

**First Sunday In Lent  
Sunday, February 26, 2023  
Holy Communion**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

+ *Please stand as you are able.*

**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.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**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.**

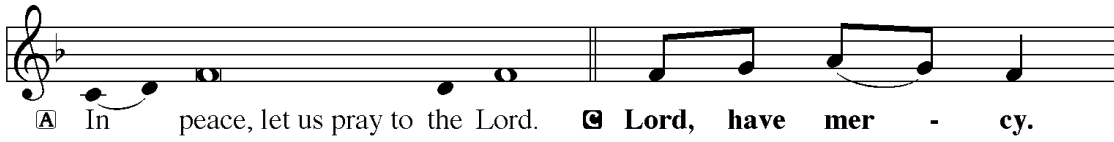
Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*      LBW # 229**

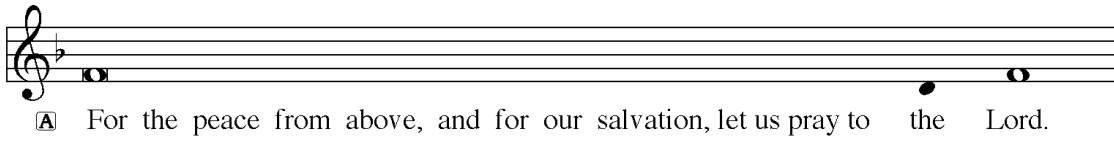
**GREETING**

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.**

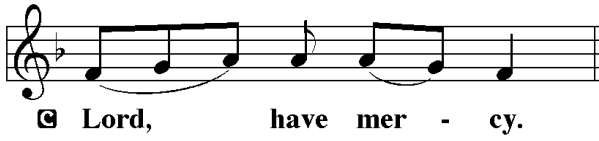
# KYRIE



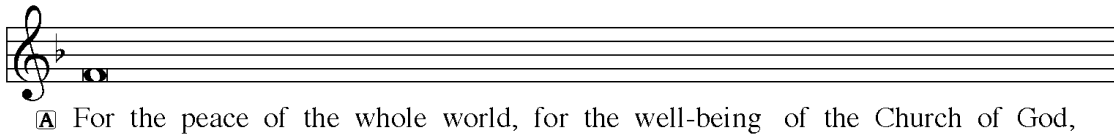
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



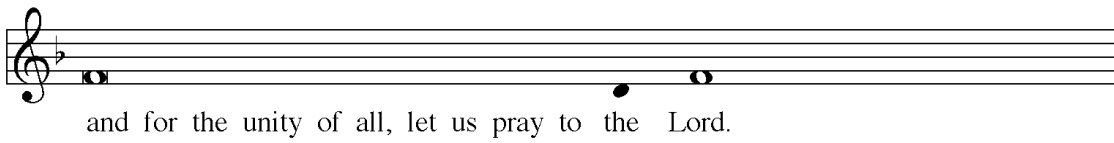
**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



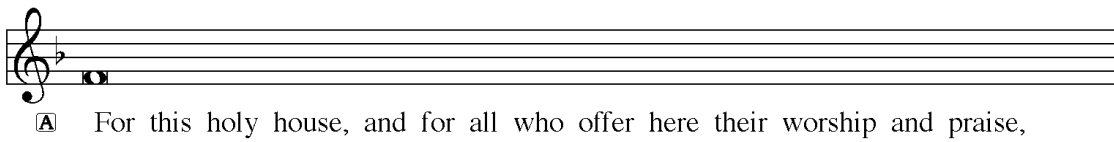
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



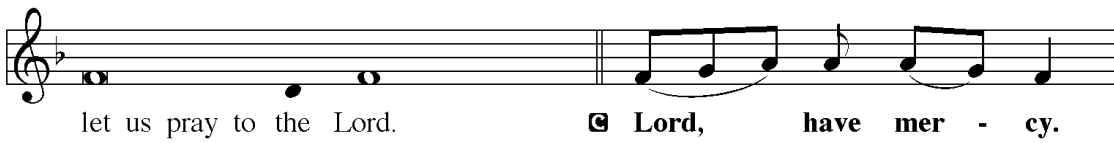
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



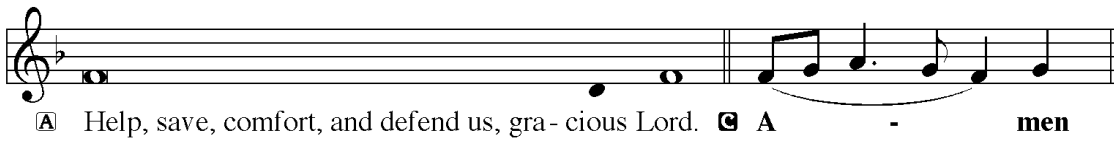
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

## HYMN OF PRAISE



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



**B** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Lord God, you led your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide now the people of your Church, that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+ *Please be seated*

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** *The Heart That Was Broken for Me*

**FIRST READING:** **Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7**

The First Reading is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> chapters of Genesis.

<sup>15</sup>The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>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.”

<sup>3:1</sup>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?’” <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup>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.’” <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; <sup>5</sup>for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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.

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

**PSALM: Psalm 32** (Please read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup>**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

<sup>6</sup>**I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.” Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

<sup>7</sup>Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

<sup>8</sup>**You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

<sup>9</sup>“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

<sup>10</sup>**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.”**

<sup>11</sup>Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>**Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 5: 12-19**

The Second Reading is from the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans.

<sup>12</sup>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—<sup>13</sup>sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>If, because of the one man’s trespass, death exercised dominion through

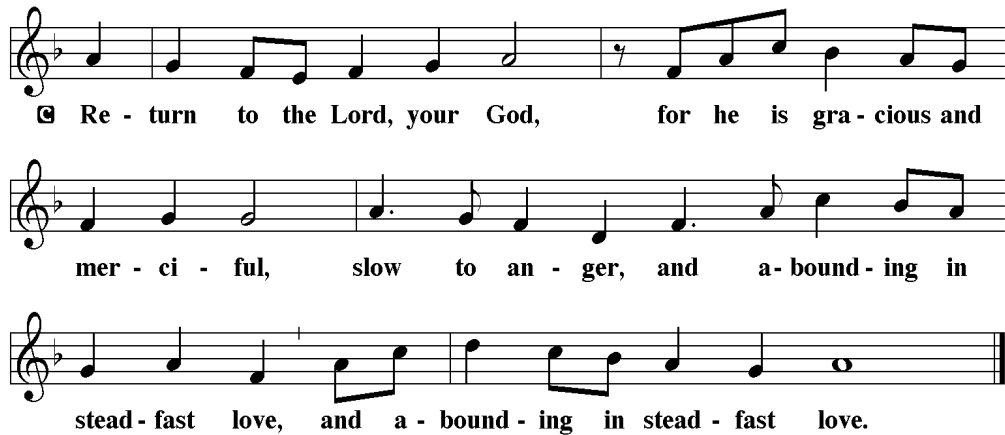
that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>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.

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

+ *Please stand as you are able.*

### LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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: Matthew 4: 1-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

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

+ *Please be seated. Children are invited to come forward for time with the Pastor.*

### CHILDRENS' SERMON

#### THE SERMON

+ Please stand as you are able.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*      **WOV # 651**

### THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.  
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.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Response:* Merciful God, receive our prayer.


### DIALOGUE



☐ 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 him thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

### HOLY. HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



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.

### 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

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.**

+ *Please be seated.*

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

## **COMMUNION**

*All baptized children of God are welcome at the Lord's Table, when we celebrate and receive the true presence of Jesus Christ in the bread and fruit of the vine.*

*Communion will be received in a continuous line. Come forward, forming a line down the center aisle. Stop at the end of the aisle, receive your bread, empty cup, and wine.*

*Grape juice is available in the pre-poured cups in the middle of the tray.*

*There is no need to hurry through Communion. Please take as much time as you wish for prayer and reflection.*

*If you are more comfortable remaining in your seat for Communion, individual bags containing Communion elements are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. For those with mobility issues, the Pastor can bring Communion to you at your seat.*

*As the bread and wine/grape juice are given, the following is said:*

The body of Christ, given for you.                      The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*Each person may respond **Amen**. As you receive the bread and wine/grape juice, saying "Amen" means "Yes, truly, it is so: this is the body and blood of Jesus, given for me."*

*After you have received Communion, please place your empty cup in the bowl, then return to your seat.*

*After all have received Communion, the Pastor will ask the congregation to stand, then give a blessing, ending with the following words:*

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



## LAMB OF GOD

☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. **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

God, the giver of love, ☩ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG:** *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer* LBW # 343

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may contact Pastor Stina at any time by phone (570-374-9544) or email: [stinaschaeffer@gmail.com](mailto:stinaschaeffer@gmail.com).

**Communion:** If you prefer to remain in your seat, or have mobility issues, the Pastor will be happy to bring Communion to you at your seat.

**Offerings:** For your convenience, offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary to receive your offerings as you enter.

Altar flowers are presented today in loving memory of Yvonne & Orval Mull by Debbie & Ricky Bower, Patty & Jeff Roush and Dennis Mull.

Reading today's lessons is Donna Moyer.

**PICNIC GROVE UPDATES:** The Salem Grove is one of the most beloved parts of our church community. From summer worship and breakfasts to family picnics, the grove holds special memories and events. It is also used twice a week in the warmer months to host our 2 AA groups. All of this adds up to a wonderful ministry, but also a lot of wear-and-tear. This summer, we are planning a renovation and expansion of the grove to allow for many more years of use. **A Congregational Meeting will be held NEXT SUNDAY, March 5, 2023 to present the proposed project and budget. We will vote on that proposal during a meeting on Sunday, March 12, 2023.** Both meetings will happen immediately after worship. Join us as we prepare for future fun, outdoor worship and many more memories!



**SANDWICH SALE!** This fundraiser begins **TODAY!** We are selling Ham & cheese, Turkey & cheese and Lebanon Baloney & cheese sandwiches. The cost per sandwich is \$5 and each sandwich comes with an individual bag of chips. If you wish to purchase sandwiches, but **not sell** to others, place your orders **on the order forms on the clipboard** at the back of the church. If you would like to take orders at your place of employment or with family, friends & neighbors, there are order forms available at the back of the church. **TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO ORDER!** Sandwiches will be available for pick-up after church on Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please speak with Jess Moyer or Kelli Tyler. Please participate and help support our grove improvements!

**2023 LENT PROJECT!** This year during the season of Lent, we will be working with Zion Lutheran Church in Kratzerville to support the "DIG Furniture Bank". You can visit their website at: **www.digfb.org** to learn more information about their mission. We will be collecting items to support their 'housewarming baskets'. The items we are collecting are: **Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Sponges and Disinfecting Wipes or Sprays.** Please bring items to Salem before Easter. This will be a friendly competition between the Zion and Salem Congregations! The real winner will be "DIG" and the families they support!



**Choir Practice** will be held tonight at 6:00 pm.



**SALEM DIRECTORY:** If you have any changes to the Directory – name, address, phone number, email address, or want to add a phone number – please contact Jane Korbar (**jkorbar@verizon.net**) or Linda Maurer (**lmaurer56@outlook.com**) by March 26<sup>th</sup>. If you are not a member of Salem Church but attend often, please contact us and we will be happy to include you.

**SIGHT & SOUND!** There are still 7 seats available for our trip with Milton Lutheran Church to *Sight & Sound Theaters* for the spring production of “**Moses**”. The show is on **Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** at 11:00 am. The cost is \$135 and this includes your “Moses” ticket, bus, gratuity for the driver and lunch at ‘Shady Maple’. On **Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**, we will depart from Salem Lutheran Church at **8:30 am** and return is estimated to be 6:00 pm. Please see Brenda Stranko to sign-up. Checks can be made payable to Milton Lutheran Church and payment is due by March 12<sup>th</sup>. **If you are interested in the trip, please let Brenda know ASAP before we release the remaining tickets to others.**



“**Lunch and Learn**” begins **THIS Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:30 pm** in the church basement. We will gather to enjoy a lunch of soup and bread, followed by Bible Study. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!** This is not just for Salem folks, so invite family, friends and neighbors! The studies are not continuous, so if you cannot come every Wednesday, you will not miss out. Come when, and as often, as you can!

The Reader’s sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Please stop by and sign-up to read the Sunday lessons. Readers are always needed and much appreciated. The Lessons are posted for your convenience as they are received.

The 2023 Altar Flower Chart is hanging in the vestibule. Choose a Sunday, sign-up to provide altar flowers. If they are for a special occasion or in memory of someone, please contact the Secretary so it can be noted in the bulletin.