

**First English Lutheran Church
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion
Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 17, 2024
10:00 a.m.**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Aus tiefer Not"	- Georg Friedrich Kaufmann
"Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"	- David N. Johnson, <i>arr.</i>
"Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"	- Dale Wood

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

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

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

The congregation may stand.

GATHERING HYMN

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

Red Book #759

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

Red Book #157

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, 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

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 51:1-12 *read responsively*

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

SECOND READING Hebrews 5:5-10

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

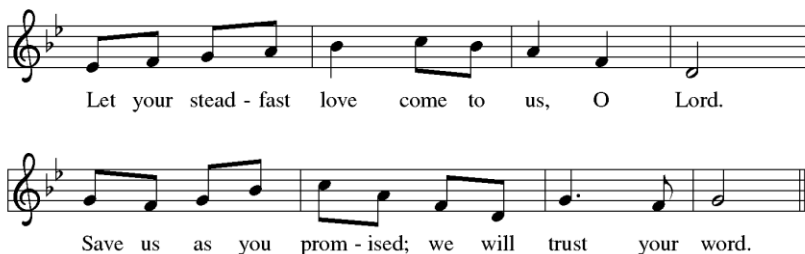
⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

LENTEN ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL John 12:20-33

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also.

Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

The congregation may sit.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

(next page)

Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of
 liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv-ing
 and in giv-ing. Spir-it, o - pen my heart.

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
 2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
 3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
 goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
 friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
 deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
 day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

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Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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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.

SONG (sung 3 times)

Come, Bring Your Burdens

Wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom -
 Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your

thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho, U -
 bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for

ye - s'a - ka - so - za - thi hayi.
 Je - sus will nev - er say no.

Text: South African; English text Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro, and Martine Stemerick
 Music: WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO, South African melody; arr. Welile Sigabi
 English text and arr. © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

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.

After each petition, the assisting minister bids:

Hear us, O God:

The congregation responds:

Your mercy is great.

The presiding minister concludes:

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

“ ‘Tis the Gift to Be Simple”

- Robert Lau

Variation IV - Cantabile

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

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

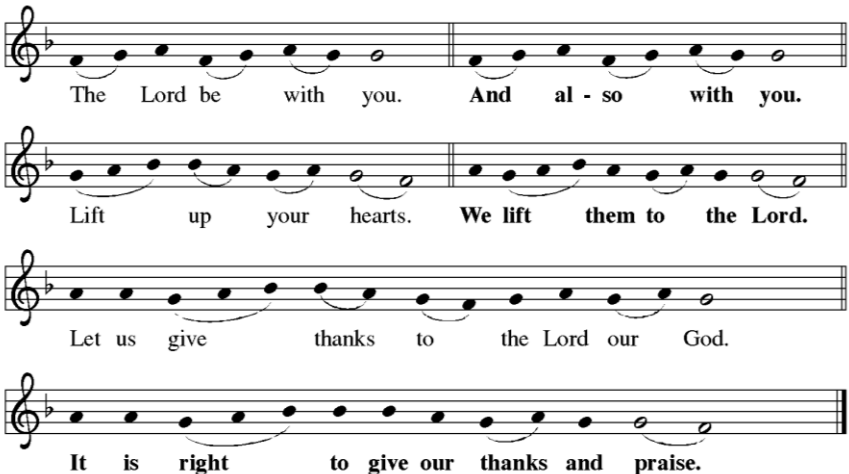
- Allen Pote

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

led by the assisting minister

GREAT THANKSGIVING



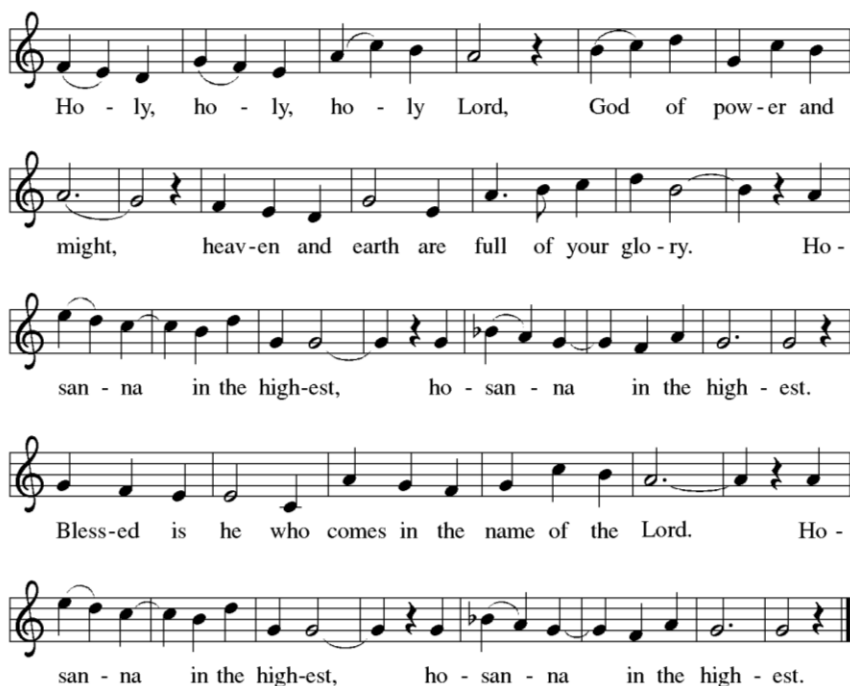
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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:



Blessed are you, O God of the universe...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.

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

The gifts of God given for the people of God. Take them in remembrance
that Christ died for you and feed on him your hearts with thanksgiving.

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

“Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am”

Red Book 814

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our sins from us. 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

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

SENDING HYMN

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

Red Book #545

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ”

- Marcel Dupré

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Jim Cunningham	Assisting Minister
Mollie Hibbs	Communion Assistant
Susan Farrell	Reader
Christiaan van Driel	Crucifer
Claudia van Driel	Acolyte
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Sr. Choir Director
Sue Morrow	AV Assisting Minister
Gracie Love	PowerPoint Minister
Karen and Bob Domanski; Brenden Stevens	Ushers
Jeanette and Jim Cunningham	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 an Intergenerational Faith Formation Event
following the worship service.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Mon., 3/18	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thurs., 3/21	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)

Sat., 3/23	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sun., 3/24	10:00 AM	Worship
	11:15 AM	Confirmation Meeting
	5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Downstairs)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us for an intergenerational faith formation even following the worship service today.

Midweek Lenten Worship will take place at 12:00 noon on Wednesdays in Lent at Trinity Lutheran Church, 120 Sunset Dr., Butler, PA.

“Created for Community”

March 20 - In community with Christ



Holy Week at First English

March 24th - Palm Sunday - Worship at 10 a.m.

March 28th - Maundy Thursday - Dinner Church at 6:30 p.m.

March 29th - Good Friday - Worship at 7:30 p.m.

March 31st - Easter Sunday - Worship at 10 a.m.

with Easter potluck coffee hour following worship

www.firstenglishbutler.org

241 North Main Street Butler, PA 16001

Maundy Thursday Dinner Church – March 28 at 6:30 p.m. Please sign up in the social hall if you plan to attend.

Easter Sunday Potluck Coffee Hour – March 31 following the worship service. Bring coffee cakes, fruit, quick breads (no hot dishes) to share and stay for continued celebration of the resurrection.

Tickets for the 2024 Gala to benefit Butler Community Dinners on Saturday, April 13th are available for purchase from Tracy Gullickson and MaryAnn Swanson.

Raffle Basket Request: If you or a group would like to put a basket together to benefit the Community Meal Ministries Gala & Art Show that will be held the weekend of April 13 & 14 at St Michael's Hall, please have your basket to First English by Thursday, April 4. Please give your basket a title and add a list of contents & name of the donor. This basket raffle is an important part of our event! Questions? Please see Tracy Gullickson or MaryAnn Swanson.

Do you give online through tithe.ly? Or do you send contributions to the church directly? Would you still like to participate in the offering during worship? Use the new "I give online" cards found in the card holders in the pew.

PRAYERS

Abbie; C. J. Williams; Evan; Cheryl Stirling; Kenneth Mathias; Lucas Barber; Charlie and Lori; 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; 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

Mark 11:1-11

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

Mark 14:1--15:47

The passion of the Lord

ZOOM INFO

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

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

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