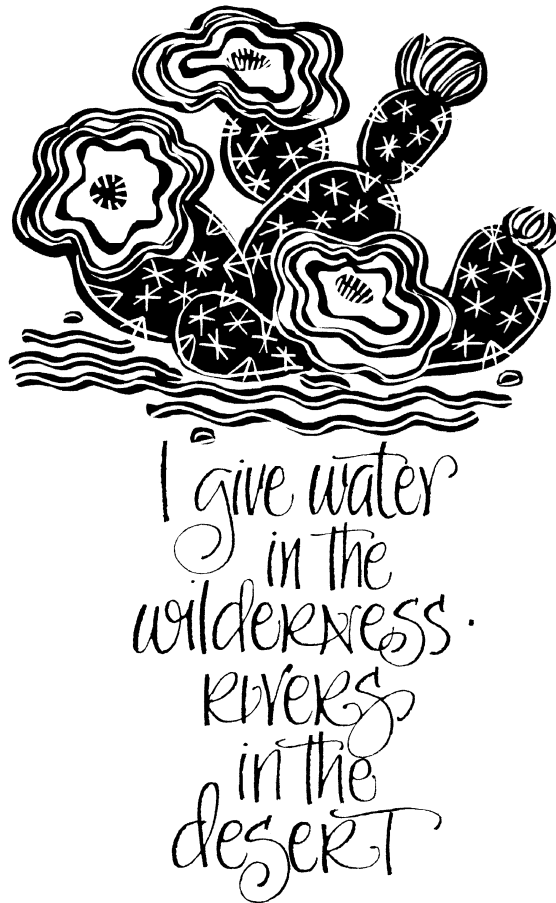


SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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I S A I A H 4 3 : 2 0



"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."

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
APRIL 6, 2025

April 6, 2025
Fifth Sunday in Lent

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE *What Wondrous Love Is This* - John Carter

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

SPECIAL MUSIC *Give Me Jesus* Negro Spiritual

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Compassionate One,
you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.
We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.
We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.
We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.
Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.
Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.
In ✙ Christ your sins are forgiven.
You have a place in God's house forever.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG *As We Gather at Your Table* (ELW 522)**



1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri-um-phantly Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

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***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

S 213a



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

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.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

A reading from Isaiah.

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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM:

¹ When the LORD restored the for- | tunes 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 for- | tunes, 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, carry- | ing the seed,**
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

A reading from Philippians.

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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: John 12:1-8

The holy gospel according to John.

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.

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary 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. ⁴ But 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.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial.

⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON All else is rubbish!

***Please stand as you are able for the final verse**

HYMN OF THE DAY *What Wondrous Love Is This* (ELW 666)



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

***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: God, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer.

***PEACE**

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

SPECIAL MUSIC *If I Can Help Somebody* Alma Hazel Androzso

***OFFERTORY** *Create in Me* (ELW 186)



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.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious Provider,
you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
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;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n 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.

***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**

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**

All who are hungry, come!
The feast of grace is spread.

COMMUNION

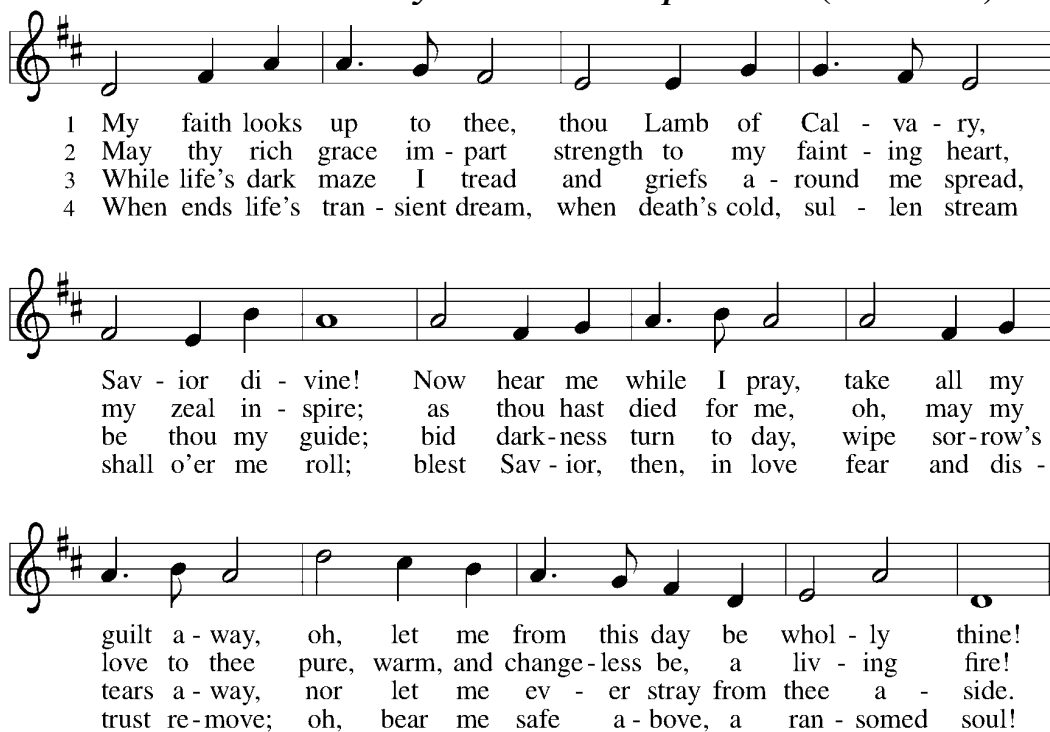
Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher. After you receive the bread, you may take a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Gluten free wafers are available, ask the Pastor when you come forward. Notify 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 146)



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.

COMMUNION HYMN *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* (ELW 759)



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -

guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887

Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

*COMMUNION BLESSING

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

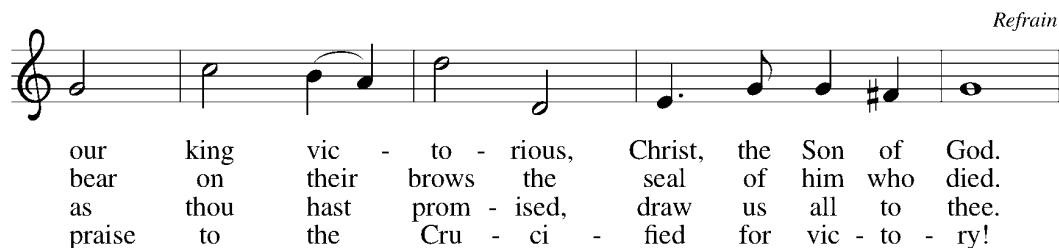
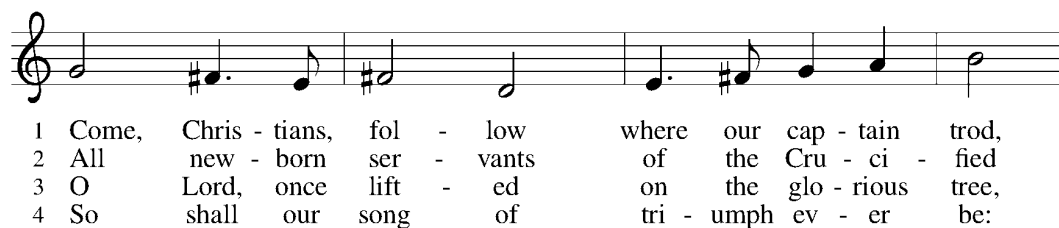
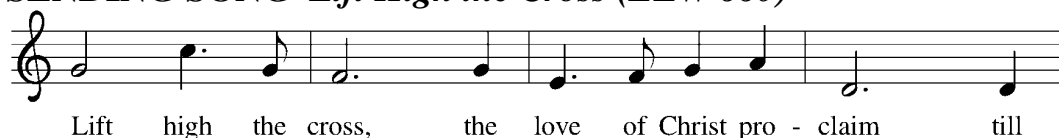
*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

*BLESSING

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✠bless you now and forever.
Amen.

*SENDING SONG *Lift High the Cross (ELW 660)*



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God!

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLE/SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE *Voluntary on “In Babilone”* - David N. Johnson

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SERVING TODAY

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Organist	Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher	Ron Coldsmith
Acolyte	Jaxon Alosi
Lector.....	Kathy Bowen
Securing Offering.....	Tana Vance & Edna Harris
Communion Set-Up.....	Ilona & Jerry Laney
Communion Clean-Up	Ilona & Jerry Laney
Communion Bread	Ilona Laney
Communion Assist.....	Martie Veilleux
Attendance last Sunday	36

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the Glory of God in loving memory of my father Max Yunaska, whose birthday would have been this week given by Mary-Jo & Chuck Bedsworth and family.

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!

We welcome **Jesse Holtz** to our worship this morning. Thank you for being with us and sharing your musical talents and gifts!

Jesse Holt, tenor

Jesse Holt, Jr., is a multitaled personality who has participated in the Crittenden Opera Workshop and sung in the Washington Concert Opera chorus. A graduate of Howard University, Jesse is a retired physical education teacher who has taught and coached tennis in various venues. A 2016 graduate of Wesley Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity, Jesse recently completed a Doctor of Ministry at United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg. His focus is on creating outreach community ministries beyond the walls of the church. He is a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Gettysburg.

Prayer requests for the following: *Evelyn Gomez, Kristen Hardman, Brandan DeShong, Kaitlyn Dovey, Angela Puchalo, Katelyn Mary Dodge, Charles Carl, Fran Stouffer, Marty Wenger, Don Wildeson, Nancy Marshall, Betty Amt, our world & country, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Chuck Bedsworth, Linda Mumaugh, Katy Klutz, Bonnie Hudson, Becky Ensinger, Sam Mull, and all the Homebound. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.*

Please Be Aware: *We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.*

Weekly Calendar Reminders:

April 7 - W&M 6pm
8 - Christian Ed 7pm
9 - Lent Service 7pm (Supper 5:30pm)
10 - Finance Noon
Choir 7pm
12 - Spring Fun Night 2:30pm

Please join us for a luncheon following the church service today in honor of Pastor Mike's 45 years of Ordination. Everybody is welcome.

Worship & Music will meet on Monday, April 7 at 6:00pm.



Palm Sunday, April 13	10:15 AM
Maundy Thursday, April 17	7:00 PM with stripping of the altar
Good Friday, April 18	7:00 PM Tenebrae service
Easter Sunday, April 20	Special music begins at 10:00 AM / Worship 10:15 AM

This Wednesday, the mid-week Lenten service will be held at Solomon's Lutheran, beginning with supper at 5:30, followed by worship beginning at 7:00pm. The offering during this Lenten season will be given to Mercy House, a Hospice Home in Chambersburg.

Congregation Dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 15 at 6:30pm. The menu is stromboli, salad, chips, applesauce, cookies, & ice cream sundaes. Tickets: Adults - \$7.50, Children (5-11) - \$4.00, Under 5 - free. They will be sold after church service. See Margie Dale or Frances Reichard.

Solomon's Annual Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 19 at 11:00AM at Solomon's Picnic Woods. All children 12 and under are invited.

Christian Education Spring Fun Event – bowling and pizza is scheduled for April 12, 2025. We will meet at Nellie Fox Bowling at 2:30 p.m. We will bowl until 5:00 p.m. and then go to Vinnie's for pizza and drink. Please sign up (sign-up sheet is in the Sunday School room) so we know how many people to plan for. All are welcome!

Qigong/Tai Chi Class will be starting **April 23rd, Wednesdays at 7:00pm** at Solomon's Church main Sunday school room. This is an open class. If you can walk independently, you will survive the class. All exercises are mild. For more information contact: Colleen Johnson.

During the month of April, Social Ministry will be collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry. Paper products cannot be purchased with Food Stamps. Items needed are toilet paper, napkins, paper towels, Kleenex, hand wipes, diapers, etc. Please place the items in the totes under the coat rack, next to the mailboxes.

SpiriTrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary still has discount cards available for \$5.00. Cards are good until Sept. 1, 2025. All proceeds go to support programs at Luther Ridge. Lots of great places to save. See Becky Pecha if you would like to have a card.

Communion Cards – to maintain accurate records, we ask that each member fill out a communion card **only once per calendar year**, at a service when you partake of Holy Communion.

Choir rehearsal - Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM. New members are most welcome to join us. We usually rehearse for an hour. See Mary-Jo Bedsworth or any choir member if you have questions.

The 2025 Chart for Altar flowers is on the table in the Sunday School room. 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.

The 2025 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room. Please sign up for as many as you can.

SpiriTrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary has cookbooks for sale, \$15 each. Lots of great recipes! All proceeds go to support programs at Luther Ridge. If interested, see Becky Pecha, Frances Reichard, Margie Dale, or Bonney Coldsmith.

Power Pack Meals: The need for nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need is an on-going project. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put Power Pack Meals in the memo of your check.

If you are not taking your altar flowers home, please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

Music Notes/Hymn Notes:

Our Hymn of the Day this morning, *What Wondrous Love Is This*, seems to express awe at the love of God and is somewhat reminiscent of the text of John 3:16. The text was first published in 1811, but there are few clues as to the author or composer. The melody has a Celtic influence and first made its appearance in the valleys of the Southern Appalachians. It was included in the historic *Southern Harmony*, compiled by William Walker. The hymn is simple and persistent. Each stanza of the hymn has a single thought which is underscored by repetition. It is this repetition that is said to come from one who has experienced the profound sacrificial love of Christ. However, it is the haunting melody that has made this hymn a popular one in this country. In addition to this being our Hymn of the Day, the tune is also included in the organ prelude. (Hymnary.org; Wikipedia; Discipleship Ministries.org; Lovelace: Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins, pg. 112)

The words to our communion hymn this morning, "My Faith Looks Up to Thee," were written by Ray Palmer, while teaching at a private girls' school in New York. He had been through a difficult year of illness and loneliness and wrote these verses one night after meditating on a German poem depicting a sinner kneeling before the cross of Christ. He wrote the words into a notebook which he later shared with Lowell Mason, the composer of the tune to this hymn. Mason told Palmer that he (Palmer) would be best remembered as the author of "My Faith Looks Up to Thee." A hymn of prayer, Palmer is quoted as saying, "The words for these stanzas were born out of my own soul, with very little effort. I recall that I wrote the verses with tender emotion. When writing the last line, "O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul," the thought that the whole work of redemption and salvation was involved in those words brought me to a degree of emotion that brought abundant tears." Palmer is considered to be one of America's best 19th century hymn writers. He became an ordained pastor, serving churches in Maine and New York. He also published several volumes of poems and hymns and his complete poetical works were published in 1876. (Hymnary.org)