

You're Welcome...



Lent 1: February 22, 2026



Holy Trinity Staff

Pastor: Rev. Mark Luscombe

Organist and Bell Choir Director: Debbie Fortna

Choir Director: Deb Olson

Administrative Assistant: Sue Johns

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY E.L.C.A.

167 EAST MAIN STREET EPHRATA PA 17522 PHONE 717.733.4134 Web: www.holytrinityephrata.org

The Liturgy of Holy Communion

9:00 AM

†††

GATHERING

Announcements

Prelude: *Be Thou My Vision*, arr. Edward Broughton

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C. Amen.

P. Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P. Gracious God,

C. have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P. For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

C. have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P. For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

C. have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P. For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

C. have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P. For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers:

Gracious God,

C. have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P. For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

C. have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P. For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

C. have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P. God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

P. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

C. Amen.

(please stand)

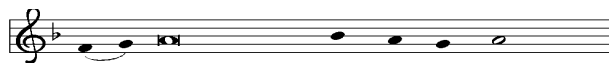
The Entrance Hymn: #320 THE GLORY OF THESE FORTY DAYS

Apostolic Greeting

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

C. And also with you.

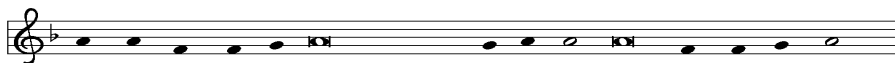
Kyrie:



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



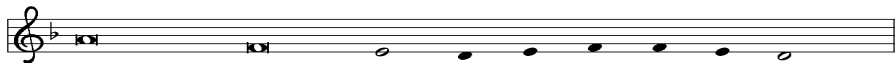
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



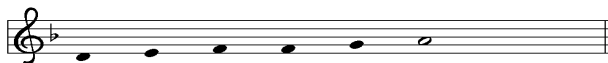
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



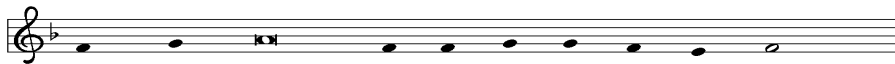
For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



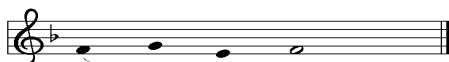
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men.

The Prayer of the Day

P. Lord God, our strength,

C. the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us 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

(please be seated)

WORD

The First Lesson: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." Genesis 3:1-7 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

L. The Word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32 (read responsively with the lector)

¹Happy are they whose transgressions [|] are forgiven, and whose sin is [|] put away!

**²Happy are they to whom the LORD im- [|] putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there [|] is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones with- [|] ered away, because of my groaning [|] all day long.

**⁴For your hand was heavy upon me [|] day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the [|] heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- [|] ceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt [|] of my sin.

**⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in [|] time of trouble; when the
great waters overflow, they [|] shall not reach them.**

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve [|] me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts [|] of deliverance.

8 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;

I will guide you | with my eye.

9 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you."

**10 Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.**

11 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.

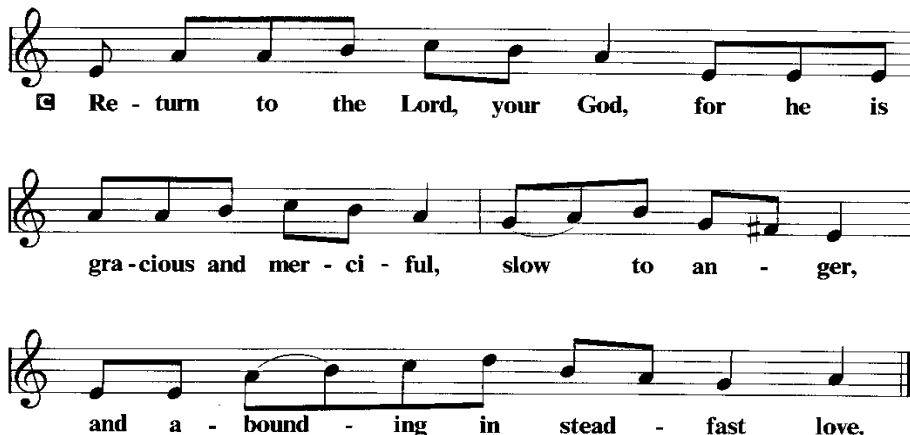
The Second Lesson: Romans 5:12-19

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- ¹³ sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶ And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷ If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹ For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

L. The Word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

The Lenten Sentence



The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 4:1-11

P. The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C. Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

(please be seated)

The Sermon: Rev. Mark Luscombe

[Silence for reflection follows the sermon.]

(please stand)

The Hymn of the Day: #504 A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

Apostle's 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

The Prayers

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

(Kneel) (after each petition, please respond)

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

P. 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.

C. Amen

P. The Peace of the Lord be with you always!

C. And also with you!

MEAL

The Offering: *Sacred Song*, Bonita L. Luciotti

(please stand)

The Offertory: *"Create in Me..."*

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.

The Offertory Prayer

A. O God, maker of heaven and earth,

C. your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

The Preface Dialogue: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Lift up your hearts

C. We lift them to the Lord.

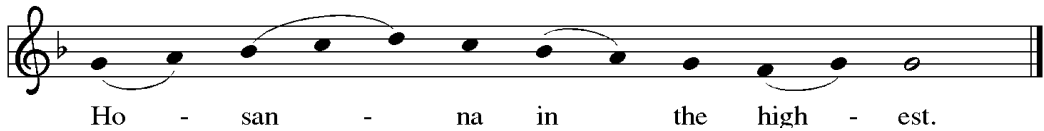
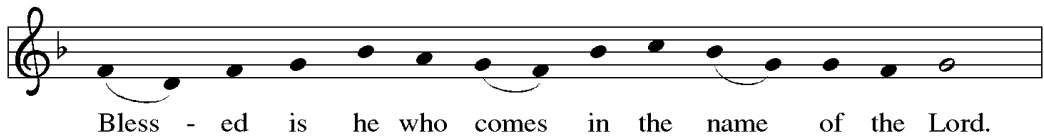
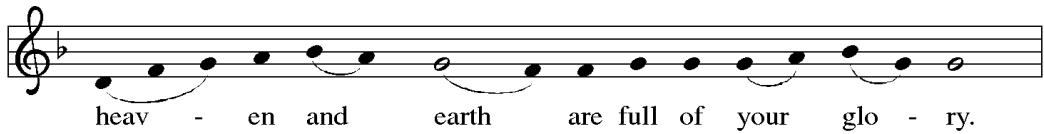
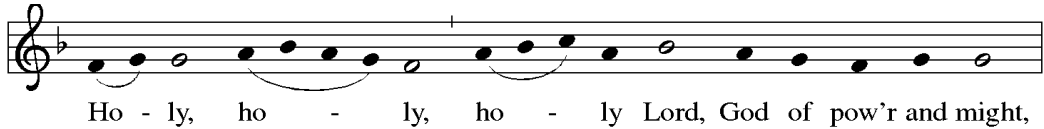
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface for Lent

P. "It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy.....join their unending hymn."

The Sanctus:



The Eucharistic Prayer

P. Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations. In the night in which he was handed over, 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. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P. 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.

C. Come, Holy Spirit.

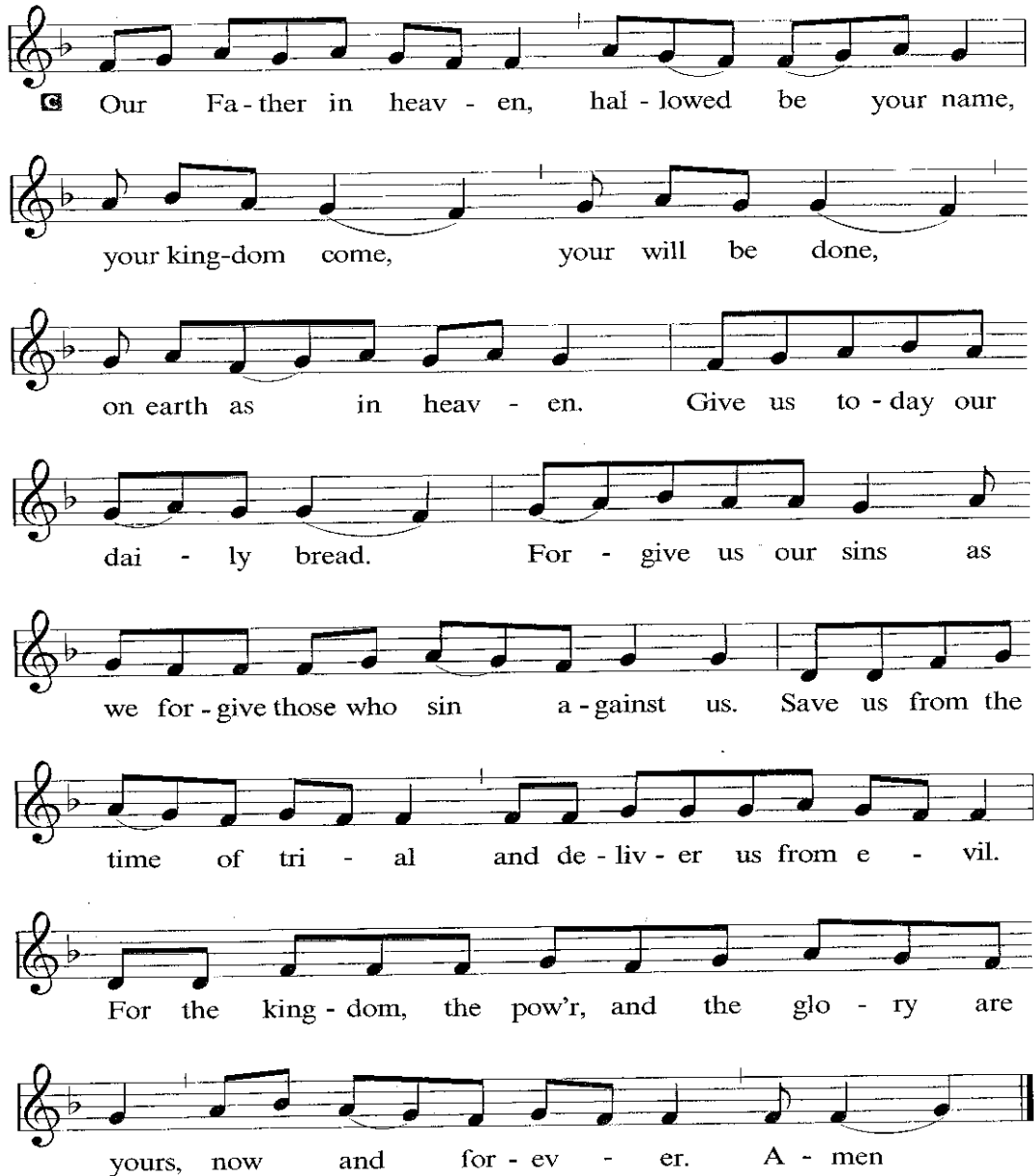
P. Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C. Come, Holy Spirit.

P. 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.

C. Amen

The Lord's Prayer



Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our
dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as
we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the
time of tri - al and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the pow'r, and the glo - ry are
yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men

The Fraction

P. Come to the table.

C. Where we feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Lamb of God



(please be seated)

The Distribution

[All are invited to come to the table, for either the bread, wine and grape juice or a blessing. If you are visiting, please follow the custom of your home congregation regarding participation of children at the table. We use a glass to receive the wine. The grape juice is pre-poured in the trays. Please join in the hymns provided for the communing of the faithful].

#613 THY HOLY WINGS

#325 I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME

#542 O LIVING BREAD FROM HEAVEN

#324 IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY

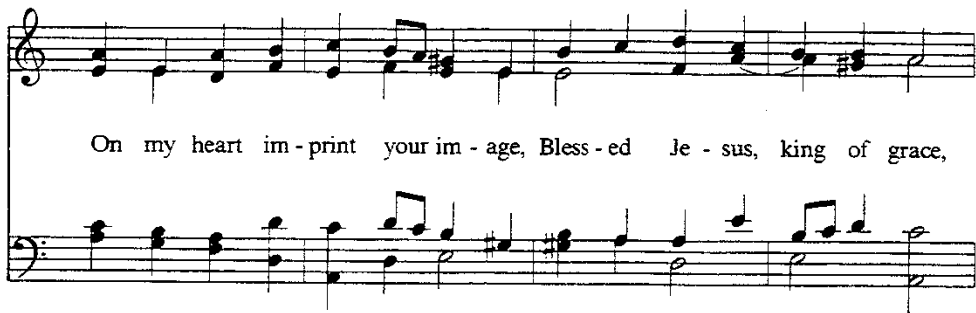
COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

The Blessing of Communicants

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

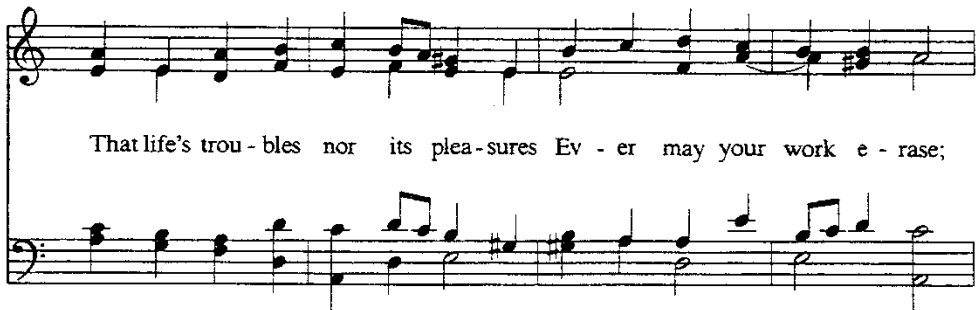
C. Amen

Post Communion Canticle



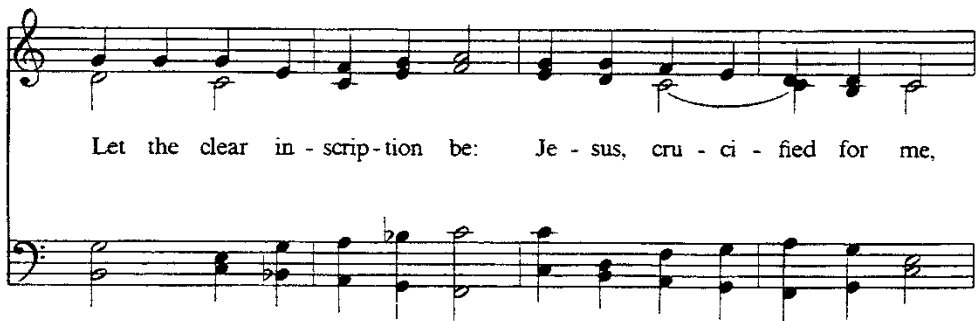
On my heart im - print your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, king of grace,

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff features a melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.



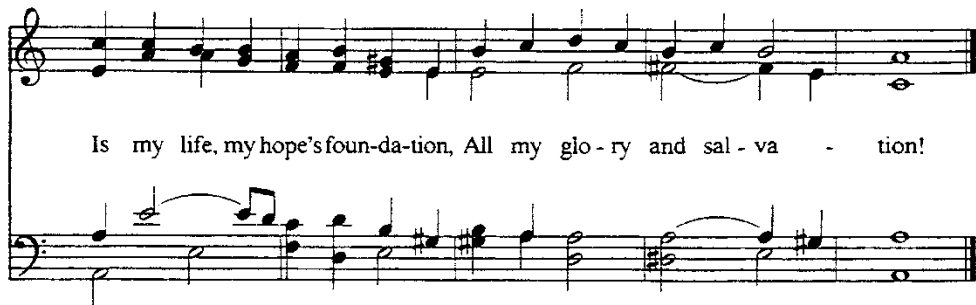
That life's trou - bles nor its plea - sures Ev - er may your work e - rase;

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first line, maintaining the same musical structure.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,

The third system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment, with a slight change in the bass line's harmonic support.



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, All my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

The fourth system of musical notation concludes the canticle with a final cadence in both the treble and bass staves.

The Post Communion Prayer

P. God of our salvation,

C. we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

The Benediction

P. Receive the blessing of the Holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✠ bless you now and always.

C. Amen

The Dismissal

A. Go in peace. Live the good news.

C. Thanks be to God.

The Postlude: *Trumpet Tune*, Gilbert Martin

OUR WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY

ASSISTING MINISTERS

9:00 John Fuehrer

LECTOR

9:00 Mike Sernoffsky

COUNCIL TEAM

9:00 Ed Quirke, John Weiss

ACOLYTES

9:00 CH: Norm Wangman

AV

Bob Eberly

Launder Linens: Patricia Fassnacht

Deliver Flowers: Judy Wechter

ALTAR GUILD

9:00 Barb & Steve Sweigart, Andy Sweigart

USHERS

9:00 Mark Mull, Candy Snyder,
Whip Zimmerman, Theresa Mull

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR OUR FLOWERS/WORSHIP APPOINTMENTS TODAY:

✠ In honor of our grandson, Rowen Michael's,
1st Birthday, by Mike & Elaine Sernoffsky.

Prayers of the People

Ken Fortna Jr. – Debbie's brother

Julia Perella – Judy Williams great niece

Terry Gehman – 11 Pleasant Road, Gordonville, PA 17529

Janet Wiest – 1125 Marilyn Ave. Ephrata, PA 17522

Kathrin Baltz – 10 Windolph Ct. Lititz, PA 17543

Bob Snader – 154 Wyneberry Drive, Ephrata, PA 17522

Sue Gilbert – Rob Gilbert's mom

Jake Hinkle – 4 No. Line Rd, Stevens, PA 17578

Rick Woerner – 280 Boomerang Dr. Ephrata, PA 17522

All persons affected by war and violence

Victims of natural disasters

Shut-ins of the Parish

President Trump and leaders of this nation, leaders and policy makers of every nation

All outreach ministries serving those in need



If for any reason you enter the hospital, whether outpatient or inpatient, please get in touch with the church office and Pastor Mark. If you wish a name to be included on the prayer list or have a friend or family member needing prayers, please get in touch with the church office.

CONGREGATION REQUEST FOR PRAYER

The office staff does not know the current status of many on the list below. If there is a change in their life circumstances, making it possible to remove their name from this list, please let the church office know.

Alexander Mulvenna

Emmalyn Mulvenna

Janet Brunner

Andrew Campbell

Michael Spennath

Tony Perella

Mike & Claudia Belden

Henry Perella

Peyton Harter

COL. Eric Bowers

Dan Wierbiki

Jacob Hinkle Jr.

Karen Woerner

Kim Harnish

Rick Gerhard

Wyatt Geisthweit

Les Doremus

Scott Hambleton

Jim Weik

Heidi White

Johnny White

Jacob Connelly

Sue & Denis Rowe

Crystal Perry

Hank & Pat Kajetzke

Terry Gehman

Jill Puleo

Brent Stever

Alan & family

Dori Hoch

Cindy Stahl

Martha Becker

Chris and Karen Payonk

Alysha Fassnacht

Melissa Hughes

John Surdich

Ava Berkosky

Amy Pasili

Theresa Cimino

Eric Mortorell

Duke & Bonnie Leeper

Sheldon Garman

Devin Collins

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