

Service of Holy Communion
Third Sunday of Lent
March 20, 2022
10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” - William D. Gudger
“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” - Paul Bunjes and
Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The congregation may kneel as able.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of ✠ Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“Glorious Things of You Are Spoken”

Red Book #647

GREETING

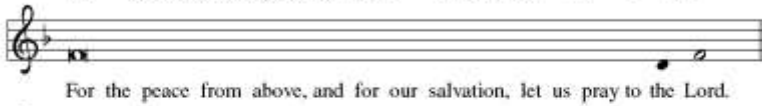
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



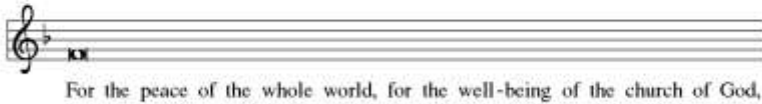
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



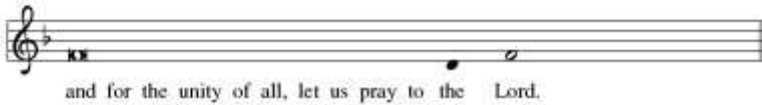
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



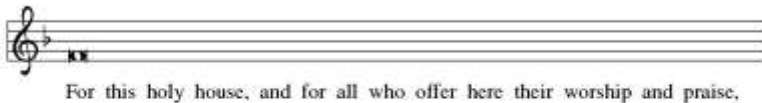
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

THE WORD

The congregation may be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING **Isaiah 55:1-9**

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 God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.

¹Ho, 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.

²Why 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.

³Incline 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.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
 a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, 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.

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
⁷let 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.
⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 63:1-8 *read responsively*

¹O God, you are my God; eagerly 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.
²**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.**
³For your steadfast love is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.
⁴**So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name.**
⁵My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
⁶**when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.**
⁷For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
⁸**My whole being clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures 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.

¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

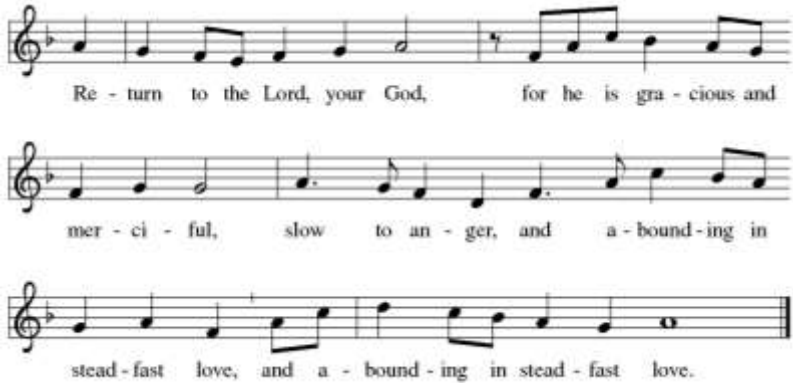
⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These 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. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

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 Luke 13:1-9

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.²[Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or 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? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶Then 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. ⁷So 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?’ ⁸He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”

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

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“As the Deer Runs to the River”

Red Book #331

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,
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

United in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those who are in need.

That you would give your church courage and conviction appropriate to

this hour and the will to work for peace, we pray. We remember especially the churches in Ukraine, Russia, and throughout Europe.

Lord, in your mercy:

hear our prayer.

That you would frustrate the wicked plans of tyrants and make the will of peacemakers to flourish, we pray. Lord, in your mercy:

hear our prayer.

That our president and all in authority in this nation be given wisdom and discernment as they navigate difficult decisions, we pray. Lord, in your mercy:

hear our prayer.

That you would bring healing to all who are heartbroken, grieving, or sick, we pray. Lord, in your mercy:

hear our prayer.

That you would give us the grace each day to love you and serve our neighbors with our whole hearts, whatever uncertainties these days bring, we pray. Lord, in your mercy:

hear our prayer.

That you would give us hope, joy, and peace in commending ourselves and our beloved dead to your care, we pray. Lord, in your mercy:

hear our prayer.

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE MEAL

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ORGAN OFFERTORY

“Kyrie”

- François Couperin

OFFERING PRAYER *led by the assisting minister*

Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, In whose name we pray.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy that we should at all times and in all places...*(The presiding minister continues giving thanks, concluding)*...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God... (*The presiding minister continues giving thanks, concluding...*For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command...(*the thanksgiving concludes*)...To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive; please keep 6 feet of distance between you and the next group of communicants. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *led by the assisting minister*

Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

Red Book #623

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower"

- Gerhard Krapf

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Sandy Lefebvre	Assisting Minister
Holly Schubert	Reader
Christiaan van Driel	Crucifer
Marlene Stein	Children's Church
Kevin Mathias	Organist
Jim Cunningham	AV Assisting Minister
Melody Kamerer	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild
Jack Rudzki and Larry Christy	Ushers
Jim and Jeanette Cunningham	Counters

Flowers are given to the glory of God by the congregation of First English Lutheran Church.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Mon., 3/21	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Wed., 3/23	Noon	Midday Prayer at Trinity Lutheran
	7:00 PM	Evening Prayer at First English Lutheran
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thurs., 3/24	12:30 PM	Bible Study (Social Hall)
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Fri., 3/25		Pastor Kimberly's Day Off
Sat., 3/26	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)

ZOOM MEETING INFO:

To join online, click 'Join Our ZOOM Meeting' in the email.

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

To join via telephone, dial: +1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

PRAYERS

Baby Mac & family; family of Megan Gibson; Chrissy; family of Charlie Stitt; Jennifer Hartle Fink; Jamie McPoyle & family; family of Rob Huey; the people of Ukraine & others affected by the conflict; Tracy Steadman & family; Kassidy; continued healing for John Negley; Tom Walker; Roberta; Cindy Regis & family; continued healing for Graham Cannon; Tad Sellers; Anne Ferguson; Pam Patterson; Tom Olson; Judy; Claudia; Karen; Anita

ANNOUNCEMENTS

First English is donating to the victims in Ukraine through Lutheran World Relief. If you would like to donate, please indicate the amount you wish to contribute on the specials line of your offering envelope. Contributions can also be made directly at www.lwr.org/match. *If you indicate that you are giving on behalf of First English Lutheran Church in Butler, PA, your contribution will be matched thanks to the generous gift of a congregation in Wisconsin.*

Are you curious about making First English your church home? Join us after worship on March 27th in Pastor Kimberly's office for an introduction to the congregation. All are welcome!

If you would like to order Easter flowers, the sign-up sheet is posted in the Social Hall. Please place your order by next Sunday, March 27th.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Joshua 5:9-12

Israel eats bread and grain, the produce of the land

Psalms 32

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD. (Ps. 32:11)

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

The mystery and ministry of reconciliation

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The parable of the prodigal father and the repentant son

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Butler Area Lutheran Ministries

2022 LENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS



Wednesdays: March 9th - April 6th

Midday Prayer with Chancel Drama

Trinity Lutheran Church | Noon

120 Sunset Drive | Butler, PA

In-Person Only

Evening Prayer with Chancel Drama

First English Lutheran Church | 7 PM

241 N. Main Street | Butler, PA

In-Person & On Zoom

(Visit FEELC.org for Info)

Offering Items for

Lutheran World Relief Health Kits:

March 9: Bath Towels

March 16: Bars of Soap

March 23: Toothbrushes

March 30: Combs

April 6: Nail Clippers

*Items may be brought to Wednesday services
or to your home congregation on Sundays.*