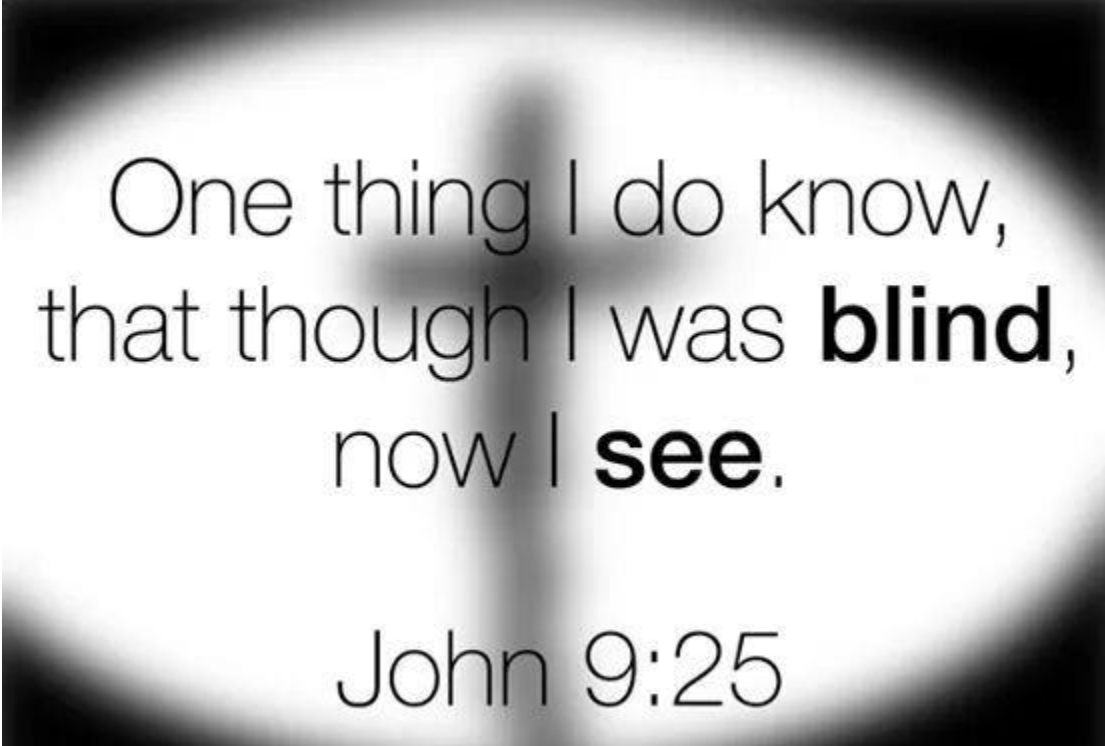


**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**4856 WAYNE ROAD**  
**CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202**  
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One thing I do know,  
that though I was **blind**,  
now I **see**.

John 9:25

*"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."*

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**MARCH 19, 2023**

**Sunday, March 19, 2023**

Fourth Sunday in Lent

*Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.*

## **GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who journeys with us these forty days,  
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

**Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another  
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Holy God,

**we confess to you our faults and failings.**

**Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;**

**we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;**

**we spoil rather than steward your creation;**

**we cause hurt though you call us to heal;**

**we choose fear over compassion.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**

**as we seek to follow in your way of life.**

**Amen.**

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,  
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,

✝ forgives you in Christ's name,

and revives you in the Spirit's power.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG *God, Whose Almighty Word* (ELW 673)



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard  
2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,  
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,  
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the  
heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -  
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the  
Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.  
lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.  
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.  
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

## 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 (ELW p. 98)

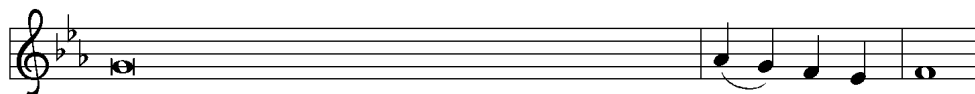
(Sung responsively between cantor and congregation)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



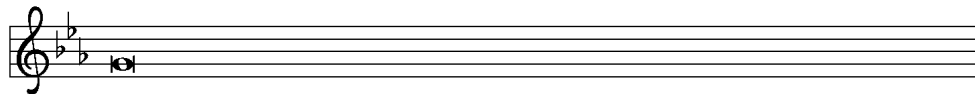
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



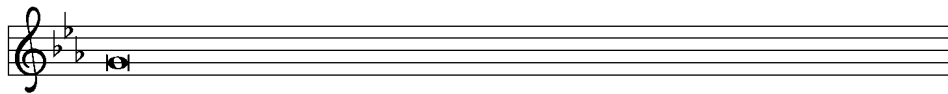
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men, a - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**SOLO      SAM MULL      AMAZING GRACE / MY CHAINS ARE GONE**

### **FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13**

A reading from 1 Samuel.

*Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." <sup>2</sup>Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" <sup>3</sup>Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you."

<sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" <sup>5</sup>He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." <sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." <sup>9</sup>Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." <sup>10</sup>Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." <sup>11</sup>Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." <sup>12</sup>He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." <sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

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

### **PSALM: Psalm 23**

(Sung responsively between women and men, beginning with the women.)



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- <sup>1</sup>The LORD<sup>1</sup> is my shepherd;  
I shall not <sup>1</sup> be in want.
- <sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down <sup>1</sup> in green pastures  
and leads me be- <sup>1</sup> side still waters.**
- <sup>3</sup>You restore my <sup>1</sup> soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways <sup>1</sup> for your name's sake.
- <sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall <sup>1</sup> fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they <sup>1</sup> comfort me.**
- <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence <sup>1</sup> of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is <sup>1</sup> running over.
- <sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days <sup>1</sup> of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the <sup>1</sup> LORD forever.**

### **SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14**

A reading from Ephesians.

*Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.*

<sup>8</sup>Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—<sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup>Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!  
Rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (W&P 27) *Cares Chorus*

C G/B Am CM<sup>7</sup>/G

I cast all my cares up-on you; I

The first system of the musical score is in 3/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody with lyrics underneath. The bass clef staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the treble staff: C, G/B, Am, and CM<sup>7</sup>/G.

F C/E Dm Gsus G

lay all of my bur - dens down at your feet. And

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the treble staff: F, C/E, Dm, Gsus, and G.

C G/B C/B<sup>b</sup> F/A Fm/A<sup>b</sup>

an-y - time that I don't know what to do, I will

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the treble staff: C, G/B, C/B<sup>b</sup>, F/A, and Fm/A<sup>b</sup>.

C<sup>2</sup>/G C/G G<sup>7</sup>sus G<sup>7</sup> F/C C

cast all my cares up-on you.

The fourth system concludes the chorus. Chords are indicated above the treble staff: C<sup>2</sup>/G, C/G, G<sup>7</sup>sus, G<sup>7</sup>, F/C, and C.

Text: Rusty Edwards, stanzas; Frederick Whitfield, refrain  
 Music: North American traditional, arr. Rusty Edwards  
 Text 1997 Selah Publishing Co.; arr. 1999 Augsburg Fortress

## GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

The holy gospel according to John.  
 Glory to you, O Lord.

*Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.*

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup>They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

<sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup>but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” <sup>22</sup>His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

<sup>24</sup>So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” <sup>25</sup>He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” <sup>26</sup>They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” <sup>27</sup>He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” <sup>28</sup>Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” <sup>30</sup>The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.

<sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” <sup>34</sup>They



answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup>He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." <sup>38</sup>He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON PASTOR BARB

### HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me* (ELW 767)



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;  
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;  
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,



di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.  
for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.  
I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home,



With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;  
Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,  
then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!



so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.  
for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.  
So, take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: SO NIMM DENN MEINE HÄNDE, Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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## **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 THE CHURCH** *(Please respond.)*

*P: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.*

## **PEACE**

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

## OFFERTORY *Come to the Table* (W&P 33)



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942

Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956

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## OFFERING PRAYER

God of good gifts,  
receive these and all our offerings  
as we present them in faithful service  
for the sake of your gospel.  
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal  
as you pour out your very presence  
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.  
**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also 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.**

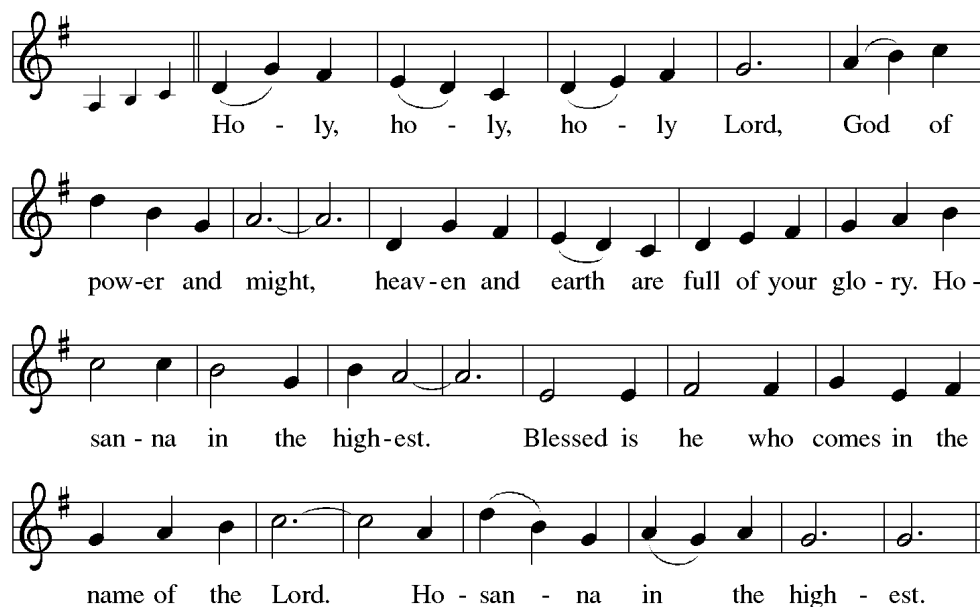
## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 108)



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. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## 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.**

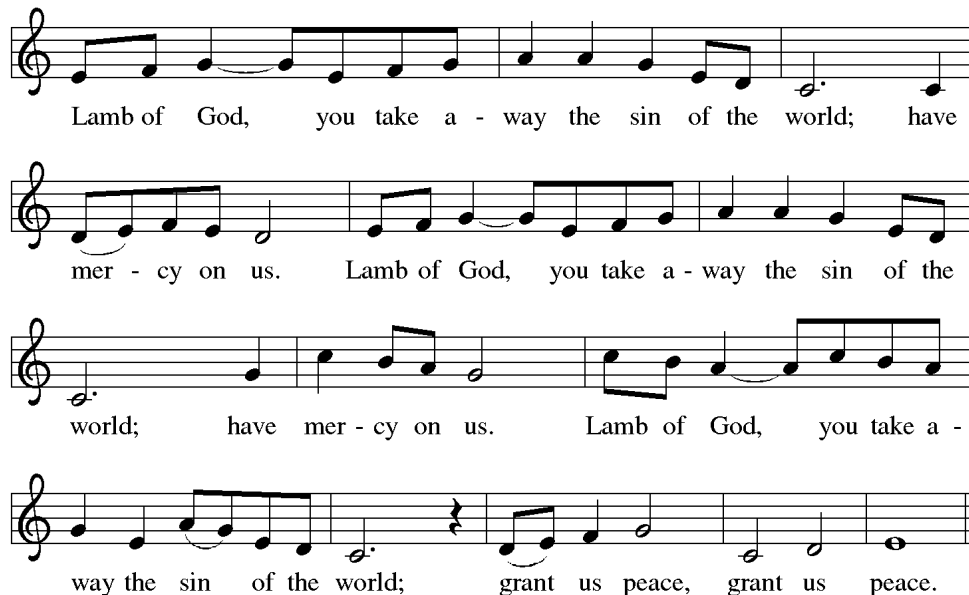
## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

## COMMUNION

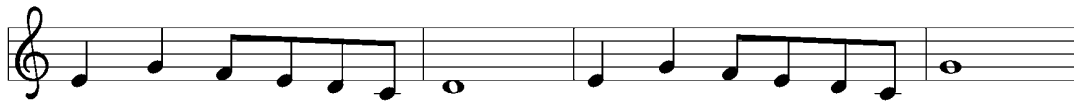
*Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher. After you receive the bread, you may take a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Gluten free wafers are available, ask the Pastor when you come forward. Notify the Head Usher if you would appreciate receiving Communion at your seat rather than walking up to the altar, the Pastor and Communion Assistant will be happy to bring Communion to you.*

## COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 112)



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.

## HYMN DURING COMMUNION *Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am* (ELW 814)



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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## 2<sup>ND</sup> HYMN DURING COMMUNION *Just As I Am, without One Plea* (ELW 592)



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y\_a con - flict,  
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,  
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
man - y\_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,  
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,



O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

## COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 113)



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared 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.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Embodied God,  
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.  
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,  
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors  
and touch the world with your love.

**Amen.**

## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG** *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me: O Christ, Surround Me* (ACS 1084)



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -  
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,  
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967  
Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan  
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**SENDING IN SERVICE**

Go in peace. Serve in love.

**EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLE/SILENT PRAYER**

**POSTLUDE**

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## SERVING TODAY

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Organist .....	Doug Mummert
Head Usher .....	Ron Coldsmith
Acolyte .....	Janice McEntire
Lector.....	Rich McEntire
Securing Offering .....	Janice McEntire & Becky Pecha
Communion Set-Up.....	Ilona & Jerry Laney
Communion Clean-Up .....	Linda Berberich & Judy Johnson
Communion Bread .....	Colleen Johnson
Communion Assist .....	Lilly Chiado & Becky Mull
Cantor .....	Kathy Bowen
Attendance last Sunday.....	58

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The altar flowers** this morning are placed to the Glory of God in honor of our anniversary (62 years) given by Norm & Nancy Kuykendall.

**Welcome Visitors!** We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

**Prayer requests for the following:** *Cody Banks, Virginia Detwiler, Terry Fell, Callie Mummert, Bernie Harris, Matthew, Lexi and Brooke Bowen, Doc Ensinger, Jim & Carole Darr, Beth Floyd, Sarge and Barb Weaver, Tina Smith, Patricia Yetter, Nancy Marshall, Darrell Veilleux, Linda Wepking, Phyllis Brehm, Bill and Jane Brindle, Esther Gift, Jean Jackson, Marjorie McMullin, Joe Mock, Ina Shreiner, Genny Grant, Frances Kramer, Clayton Schwartz, Linda Russ, Carol Locke, Betty Amt, Ukrainian Nation, Peace for the World.* If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire. **Please Be Aware: If you would like to remain listed on the next month's list, or if you would like to have your name removed from the list before the end of the month, please call the office.**

**Office Hours for Pastor Barb** are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon or call for an appointment.

### **Weekly Calendar Reminders:**

Mar 21 - Social Ministry 7PM

Mar 22 - Psalm Bible Study 10AM, Lent Svc 5:30PM (Corpus Christi Roman Catholic)

Mar 16 - Choir 7PM

Mar 25 - Bowling & Pizza Party / Craft Fair

**Coffee Hour Date Change** - Coffee Hour after worship has been changed from April 2 (the first Sunday) to April 16 due to Holy Week.

**Celebrate The Spirit of Spring CRAFT FAIR.** March 25th from 9AM until 2Pm at Luther Ridge Fleck Center. Local vendors and baked goods, silent auction and door prizes. Lunch available!!

**Relay For Life - Every Thursday in March from 3 - 9 pm the Liquid Art Brewing Company will donate 10% of total sales to the Franklin & Fulton County Relay.** Address is 140 N. 3rd Street, Chambersburg. No flyer is needed! Additional details are located on the bulletin board in the Sunday School room. Thank you for your support!

**Bowling & Pizza Party** – *Congregation Members are invited.* Saturday, March 25, 2023 – Nellie Fox Bowling 3:00- 5:00 & Vince's in Marion for Pizza. We have 4 lanes reserved. Cost: 55.00 per lane for 2 hrs. (6 per lane). Christian Ed will pay for all Youth bowling & pizza. Sign-up sheet in Sunday School Room.

**Power Pack Meals** - the Power Pack Ministry is now packing meals for 25 students at New Franklin School. The program covers three meals a day for the weekend, that's 150 meals that are being packed each week. The need is GREAT. Please consider doing what you can to help. Food can be placed in the gray tote in the Sunday school room. Monetary donations can be put in the offering, clearly mark your check "Power Pack". Your response in the past has been great. THANK YOU!!!

**Cancellation Notification:** In the event of inclement weather, Solomon's will announce worship services are cancelled on the following platforms: Solomon's Facebook page, Solomon's Website, and on the church voicemail **BY 7:30 AM**. A prerecorded worship service and bulletin will be available on the website. Remember for events like Mid-Week Bible Study, if the schools are closed for weather, then the event is cancelled. Please always use your own judgement about whether you feel safe driving given the road conditions in your neighborhood. One part of the county may be cleared while another is not!

**Sunday School is in Session** - Adult Sunday School classes begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Sunday School room. Children's Church will be held during morning worship and will meet downstairs at 10:20 a.m. Confirmation Class will be held at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room in the Fellowship Center.

**2023 Altar Flower Chart is posted** in the cloakroom off the church entryway. The cost of the two vases will be \$50.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$50.00 with the bulletin information. If you would like to save money by asking someone else to share the cost, you are welcome to do so. When you sign-up for a Sunday, you will be responsible to obtain the bulletin information for you and your friend and forward it to Kimberly.

**Sign-up Sheets for worship assistants** for 2023 are on the bulletin board in the Sunday School room. Communion: bread, set-up, clean-up, and assistant will be on a monthly basis. If you can't commit to the entire month, please see if you can share the month with someone else. Acolytes and Lectors are on a weekly basis. If you find you can't fulfill a chosen date, please call someone to take your place. Let Kimberly in the office know so the bulletin and newsletter info stays up to date. Thank you for your commitment to help provide opportunities for meaningful worship at Solomons. Kimberly will publish the schedule for each month in the newsletter.

**Bulletin Announcement Forms** are in both pamphlet racks. Please submit all bulletin announcements to the office by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday for inclusion in the bulletin.

**Council Minutes, Monthly Financial Statement and Committee Minutes** are available in the library for anyone to read.

**MARCH 19, 2023**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

*Faith sees while absolute certainty blinds.*



**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 9:1-41</b>	<b>The man born blind</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>1 Samuel 16:1-13</b>	<b>David is anointed king</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Ephesians 5:8-14</b>	<b>Living as people of light</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Jeremiah 1:4-19</b>	<b>Jeremiah's call</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Proverbs 15:1-5</b>	<b>The Lord sees everything</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Luke 19:1-10</b>	<b>Jesus and Zacchaeus</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalm 23</b>	<b>The Lord is my shepherd</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 11:1-45</b>	<b>The raising of Lazarus</b>

**SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." John 9:39 (NRSV)*

**PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

**A Prayer for the Week:**

God of justice and mercy, heal us of our blindness that keeps us from loving you and our neighbor through Jesus Christ, the one who came that we may see. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, we thank you for this food that reminds us of your overflowing goodness and mercy through Christ Jesus, our shepherd. Amen. (Psalm 23)

**A Blessing to Give:**

May Christ's love shine on you with all that is good and right and true. (Ephesians 5)

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Think or talk about a time you were in a conversation and convinced you were right.
- How is faith in Jesus something different than being sure that you are right and others are wrong?

## HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Christ, Be Our Light*



## DEVOTIONS

*Read:* John 9:1-41.

This story addresses extreme contrasts between sight and blindness, between those who see and those who do not see. Jesus heals a man born blind. The certainty of the Pharisees becomes their blindness. They try to refute the fact that the man was born blind. They despise him and drive him out for stating both the truth of the Jewish faith and saying that he was blind and now sees. Both the truth of the tradition and his experience are totally rejected. Jesus points out that it is the leaders' absolute certainty that shows how blind they are to the truth. There are times in our own lives when being absolutely certain about something and not seeking other possibilities shows our blindness. This story reminds us that faith and trust in Jesus is wiser and more honest than arrogant, self-confidence. Faith sees Jesus and his ability to create light and life. Human certainty is always in danger of being blind to who Jesus is and what he means for the world that God loves.

*Discuss:* How might your pride, sense of certainty, and arrogance get in the way of caring about others?

*Pray:* **God of truth, help us to let go of anything that blinds us to your love and work in the world so that we may see Jesus and follow him with faith, hope, and love. Amen.**

## SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you address others with humility and the ability to learn from them?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Lent is a period of forty days when we focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as we prepare for Easter. Almsgiving is the tradition or practice of giving money or food to those in need. This week think or talk about the needs of those who are blind or cannot see well. Some are unable to pay for glasses or receive medical care. Add a donation to the Almsgiving Box placed in your home. The collected money is to be donated at the end of Lent.

*Pray:* **Loving God, help us to care for those in need of good eyesight. We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, amen.**