office; 9:00 am Holy Communion with Rev. Alan Ruby; Coffee Social Time Follows; 10:30 am Sunday School; 6:30-8:00 pm Book Club/Youth Group.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MARCH 3, 2013—Third Sunday in Lent:** Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32.

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**IN THE CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER ON SUNDAY...**

**After 7:00 am**, please call the church at 336-8800, visit our website at [www.mellingers.org](http://www.mellingers.org) or check our Facebook page to see if we will be holding services on that day.

**SCHEDULING EVENTS**

**PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH SECRETARY FOR AVAILABILITY BEFORE SCHEDULING EVENTS AT THE CHURCH!**



## **MEET ME LINE**

*Please note that while listening to the Meet Me Line people have to be quiet as others listening can hear talking, coughing, etc. Thank you!*

## **EASTER DAWN SERVICE AND BREAKFAST**

*With Easter fast approaching, a meeting to plan the Easter Dawn church service and breakfast will be held on Sunday March 10th. All who wish to assist with the breakfast or church service are asked to attend the planning meeting after church in the adult Sunday school classroom. The meeting should begin at 10:30 AM. A list of need items along with planning, staffing and preparation will be discussed. All family and friends are invited to participate in or donate items for the breakfast. Planning of the Easter Dawn service will be part of the overall planning effort.*

*If you have questions or wish to donate items, for the breakfast, please see Dave Henry. His phone number is 610-856-1709 and his email address is [dadahenry@windsdtream.net](mailto:dadahenry@windsdtream.net)*

## **LUTHERAN CAMPING CORPORATION SEEDING THE FUTURE CAMPAIGN**

*Please prayerfully consider the Lutheran Camping Corporation's "Seeding the Future" Campaign. We pray that Mellingers will joyfully and willing participate in response to this campaign.*

## **BULLETIN RECYCLING**

*A red recycling bin has been placed in the narthex for BULLETIN recycling ONLY. Thank you for your stewardship!*

## **PICK SIX LENT OFFERING**

*During the 6 weeks of Lent the Stewardship Committee will be holding the Pick Six Campaign. Please prayerfully consider giving towards one of the 8 listed organizations each week: Campus Crusade for Christ, Ephrata Area Social Services, ELCA Mission Support, Gettysburg Seminary, ELCA Hunger Appeal, Lutheran Camping Appeal, Vicar Fund, Mellingers Needy Fund. Stewardship will be handing out special giving envelopes for this event as well as fund details.*

## **CHURCH GIVING STATEMENT**

*If you have any questions regarding your church giving statement please contact the church office.*

## **COFFEE SOCIAL HELPERS NEEDED**

*Please sign-up for baking and bringing in baked goods for the coffee social. Dates are available through the end of next year.*

## **EASTER FLOWERS**



*It's the time of year for ordering Easter flowers. This year, we will be offering:*

**Lilies** - 6" pot white lily with 3-4 blooms for \$6.50

**Tulips** - 6" pot with 6 bulbs for \$5.50

**Daffodils** - 6.5" pot for \$5.50

*Please complete the order form on the attached envelope to include your name, telephone number, number and type of flowers, and the total amount due. Please list to whom you would like your flowers made in memory of or in honor of. Include your cash or check inside the envelope and place the envelope in the SPECIAL FLOWERS mailbox or give to Melanie Brubaker at church. Please make checks payable to Mellinger's Lutheran Church.*

**DUE DATE TO ORDER FLOWERS IS SUNDAY, MARCH 17**

*Please pick up your flowers after the Easter Sunday service.*

## **150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CROCKS**

*Mellingers 150<sup>th</sup> Crock can still be purchased for \$20. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please contact Linda Weaver at (717)336-6177 if you would like to purchase a crock.*

## **CARE PACKAGES**

*Due to increasing need within the congregation we have placed a box in the narthex for Staples (shelf-stable foods) and Sundries (toiletries, toilet paper, etc.). These items will be used for members within the congregation who are in need. Should there be an excess of items, items may be donated to Ephrata Area Social Services. Please prayerfully consider donating to those less fortunate. Thank you!*

## **PETER'S PORCH – NOW AVAILABLE 2 LOCATIONS**

*Peter's Porch at Zion Lutheran Church in Akron continues to serve those in need on a monthly basis. If anyone would like to donate their time to assist with Peter's Porch, please call Tracy Lagaza at Zion between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm M - F at 859-2100.*

*Peter's Porch at Faith United Lutheran Church in Denver is now serving those in need on the first Saturday of the month between 8:00 and 10:00 am. Breakfast is also served starting at 8:00 am. Currently the program offers just groceries. If anyone would like to donate their time to assist with Peter's Porch, please call Terry Burkholder at 336-6219.*

## **SPECIAL FUND GIVING**

*The Lord loveth a cheerful giver, but our money counters need your help. We have added new money counters for 2013 and are asking for your help in making the job easier. If you are giving to a special fund, please write a separate check and put the check (or cash) in the Special Fund Envelopes in the narthex. Please include your name, envelope number and check number. Please check the box for the area you are making the donation and write in the dollar amount being donated to that area. Thanks again for giving.*

## **HELP THE HOUNDS**

*Please help the Humane League! You can help by putting new or slightly used dog leashes and collars in the box in the narthex. This will help the Girl Scouts (Elizabeth Stief – Mellingers and Sarah Zook – Swamp) with their Silver Award Project! Thank you very much for your support of the Girl Scouts and the Humane League!*

## **RELAY FOR LIFE**

*Kelsey Adair is on a Relay for Life team consisting of 15 members and will be joined by hundreds of others from Thiel College on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 to support the fight for cancer. You can support the fight for cancer by making a tax-deductible contribution for the amount your budget will allow. Checks should be made out to Duncan Wingard and should be mailed to: Kelsey Adair, 75 College Avenue, Greenville, PA 16125.*

## **LAWN MOWER HELP NEEDED**

*It is that time of year again to start planning our lawn care needs. Please call Charlie Messner if interested in helping out.*

## **NORTH LANCASTER LUTHERAN LENT SERVICES 2013**

*This year's theme will be 'Beneath the Cross of Jesus' with each week's focus being on a line from this famous hymn by Frederick Maker with the words by Elizabeth Clephane.*

*The offering from the services will go to the Habitat for Humanity Fund to help the Cocalico Area Lutheran Ministries build scheduled for this coming Fall.*

*Refreshments will follow each service and a nursery will be provided.*

*The services will begin at 7:00 pm. If there is a question about the service because of the weather, please contact the host church after 10 am on the day of the service and information will be provided.*

**The next service in the series schedule is as follows:**

**March 6th:** *the service will be at St. Paul, Adamstown, with Pastor Bob Kramer (St. John Center, East Earl and Interim at Muddy Creek, Denver) will preach on "A home within a wilderness, a rest along the way". (717)484-4885*



# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm:** Holy Wednesday the service will be at St. John Center, East Earl with Pastor Tim Craven (Mellingers, Schoeneck-Stevens) preaching on John 13: 21-32.

**Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm:** Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Downstairs and Stripping of the Altar

**Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm:** Good Friday Service of Shadows

**Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 am:** Easter Egg Hunt

**Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**@ 6:30 am:** Easter Dawn Service

**@ 7:00 am:** Easter Dawn Breakfast

**@ 9:00 am:** Easter Holy Communion

			2/24/2013 9:00 am Service
Attendance			162
General Receipts			\$3,790
Capital Fund			\$0
Bldg./Repair Fund			\$10
Altar Flowers			\$25
Needy Fund			\$140
Initial			\$2
Bulletins			\$20
Crocks			\$20
Receipts Compared to Budget As of 2/24/2013			
General Funds			
Adopted Yearly Budget \$238,395			
	Receipts	Budget	Over/(Under)
MTD	\$26,880	\$20,216	\$6,664
YTD	\$44,184	\$40,711	\$3,473
Other Funds			
	Month To Date	Year To Date	
Building & Repair	\$360	\$820	
Capital / Building Fund	\$20	\$40	
Repay Capital Loan	\$0	\$0	
Vicar Fund	\$0	\$540	
Needy Fund	\$140	\$535	
Refugee Fund	\$125	\$425	
Thrivent	\$0	\$125	
Sound System	\$3,000	\$3,000	

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**MARCH 3, 2013**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF**  
**LENT**

taking  
faith  
home

*Seek the Lord while God  
may still be found.*

## **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.  
We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Luke 13:1-9	Parable of the fig tree
Monday	Jeremiah 11:1-17	Judgment against the olive tree
Tuesday	Ezekiel 17:1-10, 22-24	Two eagles and two cedar shoots
Wednesday	Ezekiel 18:25b-32	Repent and live!
Thursday	Hosea 14:1-7	Return to the Lord
Friday	Luke 3:1-9	The fruit of repentance
Saturday	Psalms 34:11-22	Turn from evil and do good
Sunday	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	Parable of the forgiving father

## **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

Turn to the Lord! He can still be found. Call out to God! He is near. Give up your crooked ways and your evil thoughts. Return to the Lord our God. He will be merciful and forgive your sins. **Isaiah 55:6-7 (CEV)**

### **SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

O God, show us your mercy and love as we turn to you each day.  
Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Mealtime is here, O what a spread! Thanks be to God, who gives us bread. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God satisfy your deepest needs. May God show you kindness and be your helper.  
Amen. (Psalm 63:3-7)





**MARCH 3, 2013  
THIRD SUNDAY OF  
LENT**

# taking faith home

## **CARING CONVERSATION**

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Are you a patient or an impatient person? When is it hard to be patient?
- Read Jesus' parable about the fig tree (Luke 13:6-8). Where do you see patience shown in this story? How is God patient with us?
- The gardener in the parable asked for another year to help the tree bear fruit. In what ways do you think God might like to see you grow or change in the next year of your life?

## **DEVOTIONS**

The theme of repentance runs through the Bible readings for this Sunday. God gives us the Ten Commandments to help us examine our thoughts, words and actions. In your family devotion times this week, listen together to the Ten Commandments and talk about what they mean.

- You shall have no other gods.
- You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
- Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- Honor your father and your mother.
- You shall not kill.
- You shall not commit adultery.
- You shall not steal.
- You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
- You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse, or their manservant, or their maidservant, or their cattle or anything that is your neighbor's.

## **SERVICE**

"Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters" (Isaiah 55:1-2). With this passage in mind, commit to drinking only water at home this week. Estimate what you will save and donate it to a worthy cause. Use this opportunity to reflect on God's gift of water and our new birth through the waters of baptism.

## **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**

Make crosses from bars of hand soap as a reminder of Jesus' sacrifice to cleanse us from our sins. Draw a cross shape on each bar of soap, then carefully carve away the excess soap using a table knife. Place soap crosses in your bathroom and kitchen soap dishes, or in the kids' baths. You could also place soap crosses in small gift bags to give away to friends and relatives.



Go to [www.vibrantfaithathome.org](http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org) for more faith-forming activities.