

**First English Lutheran Church
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 4, 2024
10:00 a.m.**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Prelude"	- Girolamo Frescobaldi
"Christum wir sollen loben schon"	- J. S. Bach
"Healer of Our Every Ill"	- Marty Haugen

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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.
Amen.

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

The congregation may kneel, sit, or adopt another posture appropriate for confession.

Most merciful God,
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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the

entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The congregation may stand.

GATHERING HYMN

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Red Book #858

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.

GLORIA

page 195 in the front of the red book

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation may sit.

THE WORD

CHILDREN’S SERMON

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:21-31

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
²⁵To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.
²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
²⁹He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147:1-11, 20c

read responsively

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

²**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem,
and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

³The LORD heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

⁴**The LORD counts the number of the stars**

and calls them all by their names.

⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power;
there is no limit to God's wisdom.

⁶**The LORD lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp to our God,

⁸**who covers the heavens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the
mountains.**

⁹God provides food for the cattle
and for the young ravens when they cry.

¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c} Hallelujah!

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Hallelujah”

Red Book #171

GOSPEL Mark 1:29-39

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” ³⁸He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may sit.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

Red Book #860

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

As we celebrate the revelation of God in the humanity of Jesus Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Gracious God,

In his ministry, your Son stayed at the home of his friends,
And in so doing made their dwelling a place of healing and hope.

We pray that he would also come and stay with us.

Give us grace to see our daily lives through his eyes:

The gifts we can share,

The needs we bear,

That, receiving his grace,

we might share his message of wholeness, renewal, and joy with others.

Hear us, O God:

Your mercy is great.

Strengthen and support places of healing here in Butler

And throughout the world.

Today we remember

Butler Hospital; the VA; and the Community Health Clinic.

Renew the strength of those who practice the art of medicine and nursing in war-torn and poverty stricken areas.

We ask for justice for those who do not have access to health care or to medicine.

Hear us, O God:

Your mercy is great.

Make our homes also dwelling places of hope and peace.

We pray for those who do the daily work of keeping house:

Those who cook, those who clean, those who maintain and repair.

We remember those for whom the daily tasks of living have become too much to handle,

And those for whom the promise of a stable home feels like a distant dream.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We lift up our thanks for those whose ministries of service

Unfold behind the scenes but allow this congregation

To welcome the people of this community for worship, for prayer, for consolation, and for meals.

For Patrick, our sexton,

For Caitlyn, our office manager,

And for all those who give of their time and skill to keep First English running.

Support them in their duties,

and let all they do contribute to the mission of Jesus in this place.

Hear us, O God:

Your mercy is great.

We bring to you those concerns most on our minds this morning:

Support Jan as she prepares for surgery this week.

Bind up the brokenhearted, and bind up

Protect those in our armed forces who have been deployed to dangerous places, especially those in the Middle East,

Keep the hope of peace alive where there is war.

Comfort the grieving families and friends of all who have died this week...

And keep us all in the promise of your son's resurrection.

Hear us, O God:

Your mercy is great.

Accept these prayers, O God, and those we name in our hearts before you in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The congregation may stand.

THE MEAL

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The congregation may sit.

OFFERING

ORGAN OFFERTORY

“Fughetta”

- Johann Pachelbel

The ushers present the offerings and gifts of bread and wine for communion.

CHOIR ANTHEM

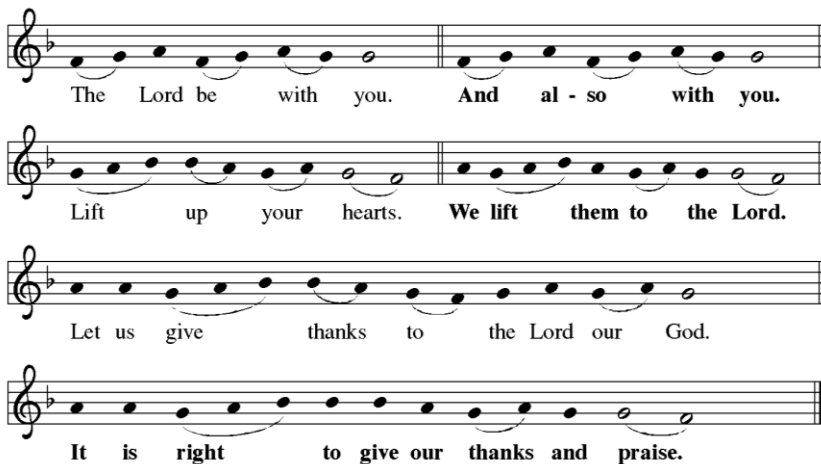
“I Will Rise” - Louie Giglio, Chris Tomlin, Matt Maher, & Jesse Reeves
Mary McDonald, *arr.*

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

led by the assisting minister

GREAT THANKSGIVING



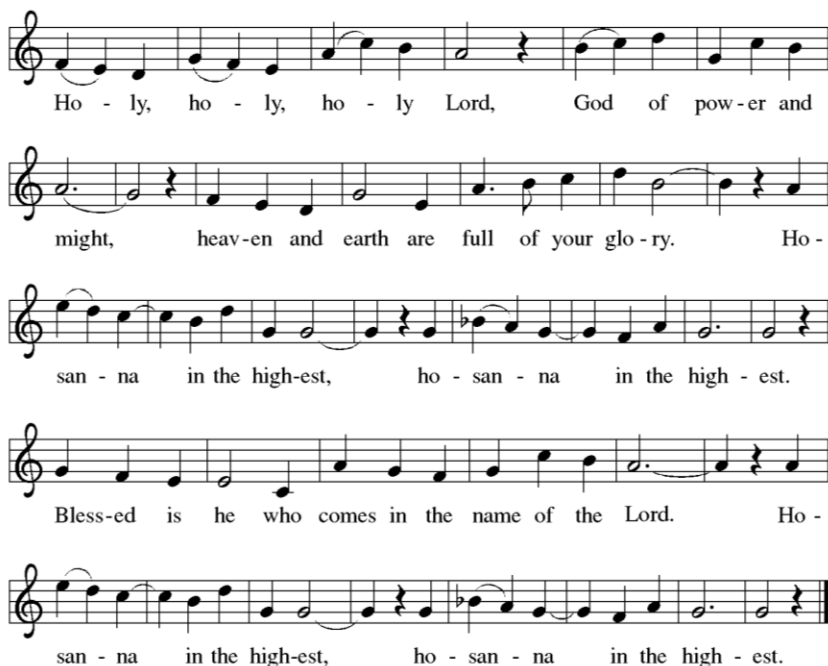
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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:



You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God... (*The presiding minister continues giving thanks*).... 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....

The prayers conclude:

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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, grant us peace.

The congregation may sit.

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. 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.

After all have received, the congregation may stand.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand

Refrain

Kwa - ke Ye - su na - si - ma - ma, ndi - ye
Here on Je - sus Christ I will stand. He's the

mwam - ba ni sa - la - ma. Ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la -
sol - id rock of my life. He's the sol - id rock of my

ma, ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la - ma.
life. He's the sol - id rock of my life.

1 There's no oth - er place I can hide till the
2 It is not the work of my hands that has
3 When my days on this earth are done, and I

storm that rag - es sub - sides. My voice cries to God from the
washed a - way all my sins. I'm re - deemed, and all of my
stand at God's ho - ly throne, my heart will not have an - y

Refrain

flood, and I'm saved be - cause of his blood.
days, Je - sus Christ will be my heart's praise.
fear; in Christ's righ - teous - ness I am here.

Text: Kenyan hymn; adapt. Greg Scheer, b. 1966

Music: KWAKE YESU NASIMAMA, Kenyan melody; adapt. Greg Scheer

Text © 2007 East African Annual Conference, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik

English adapt. and arr. © 2007 Greg Scheer, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik

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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

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

Red Book # 843

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"The Spacious Firmament on High" - adapted from Franz Joseph Hayden

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Jim Cunningham	Assisting Minister
Sandy Lefebvre	Communion Assistant
Marlin Boltz	Reader
Evan Stein	Crucifer
Emily Stein	Acolyte
Kevin Mathias	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Sr. Choir Director
Marlin Boltz	AV Assisting Minister
Karen Boltz	PowerPoint Minister
Susan Farrell and Christiaan van Driel	Ushers
Susan Farrell and Sue Morrow	Counters
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild

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

All are welcome to join us for social hour following the worship service.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Mon., 2/5	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Wed., 2/7	9:30 AM	Hymn Pick Meeting
	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting

Thurs., 2/8	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sat., 2/10	9:30 AM – 2:30 PM	Council to Synod Council Training
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sun., 2/11	9:00 AM	Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Worship
	11:30 AM	Crucifer and Assisting Minister Meeting after Worship
	5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Downstairs)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like a copy of the Lent Devotional, *Wandering Heart: Figuring out Faith with Peter*, please sign up in the social hall or contact the church office.

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is February 13 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Sign up in the social hall or contact the church office! A freewill offering will be taken to support Alex Kameron and Pastor Kimberly as they travel with Butler Area Lutheran Ministries Youth to the National Gathering this summer in New Orleans.

Please Join Us
Ash Wednesday - February 14th

Brief Spoken Service
with the Imposition of Ashes
at **12:15 pm**

Service of Holy Communion
with the Imposition of Ashes
at **7:30 pm**

First English Lutheran Church
241 N. Main St. Butler, PA 16001
www.FirstEnglishButler.org



Please email any updates for the church directory (photos or contact information) to the office officfelc@zoominternet.net by February 27.

Tickets for the 2024 Gala to benefit Butler Community Dinners are available for purchase from Tracy Gullickson and MaryAnn Swanson.



Community Dinner Requests Donations of:

canned soups, stews, vegetables, tuna, chicken, beans of all kinds, fruit, canned milk, shelf stable milk, non-dairy milk, powdered milk, dry creamer, peanut butter, cooking oil, nuts and seeds, uncooked rice and barley, pasta, canned or plastic jarred pasta sauce, cereal, oatmeal, granola, crackers, healthy snacks, protein bars, beef jerk, dried fruit, canned fruit and vegetable juices, and baby food

Please, no glass containers and remember to check expiration dates.

Donations can be placed in the collection container in the Brady St. vestibule on Sundays.

Thank you for being a blessing to our community!

PRAYERS

Jan Nieto; Gavin; family of David Riggs; family of Mary Ann Rudzki; Jeff Boyd; Betty Thomas; Owen; family of Rose “Roe” Goda; family of Mairead Magee; Chris and Jodie; Kathy Rhodes, her husband Ken, and family; Tonnie van Driel; family of Frank Franzen; Vicki Shields Cannon; Jayden; Myrna Hamil; Linda; Kathy Schweikart Spingola and Charles Spingola; Marj Rogner; Pam Reeder; Greg Reeder; Carol Cunningham; family of Zema Schaney; Frank Miller; family of Tony Sequite; Mackenzie Perkins; Linda Mathias; Gus Keiser; Cory; Will; Carol Chamberlain; Carol Johnson; Mason Martin; family of Janet Warner; Eileen Herbeck; family of Linda Hibbeler; Thelma Hassler; continued healing for Graham Cannon; Aryl Bashline; Holly Schubert; Tad Sellers; Pam Patterson; Tom Olson

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS

2 Kings 2:1-12

Elijah taken up to heaven and succeeded by Elisha

Psalms 50:1-6

Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth in glory. (Ps. 50:2)

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

God’s light seen clearly in the face of Christ

Mark 9:2-9

Revelation of Christ as God’s beloved Son

ZOOM INFO

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

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

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