

**First English Lutheran Church  
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion  
Third Sunday after Epiphany  
January 21, 2024  
10:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

**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**

“I Love to Tell the Story”

Red Book #661

## **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. Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The congregation may sit.*

## **THE WORD**

### **CHILDREN’S SERMON**

#### **FIRST READING**

**Jonah 3:1-5, 10**

*The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah’s dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question “On whom should God have mercy?”*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

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

**PSALM 62:5-12** *read responsively*

<sup>5</sup>For God alone I wait in silence;  
truly, my hope is in God.

<sup>6</sup>**God alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.**

<sup>7</sup>In God is my deliverance and my honor;  
God is my strong rock and my refuge.

<sup>8</sup>**Put your trust in God always, O people,  
pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.**

<sup>9</sup>Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate  
cannot be trusted.

Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.

<sup>10</sup>**Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride;  
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.**

<sup>11</sup>God has spoken once, twice have I heard it,  
that power belongs to God.

<sup>12</sup>**Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord,  
for you repay all according to their deeds.**

**SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 7:29-31**

*Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>29</sup>Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

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

*The congregation may stand.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

“Hallelujah”

Red Book #171

## **GOSPEL**

### **Mark 1:14-20**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.*

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

<sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation may sit.*

## **SERMON**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

“You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”

Red Book #817

## **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.

God of love and light,  
We pray for your people in every place.  
Help us follow your Son in our ordinary lives,  
Making good use of all that you have made.  
Allow us to enjoy community with others,  
But keep us free from entanglements that would diminish us from all you have made us to be.  
Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

Bless, we pray, those who have cared for people in danger from the cold:  
The Glade Run Warming center and the Grapevine Center in this community,  
And many other similar places throughout our country.  
Give refuge and safety to those at risk, and support staff members with resources and rest.  
Hear us, O God:  
**Your mercy is great.**

We beg you for a path to a just and durable peace  
in war-torn areas throughout the world.  
We remember the Middle East; Russia and Ukraine.  
Venezuela, Guyana, China, and Taiwan.  
Create hope even when things seem hopeless.  
Hear us, O God:  
**Your mercy is great.**

We lift up to you our families, in all their many configurations.

Support those who are married, that their relationships might be a gift to them and to those around them.

Sustain the relationships of parents and children, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, grandparents and cousins.

Nurture and protect families of choice formed from friendship, hardship, and love.

Hear us, O God:

**Your mercy is great.**

We name before you those who have asked for our prayers:

For Cory and for all others undergoing hard treatment for cancer,

For those who are sick...

For those who are grieving...

And we ask also that gratitude would illumine grief as we name before you those who have died this week: David.

Help us in all circumstances to trust in the light of resurrection hope.

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**

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

### **CHOIR ANTHEM**

“I Will Make You Fishers of Men”

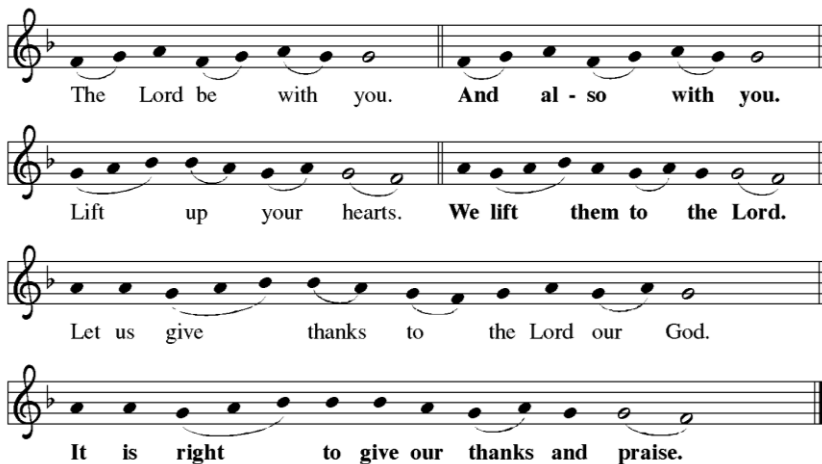
- Dave & Jean Perry

*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:



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, 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.

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**





*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

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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

#### Go to the World!



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.  
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.  
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;  
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,

Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,  
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.  
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.  
for I am with you till the age shall end,

bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.  
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.  
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.  
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	<b>Presiding Minister</b>
Sharon Heist Miller	<b>Assisting Minister</b>
Mollie Hibbs	<b>Communion Assistant</b>
Jeanne Graff	<b>Reader</b>
Sharon Heist Miller	<b>Crucifer</b>
Claudia van Driel	<b>Acolyte</b>
Kevin Mathias	<b>Organist</b>
Harry Cunningham	<b>Sr. Choir Director</b>
Marlin Boltz	<b>AV Assisting Minister</b>
Karen Boltz	<b>PowerPoint Minister</b>
Dan Morrow, Stan Graff, Amelia O'Rourke, Andrew O'Rourke	<b>Ushers</b>
Jeanette and Jim Cunningham	<b>Counters</b>
Roxanne Glagola	<b>Altar Guild</b>

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the van Driel family.*

*All are welcome to join us for an intergenerational event in the social hour following the worship service.*

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Mon., 1/22	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thurs., 1/25	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sat., 1/27	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sun., 1/28	9:00 AM	Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Worship
	11:15 AM	Annual Congregational Meeting
	5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Downstairs)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Help First English save on postage expenses!** Please remember to pick up your year-end giving statement in the social hall before you leave today.

**Please join us for an Intergenerational Event** following the 10 a.m. worship service today. Our time together today will focus on opening the Bible. No experience necessary, but all experience is welcome! Grab a snack

and help build community within our congregation as we ponder how a *book* is such a big part of our faith.

**Submissions for the February Newsletter** are due to Caitlyn in the church office today.

**The Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held next Sunday, January 28 following the 10 a.m. worship service.

**The AV Ministry** (responsible for coordinating the livestream of our worship services) is also seeking new participants! Do you like computers and tech? Would you be interested in helping our congregation stay connected to folks who are sick, traveling, or homebound? Then this ministry might be right for you! Email Marlin Boltz at [marlinboltz@hotmail.com](mailto:marlinboltz@hotmail.com) if interested.

**Our Community Meal Ministry** has been informed that we will not be receiving as much of the donation of non-perishable goods from Giant Eagle as we did in the past. Those who come to our door for a hot meal on Mondays have always appreciated the few extras they could take home when we had canned and boxed goods to offer. This will be very limited in the future. However, we can be of help! If you could spare a few non-perishable items to share with our neighbors, it would be deeply appreciated. There will be a container available to place those items in the Brady St. vestibule on Sundays. The following is a list of most needed items: 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 jerky, dried fruit, canned fruit and vegetable juices, baby food. Please, no glass containers and check expiration dates. Any little bit is appreciated. Thank you for being a blessing to our community.

**In this season, we have resumed passing the offering plate** as a part of our worship service. This practice allows us to remember that giving is an act of worship, even as we recognize now that many of us give online or through mail. All that we have is a gift from God and we give out of gratitude, however we give!

### **PRAYERS**

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; Jan Nieto; 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**

**Jonah 3:1-5, 10**

*Repentance at Nineveh*

**Psalms 62:5-12**

God alone is my rock and my salvation. (Ps. 62:6)

**1 Corinthians 7:29-31**

*Living in the end times*

**Mark 1:14-20**

*The calling of the disciples at the sea*

### **ZOOM INFO**

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

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

**Password: 408299**

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