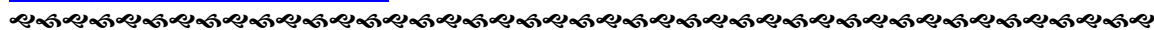
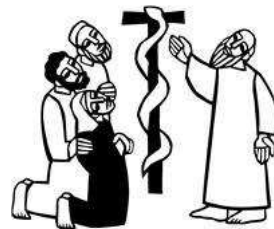


Welcome to
St. Luke's Lutheran Church (Obelisk)

3206 Big Road
Zieglerville, PA 19492
610-754-7762

stlukeslutheran.church

office@stlukeslutheran.church



4th Sunday in Lent
March 11, 2018 + 10:15 a.m.

P- Pastor, **C-Congregation**

** All who are able please stand.*

Harp Preludes (*listed on pg. 8 of the bulletin*)

Please sit quietly and enjoy the contemplative music of the harpist.

Welcome and Parish Concerns

*Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us confess our sin and seek reconciliation with God and neighbor.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Merciful God,

C: you sent Jesus Christ to save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your truth. Have mercy on us and wash away our sin. Create in us clean hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

P: Behold, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation. Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.

*Opening Hymn "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross"

bulletin pg. 9

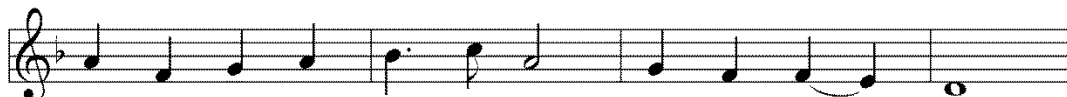
Gathering

Greeting

P: The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

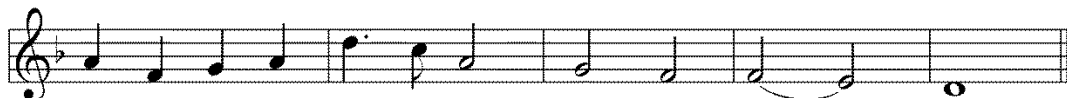
Kyrie



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

*Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Harp Solo: Ministry of Music: Bring Him Home Claude-Michel Schunberg

Word

FIRST LESSON: Numbers 21:4-9

The First Lesson is from the 21st chapter of Numbers.

Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Here ends the reading.

PSALM: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good,
and his mercy en- | dures forever.

²**Let all those whom the LORD has re- | deemed proclaim
that he redeemed them from the hand | of the foe. R**

³He gathered them out | of the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and | from the south.

¹⁷**Some were fools and took to re- | bellious ways;
they were afflicted because | of their sins.**

¹⁸They abhorred all man- | ner of food

and drew near | to death's door.

¹⁹**Then they cried to the LORD | in their trouble,
and he delivered them from | their distress. R**

²⁰He sent forth his | word and healed them
and saved them | from the grave.

²¹**Let them give thanks to the LORD | for his mercy
and the wonders he does | for his children.**

²²Let them offer a sacrifice | of thanksgiving
and tell of his acts with | shouts of joy. R

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 2:1-10

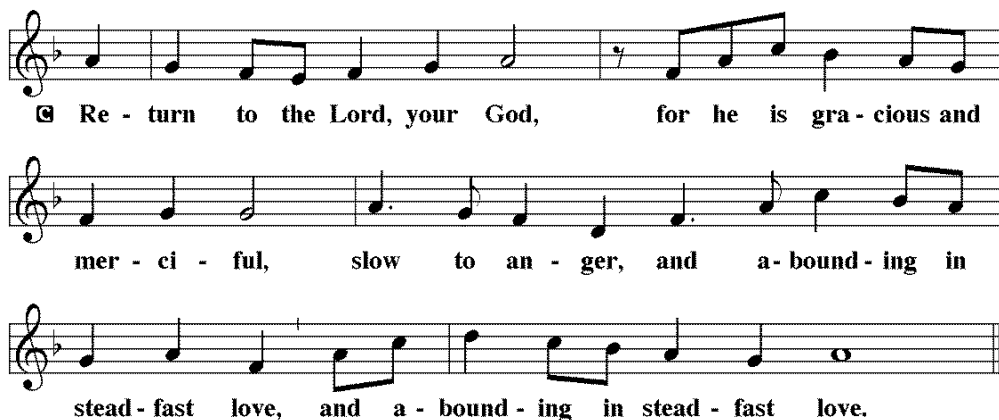
The Second Lesson is from the 2nd chapter of Ephesians.

While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Here ends the reading.

Lenten Verse



☩ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd chapter.



☩ Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those

who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Message

Silence for Reflection

Our Response to God's Word

*Hymn of the Day “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

LBW 479

* The Apostles Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

*Sharing the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

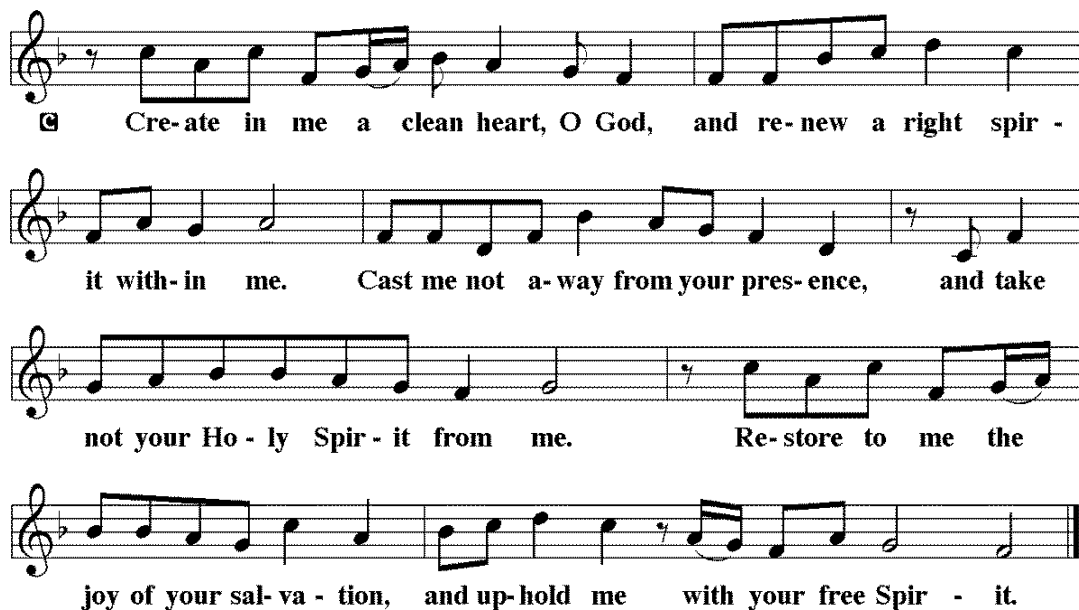
Please share the peace of Christ with one another.

Choir Anthem “The One Who Bears My Shame” Metzger

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

Harp Offertory: “Londonderry Air” *in honor of St. Patrick's Day – March 17*

*Offertory Hymn



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

*Prayers of Intercession

*The Lord's Prayer

C: 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

*Blessing

P: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace.

C: Amen.

*Hymn "My God, How Wonderful Thou Art"

LBW 524

* Dismissal

P: Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Harp Postlude “Majestic Procession” Mussorsky

Please remain seated to hear the harp postlude.

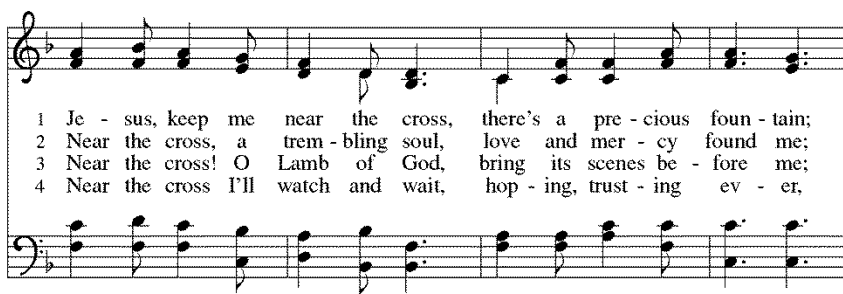


Harp Prelude Selections:

La Gimblette
Prelude in C
Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again
Be Still My Soul
Amazing Grace
You Raise Me Up
“Vivaldi” Largo
Hallelujah
Sheep May Safely Graze
Impromptu
Royal Fireworks
Interlude
Dona Nobis Pacem
Liebestraum
Clair d’Lune
The Swan

We would like to thank Alison Simpson for playing the harp again for us today. Alison Simpson graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Music with a B.M. in Harp Performance and from Wheaton College with a B.A. in Modern European History. She spent thirteen summers at the Salzedo Summer Harp Colony in Camden, Maine, studying with Alice Chalifoux. Alison is a free-lance harpist in the Tri-State Area, performing with local symphonies and choral societies. She was a frequent entertainer on the Luxury Liner Queen Elizabeth 2. She has performed in Carnegie Hall and the Philadelphia Academy of Music and has produced a CD called “Harps Afire.” Alison maintains a private studio in Doylestown.

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

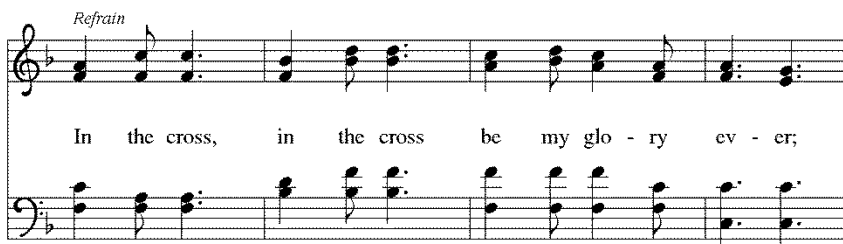


1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

