

**First English Lutheran Church
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion
Fifth Sunday of Lent
April 6, 2025
10:00 a.m.**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Deep River”

- David H. Hegarty

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”

- George C. Stebbins

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

- Sarah Douglas

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 sins against God and one another.

The congregation may kneel or adopt another posture appropriate for confession. A moment of silence is kept.

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

“Take My Life, That I May Be”

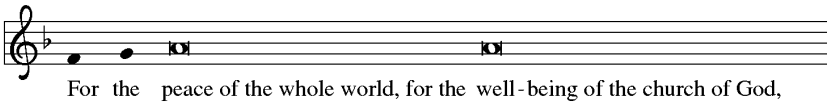
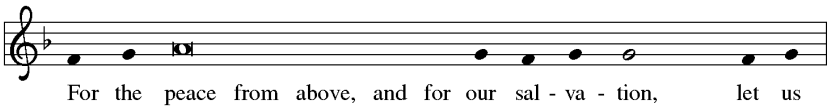
Red Book #685

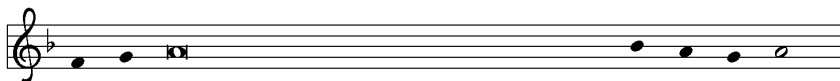
GREETING

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

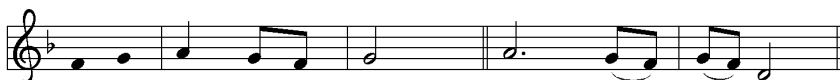
And also with you.

KYRIE





For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



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



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through 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 Isaiah 43:16-21

The prophet declares that long ago God performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, God is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new Exodus.

- ¹⁶ Thus says the Lord,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;

they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸ Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
²⁰ The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 126 *read responsively*

¹ When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
² **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue
with shouts of joy.**
Then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done
great things for them.”
³ The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.
⁴ **Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**
⁵ Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.
⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

SECOND READING **Philippians 3:4b-14**

Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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 12:1-8

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may sit.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"What Wondrous Love is This"

Red Book #666

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

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

The congregation may kneel or sit.

Mary gave in abundance; your Son died for life abundant.
Help us to love you and others without counting the cost.
God in your mercy,

Receive our prayer.

You promise a day when wild animals will honor you:
Protect animals and birds of every kind.
Ground us also in love for this earth we all share.
God in your mercy,

Receive our prayer.

You pour out your power in resurrection:
Bring an end to terror and war.
Ignite efforts of peacebuilding, justice, and mercy all over the world.
God, in your mercy,

Receive our prayer.

Your Son poured his life out for us, when we were still sinners.
Guard those who put their lives on the line for others.
God, in your mercy

Receive our prayer.

You give us the grace to remember those most on our minds:
Grant all that you see that they need.
God, in your mercy,
Receive our prayer.

By Christ's rising, you infuse our lives and our deaths with hope of eternity.
Teach us also to die in faith and commend our dead to your care.
God in your mercy,
Receive our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes:

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

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

“Meditation on ‘All Ehr und Lob’”

- Christoph Soyka

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

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Lord, Whose Passion Didst Reveal”

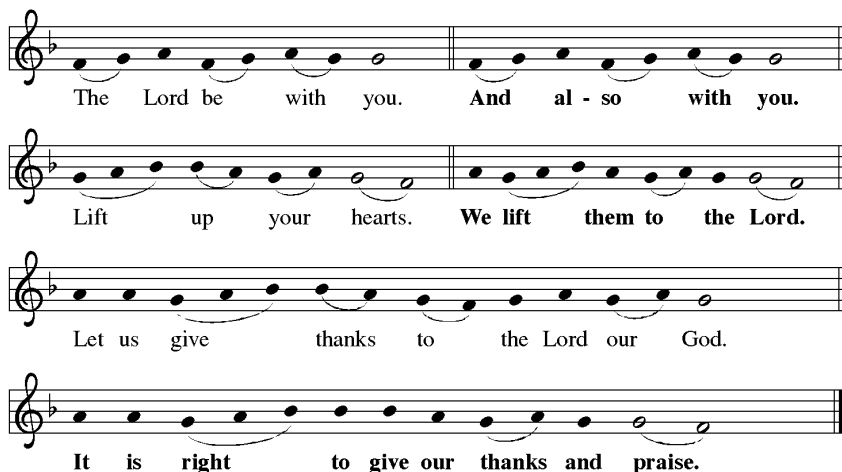
- Johann Frank, 17th Cent.
Leland R. Sateren, *arr.*

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

led by the assisting minister

GREAT THANKSGIVING



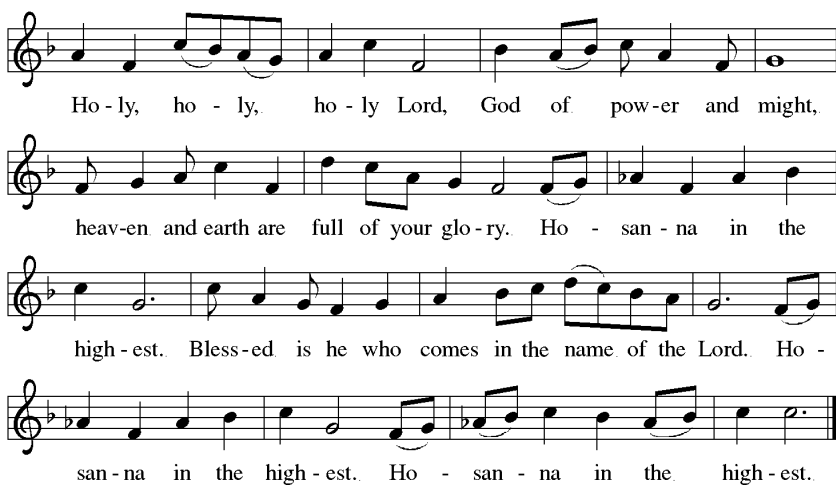
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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:



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.

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.

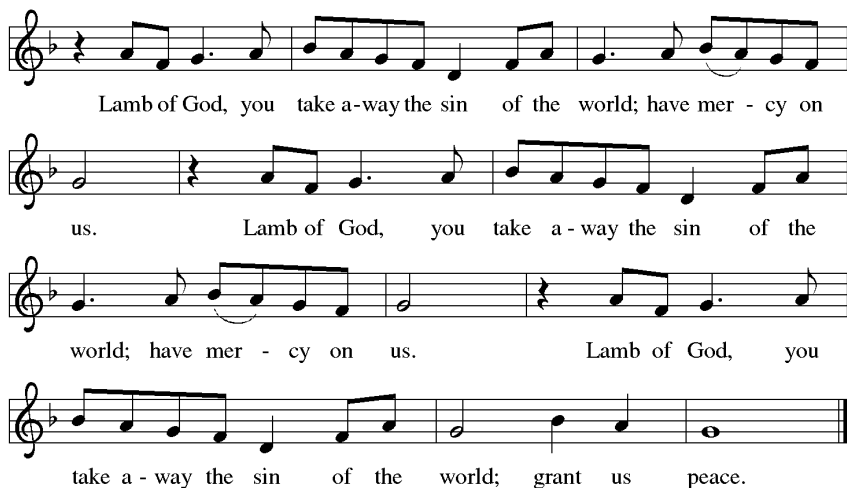
Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.

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.

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

“As the Sun with Longer Journey”

Red Book #329

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.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have prepared 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

THE SENDING

BLESSING

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

Red Book #802

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart”

- B. Schmid

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Maggie Babinka-Repic	Assisting Minister
Lois Trimbur	Communion Assistant
Susan Farrell	Reader
Sandy Lefebvre	Crucifer
Alex Kameron	Acolyte

Kevin Mathias	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Sr. Choir Director
Sue Morrow	AV Assisting Minister
Brandon Stein	PowerPoint Minister
Stan Graff, Dan Morrow, Andrew O'Rourke	Ushers
Bob and Karen Domanski	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., 4/7	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Tues., 4/8	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wed., 4/9	11 AM - 1 PM	Sanctuary Open for Quiet Prayer
	12:00 PM	Midweek Lenten Service (Trinity)
Thurs., 4/10	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sat., 4/12	10:30 AM	ACA Meeting
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sun., 4/13		No Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Worship
	2:00-5:00 PM	Soroptimist of Butler (Social Hall)
	5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Downstairs)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Participating in the Easter collage? Remember to bring your finished collage pieces to church next Sunday, April 13 so the mystery collage can be assembled at coffee hour on Easter.

We will not have bible study the next two Sundays (April 13 April 20).

We need volunteers to help with clean-up for the Maundy Thursday Soup Supper on April 17. Please sign up in the social hall.

Help us decorate the wooden cross on Easter Sunday! Please let us know by signing up in the social hall.

Join us after Easter worship for Paschal Pastries - a potluck continental breakfast! Please bring baked goods, cheese, fruit, or any dish that does not need to be kept warm or heated. Also, we will assemble the communal collage for Easter. Any questions? Contact Holly Schubert or Sharon Heist Miller.

Opportunities for Prayer and Worship during Lent
Midweek Worship at Trinity Lutheran Church, 120 Sunset Dr.,
on Wednesdays at Noon

Turning Toward God's Abundance

*This series of worship services will focus on five different aspects of God's generous grace.
April 9: Love*

Prayer Station in the Sanctuary

Are you following the "Christ Collides" Lent at Home Devotion? We will have a prayer station at First English that follows along with that devotion. Located in the front of the sanctuary by the sacristy door, the prayer station will be accessible on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (enter the church by the office door). Or, if you are in the building any other time of the week (for community dinner on Mondays or choir on Thursdays), feel free to stop by and pray.



Holy Week at First English

April 13th - Palm Sunday - Worship at 10 a.m.

*April 17th - Maundy Thursday - Soup Supper at 6:30 p.m.
followed by Worship at 7:30 p.m.*

April 18th - Good Friday - Worship at 7:30 p.m.

*April 20th - Easter Sunday - Festival Worship with Holy
Communion at 10 a.m. followed by Paschal Pastries*

Easter Breakfast at 11:15 a.m.

www.firstenglishbutler.org

241 North Main Street Butler, PA 16001

PRAYERS

Family of Karen Cranmer; Norman Butler; family of John Banks; Keith Graff; Jim Cunningham; Signe Mitchell; Cindy Regis; Marsh Miller; Paul & Mary; Becky Smith; Peter Osborne; Eric Love; Nancy & Dave McDermitt; family of Walter Fitzpatrick; family of Bernhard Klann; Hannah Love; Larry Hamil; Jake Stevens; Kathy & Tom Frank; Gerry and John O'Rourke; family of Thomas Olson; Karen Boltz's sister & her family; Randy & Gigi Kosier; Bruce Solomon; Tim Reamer; Shirley Mould; Nelson Ng; Jack Goetz; Debbie & family; family of Alice Miller; Mackenzie Hunt; Tatum Scilia; Fred Miller; Jaime Rickert; family of Dorothy Croupe; family of Amy; Warmbrod's mother; Rob; Jamie Maluk & family; David Fisher & family; Tommy, Jenny, & Aspen Zarnick; family of Richard Daller (brother of Betty Turner); Scott Tammaro; George Schaney; Stephen Wright; Steve; Don Eckels; Valerie Kurth; family of John Mileski; Cindy Halin; Mike Gibson; Dennis; Debra Williamson; Amy Waldron; Evelyn Shaulis; Bill Brown; Ben & the Keelser family; Tracy Tucci; Iman; Aryl Bashline; Julie, Greg & family; family of Kenneth Mathias; Pr. Jim Dollhopf & family; family & friends of Walter Szczurek; Paul Eicholtz; Frank Miller; Tad Sellers; Pam Patterson; Carol Johnson

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

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

Luke 22:14—23:56

The passion of the Lord

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