

**First English Lutheran Church  
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion  
Fifth Sunday of Lent  
March 26, 2023  
10:00 a.m.**

**THE GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

"The Sanctus"

- Samuel Scheidt

"O Lord God, Your Holy Word"

- J. S. Bach

"Variations on Maldwyn"

- Raymond Haan

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*The congregation may stand.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ☩ one God, who sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

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

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection. The congregation may kneel as desired.*

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**

**"Christ, the Life of All the Living"**

Red Book #339

## **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**

*page 120 in the front of the red book*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*The congregation may sit.*

## **THE WORD**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **FIRST READING**

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

*Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."*

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 130**     *read responsively*

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, **hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

<sup>3</sup>If you were to keep watch over sins,  
O LORD, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>**Yet with you is forgiveness,  
in order that you may be feared.**

<sup>5</sup>I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;  
in your word is my hope.

<sup>6</sup>**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,  
more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;  
with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

<sup>8</sup>**For the LORD shall redeem Israel  
from all their sins.**

## SECOND READING    Romans 8:6-11

*For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.*

<sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law — indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

*The congregation may stand.*

## LENTEN ACCLAMATION



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

## GOSPEL            John 11:1-45

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, the eleventh chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life. The text is not printed due to its long length.*

*After the reading:*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation may sit.*

## SERMON

*The congregation may stand.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### O God, Who Gives Us Life



1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,  
2 O God, who calls your peo - ple out to ven - ture and to dare,  
3 O God of cov - e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,



who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:  
to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:  
your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.



de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.  
when we de - spair in wan - der - ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,  
Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,



Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.  
re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.  
as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: NOEL, English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900

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## 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

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

You, O God, have breathed into us the breath of life. Join us in partnership with your people in this land and across the world that your name might be made known. Especially we pray for the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, and our companion, the Tulear Synod in Madagascar. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your spirit brings life even when all seems hopeless. Bring peace, we pray, to the people of Ukraine, Yemen, Syria, Libya, and to all people whose suffering goes underreported. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You redeem the world and its peoples. Unbind us from systems of exploitation and misery. We pray especially for an end to the drug trade and the violence and death it brings in its wake. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You weep when we weep and you hear us when we call to you. Be present with those who grieve or who are troubled by illness (*especially*). Deliver us from the depths of our despair and make us aware of your love in all moments. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your Spirit of life dwells in our assembly. Bless the music ministry of this congregation, and the work of Kevin, Harry, Signe, our choir, and all who lead us in hymns of praise and songs of lament. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are the resurrection and the life. With thanksgiving, we remember all your saints who now live in your eternal love...Give us the faith to trust that death is the door to life with you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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 MEAL

#### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*After sharing the peace, the congregation may sit.*

#### CHOIR ANTHEM

"Up from the Earth" - LIBERATOR, Rory Cooney, b. 1952

1. Up from the night Christ, Morning Star awakes.

O what a Light upon earth's darkness breaks!

Up from the night Christ sows His life like wheat,

Death itself lies fallow at His feet.

2. Up from the tomb of all the past conceals.

See how our God a brighter day reveals.

Up from the tomb! Though death had bound us tight,

Like Lazarus, we stumble into the light.

3. Up from the earth, and surging like a wave,

Rise up, O Christ! Our God defies the grave.

Up from the earth push blade and leaf and stem.

They rise for Christ, and we shall rise with them.

4. Cry to the cross where tyrants work their dread.

Shout to the tombs where parents mourn their dead.

Sign to the earth, for God all newness gives.

Alleluia! Christ Liberator lives!



## OFFERING HYMN

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Red Book #188

OFFERING PRAYER *led by the assisting minister*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



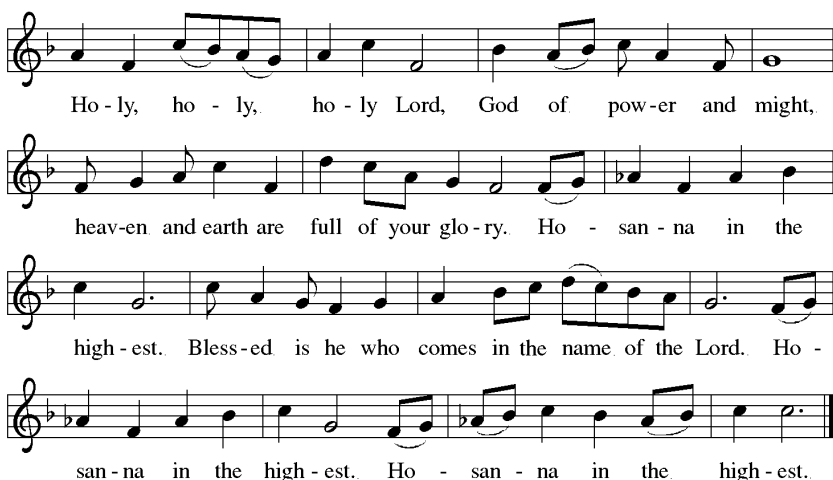
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation...(*the presiding minister continues giving thanks*).... Therefore, according to his command, O God:

**We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon ...(*the presiding minister continues*)... In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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,**

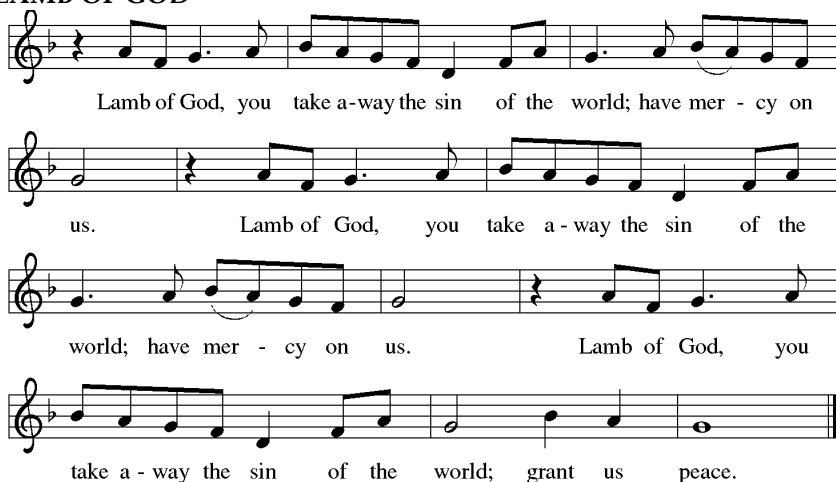
**and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Taste and see that the Lord is good!

## 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

*Today, as desired, you are invited to receive the elements (the bread and wine) of Holy Communion at the altar rail. Please come forward as invited by the ushers, take a glass, and move to an open spot at the rail on the side of the building on which you are sitting, returning to your seats by the side aisle.*

*Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine, given for all baptized people of God to eat and drink. The ushers will invite you forward to receive. 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 Christ's full presence.*

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

"Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing"

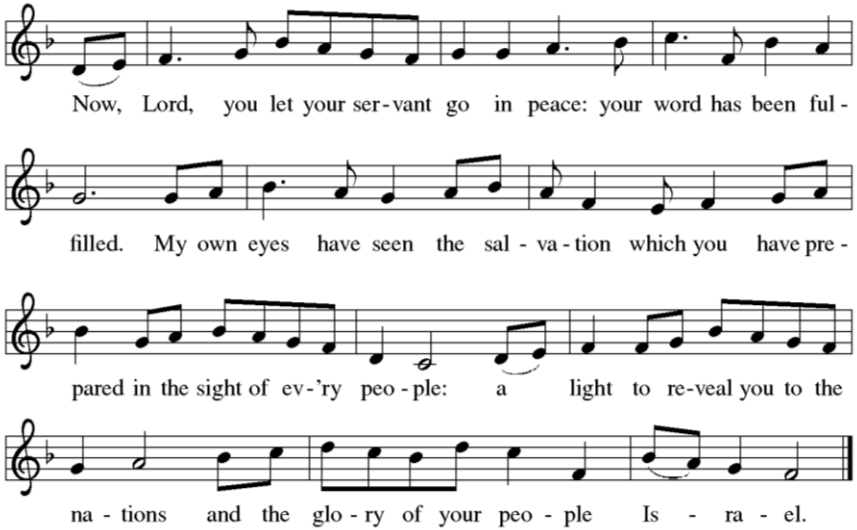
- German Folksong

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

**Amen.**

## CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -  
pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the  
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *led by the assisting minister*

### BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

"Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land"

Red Book #333

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Lord is with you!

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

"Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

- Gary R. Smoke

## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	<b>Presiding Minister</b>
Jim Cunningham	<b>Assisting Minister</b>
Jeanne Graff	<b>Reader</b>
Grant McVay	<b>Crucifer</b>

Julia McVay	<b>Acolyte</b>
Signe Mitchell	<b>Organist</b>
Harry Cunningham	<b>Sr. Choir Director</b>
Josh Kamerer	<b>AV Assisting Minister</b>
Brandon Stein	<b>PowerPoint Assisting Minister</b>
Roxanne Glagola	<b>Altar Guild</b>
Larry Christy and Jack Rudzki	<b>Ushers</b>
Bob and Karen Domanski	<b>Counters</b>

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the congregation of First English Lutheran Church.*

*All are welcome to gather in the social hall for coffee hour following worship.*

### **THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH**

Monday, 3/27	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Wednesday, 3/29	9:30 AM	Worship Planning Meeting
Thursday, 3/30	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Friday, 3/31		<i>Pastor Kimberly's day off</i>
Saturday, 4/1	9 AM – 1 PM	DAR (Social Hall)
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sunday, 4/2	9:00 AM	No Bible Study

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today is the last day to submit a photo for the directory!**

**Are you a worshiper on Zoom?** Following the worship service today, we'll host a zoom check-in for all our zoom worshipers. We'll be talking about ways to stay connected and possibilities for participation in worship leadership. Pr. Kimberly will also give an update on our church's thinking on the practice of online communion. We look forward to seeing you on screen!

**Volunteers are needed to bake cakes for Community Dinner!** If you'd like to help, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the social hall. Please see Tracy Gullickson, MaryAnn Swanson, or Jan Nieto if you have any questions.

**Worship on Palm Sunday (April 2<sup>nd</sup>) will begin with the blessing of the palms in the Social Hall.** Please gather there before worship next Sunday! There will be no Bible Study on April 2<sup>nd</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Call for Worship Leaders!** If you are not on the current worship schedule and you would like to be added to the summer worship schedule, please let Caitlyn know by Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>.

**On Maundy Thursday**, the church remembers Jesus' last supper with his disciples and his great commandments to love, serve, and break bread together. This year, the Maundy Thursday liturgy will take place as a dinner church starting at 6:30 p.m. We'll gather in the social hall to share a meal and hear and reflect on words of scripture. The service ends with prayer in the sanctuary and the stripping of the altar. All are welcome, but it helps us prepare if we have a rough idea of who may attend. If you plan to attend the in-person service, please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the social hall. There will be a zoom option (with special zoom plans!) available also. If you plan to zoom, please let Pr. Kimberly know by phone or email: [pkfelc@zoominternet.net](mailto:pkfelc@zoominternet.net).

**Support First English's ministry:** In thanksgiving to God, financial contributions to the congregation can be placed in the offering plate at the rear of the worship space or made online at [www.firstenglishbutler.org/giving](http://www.firstenglishbutler.org/giving).

### **PRAYERS**

Alysia Shaffer; Donny Bayless; Rose Cooper; Sue Lehew; Beth Weber; family of Madaline Golic; family of Joyce Mitchel; Ann Johnson; Jeff Turner; family of Ryan Glagola; family of Pete Huff; Mary & Steve and foster children; Janice Krause; Vonnie Baker; Shirley Mould; Dave Adams; Tracy Steadman; family of Paul Throm; Jim Cunningham; Gracie Love; Thelma Hassler; family of David Hartle; family of Chris Holman; family of Hazel Warheit; 6-month-old baby girl in Ohio; Karen Knepp; Zachary Sutton; Tony Sequite; Kyle Badger; those affected by hurricane

Ian; Brian Salisbury; Mark Vogel & family; continued healing for  
Graham Cannon; Stan Graff; Aryl Bashline; Patrick Frank; Holly  
Schubert; Ellen Dodge; Tad Sellers; Claudia; Pam Patterson; Tom Olson

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

**Matthew 21:1-11**

*Jesus enters Jerusalem*

**Isaiah 50:4-9a**

*The servant of the LORD submits to suffering*

**Psalms 31:9-16**

*Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)*

**Philippians 2:5-11**

*Humbled to the point of death on a cross*

**Matthew 26:14--27:66**

*The passion of the Lord*



***Holy Week at First English***

*April 2nd - Palm Sunday - Worship at 10 a.m.*

*April 6th - Maundy Thursday - Dinner Church at 6:30 p.m.*

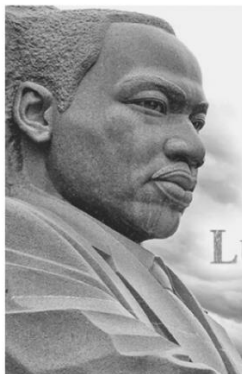
*April 7th - Good Friday - Worship at 7:30 p.m.*

*April 9th - Easter Sunday - Worship at 10 a.m.*

*with Easter breakfast following worship*

[www.firstenglishbutler.org](http://www.firstenglishbutler.org)

241 North Main Street Butler, PA 16001



THE *Legacy* OF  
DR. MARTIN  
LUTHER KING JR.

**SUNDAY,  
MAR 26  
@ 4 PM**

An Ecumenical Service of  
Holy Communion & Call for  
Anti-racist Action

Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church  
& Livestreamed

[SWPASYNOD.ORG/CALENDAR/MLK23](http://SWPASYNOD.ORG/CALENDAR/MLK23)

PREACHING

*Rev. Dr. Ann Lee*  
President, Pittsburgh  
Theological Seminary



PRESIDING

*Bishop Abraham Allende*  
and  
*Bishop Kurt Kusserow*



SOUTHWESTERN  
PENNSYLVANIA  
SYNOD ORTHODOX LUTHERAN  
CHURCH IN AMERICA



**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

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