

March 19, 2023 Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:00 a.m. Worship Service w/communion p. 1 10:30 a.m. Worship Service p.14

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Church Hospital ID: #256

WiFi: JLGuestOne (no password required)





Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

GATHERING / 8:00 a.m. Service w/communion

[congregation reads bold]

Bell

Announcements

Prelude: Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross -by William H. Doan, setting Robert J. Powell

All who are able are invited to stand

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm 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: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness p. 23

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.

Prayer of the Day

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

All may be seated

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah. *The word of the Lord*.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 23 (read responsively – congregation reads bold)

You anoint my head with oil. (Ps. 23:5)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not | be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures and leads me be- | side still waters.

³You restore my [|] soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways [|] for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence ¹ of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is ¹ running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

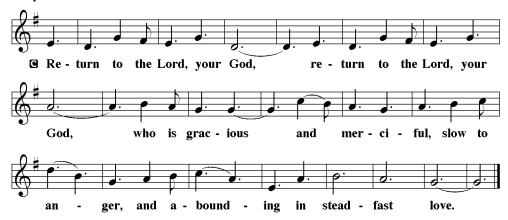
⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible. ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says.

"Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All who are able are invited to stand

The Gospel Verse



The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 9th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Holy Gospel: John 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ³saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹¹⁰But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were

divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains." *The Gospel of the Lord*.

Praise to you, O Christ.

All may be seated

Children's Sermon

Miss Stephanie

Sermon

Time of Silent Reflection (remain seated)

Hymn of the Day: Dearest Jesus, at Your Word p. 24

Apostles Creed

In the words of the Apostles' Creed, let us confess our faith:

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

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire us by your love as together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest springtime bud. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials. Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God our host, you fill us at your table with more than we could ever ask. Feed us with hunger for justice. Equip the feeding ministries of this congregation and community. Nourish us so we can nourish our neighbors. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of history, with thanksgiving we remember our ancestors in faith who cared for your people. We praise you for the ways they formed the faith of others and continue to inspire us. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; comfort those who grieve, and tend all who are sick *especially Lois, Helen, Susan, Gladys, Rachelle, Kim, Tammy, Vanessa, Dean, Lester, Anna, Grace, Nat, Hinata, Bob, Lori, Larry, Lisa, John.* Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For those celebrating birthdays this week, *Teresa, Aurora, Richard, Jim, Lucas, Olive, Andrea, Gretchen, Rachael, Terrie, Samantha, Lynn, Carolyn, Jeff, Carol.* May they continue to grow in faith as they grow in years. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For those celebrating anniversaries this week. May they be bound together by your love, now and forever. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We pray for our sisters and brothers in Christ in neighboring congregations. May your light shine brightly for all, sharing in your love and your peace that surpasses all understanding. We pray especially for Weisenberg, New Tripoli, and their pastor, Brandon Heavner. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

The Peace – Please share the peace in any manner comfortable to you. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

THE MEAL

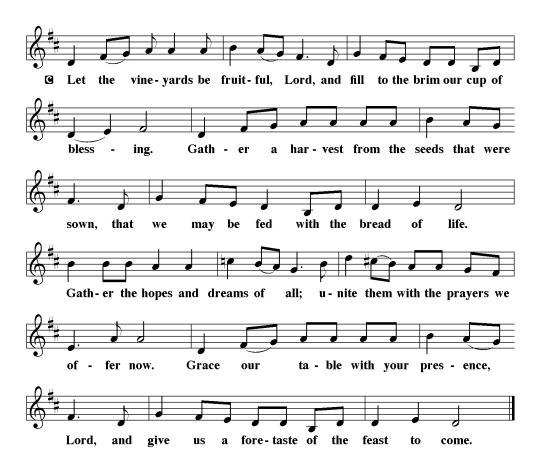
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

All may be seated

Offertory: Lead Me, Guide Me -Doris Akers

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. After the offering is gathered, all who are able are invited to stand.



Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Let us pray. God of good gifts,

receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

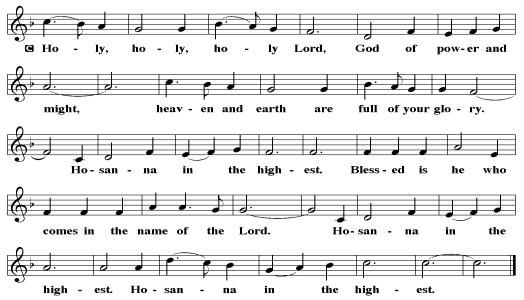
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give 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:

Holy Holy



Thanksgiving at the Table

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as our Lord 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

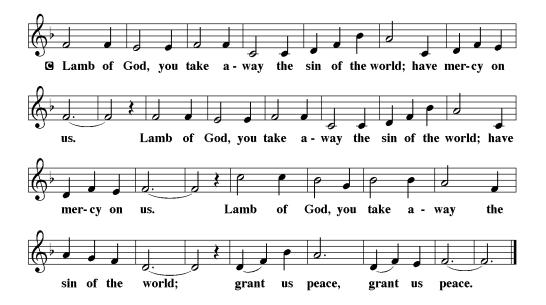
Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

All may be seated

Communion

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say "The body of Christ, given for you." "The blood of Christ, shed for you." And each person may respond, "Amen."

Lamb of God



The Distribution (Altar Rail Distribution)

Communion Hymns: Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound p. 25 God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me p. 26

After all have returned to their places

All who are able are invited to stand

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

Amen.

Song after Communion



Prayer after Communion

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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

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

Amen.

Sending Hymn: God, Whose Almighty Word p. 27

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land -African-American Spiritual, setting Ronald A. Nelson

GATHERING 10:30 a.m. / Worship Service

[congregation reads bold]

Bell

Announcements

Prelude: Lord Jesus, Think on Me
-Friendship Ringers

-arr. William Ringham

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Confession and Forgiveness

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Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

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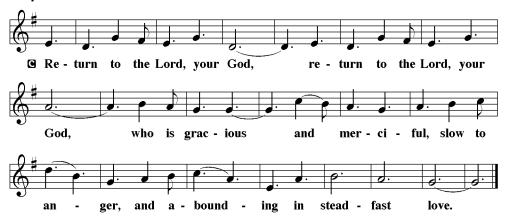
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divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains." *The Gospel of the Lord.*

Praise to you, O Christ.

All may be seated

Children's Sermon

Miss Stephanie

Sermon

Time of Silent Reflection (remain seated)

All who are able are invited to stand

Hymn of the Day: Dearest Jesus, at Your Word p. 24

Apostles Creed

In the words of the Apostles' Creed, let us confess our faith:

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

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire us by your love as together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest springtime bud. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials. Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God our host, you fill us at your table with more than we could ever ask. Feed us with hunger for justice. Equip the feeding ministries of this congregation and community. Nourish us so we can nourish our neighbors. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of history, with thanksgiving we remember our ancestors in faith who cared for your people. We praise you for the ways they formed the faith of others and continue to inspire us. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; comfort those who grieve, and tend all who are sick *especially Lois, Helen, Susan, Gladys, Rachelle, Kim, Tammy, Vanessa, Dean, Lester, Anna, Grace, Nat, Hinata, Bob, Lori, Larry, Lisa, John.* Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For those celebrating birthdays this week, *Teresa, Aurora, Richard, Jim, Lucas, Olive, Andrea, Gretchen, Rachael, Terrie, Samantha, Lynn, Carolyn, Jeff, Carol.* May they continue to grow in faith as they grow in years. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For those celebrating anniversaries this week. May they be bound together by your love, now and forever. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We pray for our sisters and brothers in Christ in neighboring congregations. May your light shine brightly for all, sharing in your love and your peace that surpasses all understanding. We pray especially for Weisenberg, New Tripoli, and their pastor, Brandon Heavner. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen

The Peace – Please share the peace in any manner comfortable to you.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Offertory: God So Loved the World
-Jordan Chorale

-Wayne L. Wold

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. After the offering is gathered, all who are able are invited to stand.



Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as our Lord 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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

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 Hymn: God, Whose Almighty Word p. 27

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land -African-American Spiritual, setting Ronald A. Nelson

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813
Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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Dearest Jesus, at Your Word



Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; Gesangbuch, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt. Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

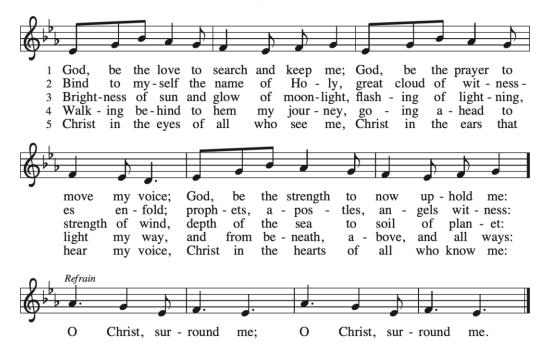
Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



Text: John Newton, 1725-1807

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me O Christ, Surround Me



Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967 Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan Text and music © 2004 This Here Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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God, Whose Almighty Word



Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt. Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

THIS WEEK (Mar 19 - 25)

TODAY (19)

- -8:50am, Cherub Choir
- -9:15am Sunday School
- -9:30am, Chorale
- -6:30pm, AA Meeting, Social Hall
- -7:00pm, Family Center reserved

MON (20)

- -6:30pm, Jordaniers Bowlers
- -7:00pm, Boy Scouts
- -8:00pm, Allentown Band, Family Ctr.

TUES (21)

- -1:30pm, Game Day, M6/8
- -5:00pm, Daisy Troop, Rm. 8
- -5:30pm, Basketball, Family Ctr.
- -7:00pm, Grundsau Mtg., Memory Rm.
- -7:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

WED (22)

- -9:00am, Prayer Shawl
- -5:30pm, Jr. Gyros
- -6:00pm, Soup Supper, Memory Rm.
- -6:15pm, Friendship Ringers
- -6:30pm, Canon Choir
- -7:00pm, Holden Evening Prayer Service
- -7:00pm, Badminton, Family Ctr.

THU (23)

- -8:00am-5:00pm, Rising Roots Homeschool, Fam. Ctr.
- -7:00pm. PA Dutch Class. Social Hall
- -7:00pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

FRI (24)

- -7:00pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.
- -9:30pm, Volleyball, Family Ctr.

We could use one more person to help collate the Easter Sunday bulletins on Friday, 4/7, and shouldn't take more than one hour. Contact the office if you can help: 610-395-5912 or jordanlutheran@ptd.net

Say a Prayer Send a Card Pay a Visit

Fellowship Community: Florence Roth, Lillian Semmel,

Donald Laudenslager **Topton:** Clint Trumbauer

Lehigh Commons: Janet Stettler

Sacred Heart: Dale Gogel
Parkland Manor: Paulette Bassler, Shirley Wertman
Heather Glen: Herb & Anna Bieber, Sonny Laudenslager

Home: Margaret Smith, Olive Wood, Reed Klotz

Please keep these people in your prayers: Lois Heisler, Helen Shollenberger, Susan Mancino, Gladys Harkins, Rachelle Shollenberger, Kim Demarest, Tammy Harding, Vanessa Mace, Dean Shollenberger, Lester Knipe, Anna Bieber, Grace Keller, Nat Hager, Hinata Grant, Bob Pellen, Lori Kocher, Larry Hahn, Lisa Williams, John Werremedic

Birthdays this week: Teresa Laudenslager, Aurora Merrill, Richard Semmel, Jim Wagner, Lucas Heberling, Olive Wood, Andrea Russell, Gretchen Wagner, Rachael Webb, Terrie Weidman, Samantha Klotz, Lynette Daniels, Carolyn Flemish, Jeff Laudenslager, Michele Wagaman, Shirley Wertman

Anniversaries this week: [none]

Attendance Sunday, 3/12/23 8:00-32 10:30-60 Wed. 3/15 - 40

Altar Flowers are given in memory of parents John and Sylvia Evans (birthdays March 9 and 22) by daughter Caroline Simock (D)

Found in the Literature Racks This Week			
Last week's bulletins	This month's newsletter		
2022 Annual Reports	Endowment Request Forms		
Easter Tribute Forms	Last Month's Treasurer's Report		

Worship Assistants

		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
DATE	3/19	3/26	4/2	4/9
Altar Guild	8:00-C Dorney, L Green	8:00-C Dorney	8:00-	8:00-
	10:30-l Martz	10:30-C Heilman	10:30-L Stettler	10:30-
Lector	8:00-A Russell	8:00-	8:00-	8:00-
	10:30-C Flemish	10:30-C Flemish	10:30-	10:30-
Acolyte	8:00-C Weidman	8:00-G Schuler	8:00-	8:00-
, , ,	10:30-L Epting	10:30-O Wozniak	10:30-	10:30-
Ushers	8:00-R & B Albright	8:00-R & B Albright	8:00-D & D Stark	8:00-D & D Stark
	10:30-B & L Hendricks	10:30-J & C Boscia	10:30-Stettler, Jensen,	10:30-Stettler, Jensen,
			Hartz families	Hartz families
Bell Toller	8:00-G Schuler	8:00-D Stark	8:00-G Schuler	8:00-
	10:30-S Hamil	10:30-J Siegfried	10:30-C & C Boscia	10:30-
SAT	8:00-J Siegfried	8:00-B Lutterschmidt	8:00-	8:00-
_	10:30-K Boardman	10:30-D Heckman	10:30-	10:30-
Video	10:30-K Gross	10:30-	10:30-	10:30-

Please look at the dates we have no one scheduled and give a call to the name listed below for the area(s) you can help with!

Altar Guild/Lynn Daniels |jd2137@aol.com // Lectors/Julie Boscia Julie.boscia@gmail.com // Acolytes/Stephany Heckman sgarbeglio@yahoo.com // Ushers /John Weremedic miner70@ptd.net // Bell Toller/Sandie Hamil hamilsre@gmail.com // SAT/Karen Boardman/kjb59@ptd.net // Video/Julie Williams jbwill02@gmail.com

SPONSORSHIPS

2023 Altar Flowers: Mar. 26; April 30; May 21, 28; June 4, 11, 25; July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Altar flowers may be sponsored for \$40/2 vase, or *\$20/1 vase*; Bulletins for \$20.

HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIPS: Contact Donna Hahn at 610-295-9148 or dhahn16@gmail.com with your choice of dates(s) and sponsorships(s). Please indicate when reserving your date whether you wish to pick up the flowers after the last service or want them taken to shut-ins. If no preference is given, flowers will be taken to shut-ins. Checks may be made payable to JELC and either mailed or dropped in the offering plate.

SPONSORSHIP POLICY: Flowers and other sponsorships may be reserved no earlier than one year from the chosen date. If you wish to reserve the same weekend for the following year, you may do so the day after the current year's sponsorship. No dates will be held; the first request for a date (within the one year limit) will be taken regardless of the previous year's sponsor.

Payroll Ministries Property-Utilities, grounds, etc Total Expenses	\$ \$ \$ \$	23,848.00 464.00 19,216.00 46,648.00	\$ \$ \$ \$	46,753.00 2,120.00 23,325.00 80,691.00	\$ \$ \$	22,738.00 973.00 9,125.00 36,203.00	\$ \$ \$	45,475.00 1,946.00 18,250.00 72,404.00
Payroll Ministries	\$	464.00	\$	2,120.00	\$	973.00	\$	1,946.00
Payroll	1000	Committee of the Commit	- 1				-	1,946.00
	\$	23,848.00	\$	46,753.00	\$	22,738.00	\$	45,475.00
Benevolence	\$	1,688.00	\$	3,875.00	\$	1,813.00	\$	3,625.00
Administration	\$	1,432.00	\$	4,618.00	\$	1,554.00	\$	3,108.00
xpenses:								
Total Income	\$	45,996.00	\$	85,570.00	\$	32,767.00	\$	65,533.00
Property	\$	847.00	\$	2,292.00	\$	2,083.00	\$	4,167.00
Benevolence	\$	588.00	\$	1,111.00	\$	1,333.00	\$	2,667.00
Operating Income	\$	44,561.00	\$	82,167.00	\$	29,351.00	\$	58,699.00
Income:					Month		YTD	
		Month		YTD		Budget	Amo	

EASTER EVENTS -- Save These Dates!

Easter Breakfast

Sunday, **April 9th**, **from 7:00 to 9:30 a.m.** in the Family Center. Stop by before or after worship for a breakfast of scrambled eggs, homefries and sausage. A freewill donation will be accepted. Your donation of <u>baked goods</u> would be appreciated – drop off Saturday morning after 9AM or bring on Easter Sunday. Thank you!

Easter Egg Hunt Candy Donations

Candy donations & gift cards to purchase candy (put in offering plate) are needed for the Easter Egg Hunt, April 8th. Donation tags will be available in the Memory Room. Please take a tag, purchase the candy, and bring the bags of individually wrapped, small candy back between March 5th - 26th. Place the candy in the labeled Egg Hunt Donation box in the Memory Room *by March 26th*. Thank you.



Help JELC prepare for the Egg Hunt!

Please plan to join us to stuff eggs for the Egg Hunt. We will gather in the Memory Room, April 2^{nd} , between services. Egg Hunt Volunteer opportunities please sign-up in the Memory Room. April 8^{th} - Day of event, volunteers needed for stations, 9 am - 10:30 am Sign-up sheets will be in the Memory Room the next three Sundays. Email Steph Derstine with questions at jordandff@ptd.net



Easter Celebration & Ega Hunt (children 12 and under)

Saturday, **April 8, 2023**, in the Family Center. Registration begins at 9:30 and events begin at 10:00. Activities for children include crafts, jellybean & candy guessing, children's skit, goody bags and prizes! Grab your Easter basket and hop on over! **Invite your friends and neighbors – not just for JELC members!**

Family Promise

We are hosting the weeks of March 19 & 26. There are a few open slots. The link to signupgenius can be found in the Jordan website under Ministries -> Outreach. We currently have four (4) families with 6 children ages 1-3 and 5 adults.

Our main fundraising event will be April 1, 2023 - HOMECOMING 23 - at the Hyatt Place, Aster Event Center with COCKTAILS/DINNER/ AUCTION /ENTERTAINMENT.

In 2022 – Family Promise of the LV had over 500 volunteers, provided 18,303 meals, provided 6101 Bed Nights, there were 29 Host/Partner Congregations, and 55 Families were Served (193 Individuals, 78 Adults, 115 Children).



Mother's Day Brunch

Join us for a festive Mother's Day Brunch celebrating all the Moms at Jordan on Saturday, May 6th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Memory Room. It will be a time of Food, Fun and Fellowship. A donation of \$5 per person will cover the food (please pay at the door). A sign up sheet will be available soon!

Iron Pigs Baseball Game

Faith Night at the Iron Pigs, **Friday, June 16th, at 7 pm** for the Iron Pigs vs. Toledo Mud Hens. Cost of \$28 per person includes: Picnic Patio seating, 2 1/2 hour all you can eat buffet, unlimited soft drinks. Signups will begin April 17 - May 7. Check your April newsletter or the website for an order form.





Vacation Bible School

June 19 to 23, 9:00-11:45 a.m. in the Family Center for kids age 3 to Grade 5. Stories, crafts, songs, games! Online registration opens May 15th. This year's theme is BABYLON!

Share the love; take a sign with you! All are encouraged to pick up a free sign (located near the outdoor electronic sign) as they drive by our church and then plant them in their yards for all to see. Let us know where in the Lehigh Valley you see our signs displayed!



4-F Outdoor Worship & Picnic

This year's 4 – F Celebration will be held on **Sunday, June 4th at 10:30 a.m.** at Lone Lane Park Pavilion, followed by a lunch to enjoy and games thereafter as we have use of the site throughout the day. A signup sheet will soon be appearing to indicate what appetizers, salads, sides and desserts will be provided by our members for all to enjoy. The entrée will be provided by Chef Glenn and his capable, culinary staff. We encourage board, card and lawn games be brought for all to enjoy later in the day.

March Madness, Sunday, March 26, 12 - 3 pm

Sunday School Children/Parents; Confirmation Students/Parents; Sunday School Teachers and Volunteers will meet in the Family Center starting with a light lunch at noon and then the madness begins. We need to separate and count about 1,000 plastic eggs (and candy pieces) so they are ready for the members to stuff them, Sunday, April 2nd between the services. We also need to prepare 30 prize gift bags. We will take a little time to discuss the organization of the Egg Hunt and also practice a very short skit that will be presented to the children that attend the Easter Egg hunt. After all that madness, we'll play gagaball, cornhole, and other fun games (teachers and parents are invited to play too!).

A March Madness sign-up sheet is by Ms. Stephanie's office door for those attending.

New Member Info Class

Meet in Pastor Dody's office on **April 16th at 9:15 am** if you are interested in becoming a member of Jordan. Please contact the church office or Pastor if interested. Future sessions in April/May will be determined at the meeting.

All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti Dinner



Saturday, April 22nd, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. in the Family Center. Dinner includes your pasta, meatballs, garlic bread, salad and a dessert for just \$10! Eat in or takeout will be available. The Outreach Committee is sponsoring this dinner and all profits will go to support The Sanctuary at Haafsville (a non-profit haven for homeless dogs and cats). Your donations of baked goods would be appreciated and may be dropped off Saturday morning after 9:00 or bring on Sunday.

Mid-Week Lenten Service & Soup Suppers

Please join us on the Wednesdays of Lent at 7:00 pm for a Holden Evening Prayer Service, and soup, salad, bread, and dessert at 6:00pm in the Memory Room. If you would like to contribute food to any of the suppers, please use the sign-up sheet located on the circular bulletin board in the Memory Room.

Journey of Stones



On the Wednesdays during Lent (March 1st – March 29th), we will worship at 7:00 p.m. using Holden Evening Prayer. This year's theme will be "Journey of Stones" inspired by ELCA Lutheran pastor, Rev. Steven Molin, Stillwater, Minnesota. Each week's scripture will be based on the stones portrayed in scripture as we reflect upon the stones (the sins) that are in our life. Each week you will receive a stone, symbolic of your sins. During the service you will be invited to leave that stone at the cross of Jesus.

The focus and themes are as follows:

Week 1 – March 1	Rejected Stones	Psalm 118; Mark 12:1-2
Week 2 – March 8	Sticks & Stones	John 8:1-12
Week 3 – March 15	Hearts of Stone	Luke 11:37-52
Week 4 – March 22	Upon This Rock	Matthew 16: 13-20
Week 5 – March 29	Crying Stones	Luke 19: 29-40
Easter Sunday	He's Alive!	John 20:1-18

2023 EASTER TRIBUTES



To honor or memorialize a loved one, please fill out this form and return | it (along with your check or cash) to the church office or place in the | offering plate *no later than Palm Sunday*. All tributes will be listed in | the Easter Sunday bulletins. Additional forms are available in the foyer, | on the website, or from the church office.

Your Name			
Your phone numb	er	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	No
\$ Hunge	s (\$12.00 per memo r Donation rial Fund Donation	rial flower)	
One tribute per fo	rm, please		
In honor of (living))		
In memory of (dec	:eased)		
	For o	ffice use only – do not <u>deta</u> Easter Tributes	<u>:h</u>
NAME			
CHE		CASH \$ verHunger Fund	



Jordan Lutheran Church Family Event Iron Pigs "Faith Night" Baseball Game

Friday, June 16th, 2023
7:00 p.m.



VS



\$28 per ticket - includes Picnic Patio seating, 2 ½ hour all-you-can-eat buffet, unlimited soft drinks

(\$5 parking not included)

(please note-this is a cashless ballpark)

Additional park information can be found at IronPigsBaseball.com Please email Steph Derstine with questions at: jordandff@ptd.net

Please detach section below, place form in the offering plate, or send it to the church office.

Note: IRON PIGS on the front of the envelope.

Payable by cash or check to: Jordan Lutheran Church

DUE DATE: SUN., MAY 7, 2023

æ	
Name: _	Phone #:
Email:	
	Digital tickets will be sent to your email. If you do not have email, a paper copy will be printed and given to you at church.
	Number of Tickets: (Children 2 and under are Free)
	x \$28 Total due =
	Form and Payment due: SUN MAY 7, 2022

Masks are a PERSONAL PREFERENCE at Jordan

We respect the decision of those individuals who wish to continue wearing masks. They are encouraged to take the precautions they think necessary to protect their health.

The Lord's Table at Jordan Church is an open table. If you are a baptized Christian of any church, believe in the Lord's presence in the sacrament and have received the sacrament before, you are welcome to receive with us. If you are not able to receive, please come forward for a pastoral blessing. To come forward, simply follow the direction of the ushers. **Distribution method** is noted in the order for worship.

ALTAR RAIL DISTRIBUTION: As you come forward, please take an empty cup with you to the altar rail. If you choose not to consume wine, grape juice is available. Come to the altar rail without a glass and a communion assistant will offer you the grape juice in a pre-filled glass.

INTINCTION DISTRIBUTION: Come forward and receive a wafer. Then dip it into either the wine (the cup in the center of the bread plate) or the grape juice (in the separate cup held by the second assistant). If you want additional time at the altar, please step to center of the altar rail out of the flow of other worshippers. You are invited to kneel if you wish. **Gluten-free wafers** are available – please indicate your need to the communion assistant.

You are asked to fill out **communion cards** clearly and completely, one card per person. Visitors are asked to fill out the address of their home church (if you identify with one) so we may forward the card there. Take a moment also before leaving to sign our guest book, located in the entrance area.

If it is necessary to **leave the sanctuary** during worship, please refrain, if possible, from doing so during the reading of scripture or the Eucharistic prayers so as not to distract other worshipers.

The use of *electronic devices* during worship is discouraged. Please turn off cell phones or place on vibrate before the start of the service.

Hearing assistance is available for members and visitors to Jordan. Please see an usher to arrange to use a receiver. A Koala Bear **baby changing station** is located in the handicapped restroom across from the church offices (in the new section). Children's welcome bags and bulletins are located in the narthex. Please ask ushers for help.

Restrooms are located through the left side doors of the chancel; then left through the french doors; restrooms located in the foyer on the right.

Children in grade 9 and younger are asked to remain in the Memory Room when consuming refreshments during the fellowship hours.

Please be sensitive to the fact that many people are allergic to or bothered by **strong scents** (perfume, aftershave, etc.), particularly when many people are gathered closely together, as for **worship services**.

For Parents of young children: We are grateful that God has blessed Jordan with so many young children. Worshiping with young children is a special privilege and joy for all of us. We enjoy the sounds of children in our worship. However, if you sense the need for a "calming break" feel free to take him/her to the Memory Room or Nursery (located through the doors on the left side of the altar) where you can continue to hear and be involved in the worship.

If you are interested in **becoming a member of Jordan**, please speak with the pastor following the service or call the church office (610-395-5912).

Announcements for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office before 10:00 a.m. on Thursday. Deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 15th of the month.