

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

For just as the body is one and has many members...so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.... If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it (1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 26). Recommendations from the CDC and ecumenical church worship guidelines, have been prayerfully considered by our leaders for our worship practices. Therefore at this time in the Covid pandemic we are worshipping in this way:

WELCOME

- **IN-PERSON WORSHIPERS**, please leave the first few spaces in the front parking lot for parking lot worshipers. Further information on page 2.
- **IN-PARKING LOT WORSHIPERS**, please park in the first few spaces closest to Dock Street and tune your radio to **90.1 FM**.
- **VISITORS**, we welcome you! In this uncertain time of a pandemic, we believe that grace-filled love of God made known in Jesus Christ, and proclaimed in scripture, prayer, and worship sustains us even now. We are glad that you are here with us, so that together, we all can receive the Good News of Jesus Christ, and then be strengthened in daily love for God and our neighbors.

LARGE PRINT WORSHIP binders are available in the church lobby.

HOLY COMMUNION

Second Sunday in Lent – March 13th, 2022
Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church
252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
570-385-2657 * www.jerusalemchurch.com

CURRENT WORSHIP PRACTICES

- We have resumed congregational speaking and singing in the building.
 - Hymnals are available in the pew racks, and distributed to and collected from people worshipping in the parking lot.
 - Large print worship binders are available inside. Those worshipping in the parking lot can request large print from an usher.
 - Wine and grape juice are once again being offered from the chalice inside, with intinction being offered outside. Please space yourselves as you come forward.
 - The offering plates are in the back of the sanctuary by the door until we can safely pass the plates through many hands.
-

HOLY COMMUNION

Second Sunday in Lent – March 13th, 2022
Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church
252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
570-385-2657 * www.jerusalemchurch.com
FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

PREPARATION

PRELUDE

Blessed Jesus At Your Word

J.S. Bach

The bell rings calling us to worship.

GREETING SONG

Christ, Our Peace

Marty Haugen

Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;

Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod-y in you.

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of God,
who makes a way in the wilderness,
walks with us,
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,
**we confess that we have wandered far from you:
we have not trusted your promises,
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.
Have mercy on us!
Forgive us and turn us again to you.
Teach us to follow in your ways,
assure us again of your love,
and help us to love our neighbor.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
the Word draws near to you,
and all who call out to God shall be saved.
In Jesus, God comes to you again and again
and gathers you under wings of love.
In † Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.
God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

The God of Abraham Praise

Red Hymnal # 831

GREETING

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.

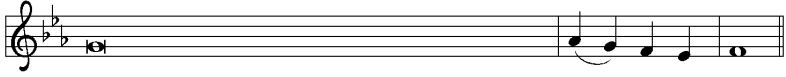
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



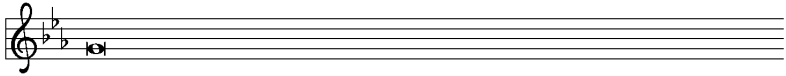
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



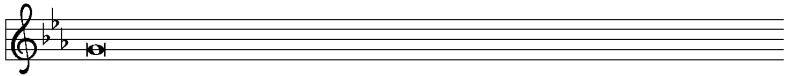
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

The assembly inside is seated.

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ²But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” ⁸But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 27

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then ¹ shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I ¹ be afraid?

²**When evildoers close in against me to de-¹ vour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stum-¹ ble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart ¹ will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will ¹ not be shaken.

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one ¹ thing I seek;**

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God ¹ in the temple.

⁵For in the day of trouble God will ¹ give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up - | on a rock.

⁶Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies | who surround me.

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music | to the LORD.

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, | when I call;
have mercy on me and | answer me.

**⁸My heart speaks your message— | “Seek my face.”
Your face, O LORD, | I will seek.**

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- | vant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of | my salvation.

**¹⁰Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,
the LORD will | take me in.**

¹¹Teach me your | way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of | my oppressors.

**¹²Subject me not to the will | of my foes,
for they rise up against me, false witnesses | breathing violence.**

¹³This I believe—that I will see the goodness | of the LORD
in the land | of the living!

**¹⁴Wait for the LORD | and be strong.
Take heart and wait | for the LORD!**

SECOND READING

Philippians 3:17--4:1

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears.

¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Luke 13:31-35

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

The Rev. Robert Reier

SERMON

The Rev. Robert Reier

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Thy Holy Wings

Red Hymnal # 613

The assembly stands. All proclaim the word of God in song.

APOSTLES CREED

We confess our faith with the whole church using the ancient baptismal creed that summarizes the teaching of the scripture and the apostles.

**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 INTERCESSION

As a local assembly of believers, we pray for the whole world and church, as well as our local congregation and neighborhood.

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

You gather the church into a community of mercy and grace. Unify Christians around the globe in efforts to proclaim good news even in the face of opposition and to protect those whose lives are imperiled by the gospel. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You create the entire universe and call it good. Hinder those who would cause further destruction to our planet's fragile ecosystems, and augment the calls of those who advocate for thoughtful stewardship of the earth's resources. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You raise up leaders committed to love and justice. Nurture in those who govern patience to receive criticism, openness to new ideas, and courage to change course when needed for the sake of the common good. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You kindle faith that moves us into action. Guide children and adults preparing for baptism or confirmation. Empower Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, and parents who share their faith with younger generations. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You welcome us into your heavenly realm. We give thanks for those whose labors on earth are ended and who now rest with you. On the final day, gather all of us, with them, in your loving arms. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

We greet each other with a nod or gesture of Christian fellowship from a distance, and we also invite you to text or email a word of peace to someone.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANTHEM

When Twilight Comes

Robert Farlee

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The assembly stands. The presiding minister invites the assembly to give thanks.

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

The presiding minister continues with the communion preface; and then the assembly responds with "Holy, Holy, Holy."

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major. The melody is more complex than the previous section, featuring some dotted rhythms and longer note values. The lyrics are printed below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER IV

...With this bread and cup

we remember our Lord's passover from death to life

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

...Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

...burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

...blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

COMMUNION

Come to the banquet for all is now ready.

INSIDE WORSHIPERS: Ushers will dismiss you by pew. Please take an empty glass if you wish to receive wine, or a glass prefilled with grape juice.

OUTSIDE WORSHIPERS: The Lord's Supper will be brought to those outside by a Communion Assistant, who will use an intinction set.



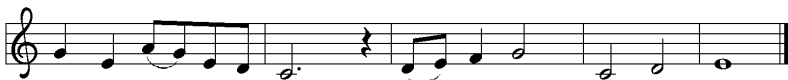
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



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.

COMMUNION HYMN

Christ Is the Life

Purple Hymnal # 927

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need. **Amen.**

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly may be seated.

BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.
You are children of God,
anointed with the oil of gladness
and strengthened for the journey.
Almighty God,
motherly, majestic, and mighty,
✠ bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow

Red Hymnal # 327

DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

Thanks be to God.

CHIMES

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PRAYER LIST

Joanna Sirianni Edwards, Ed Freed, Pauline Crawshaw, Karen Tropp, Diane Buffington, Jack Harnock, Marie Harnock, Keith Shoener, Tom Gerber, Kelly Carl, Leslie R., Mary Beth (Krater) Dinneen, Stewart Haver, Sue Sigler, Robert Schwartz, Craig Bracken, Paul Calderone, Nicholas LaScala, Gail Kunkel, Lee Llewellyn, Dennis Heydt, Caroline Eister, Jeanette Stine, Christopher Payonk, Seth Ney, Renee Shade, Ben Moyer, Gaylene Ebling, Wally Foose, Jane Deibert, Tom Cook, Ronald Bromwell, Lisa Weiser, Janest Yost, Madge Miller, Melissa Focht, Cecelia Kacmar, Melanie Hart, Janice Moore, Christie O'Dell, John Cooper, Clarence Zweizig, Melvin Rodriguez & family, JoAnn Baker Copley, Carlene Wenner, Christy Deaton Stocks, Maria Motto, Katharine Macnutt, Kim O'Donnell, Mateo Thomas, Barry Heffner, Phyllis Trinca Czech, Stephen Edwards, Christa Miller, Cathy Covach-Hale, Rev. Bruce MacLaughlin, Mary Miller, Rose Martin-Fuls, Earle Kull, Trent Johnson, Mary Rauch, Tom Lokitus, Albert Tripp, Helen Fath, Diana Vasquez, Dorothy & Dan Ness, Robin Moran, Kendra Johnson, Deb Esposito, Rob Baessler, Stanley Daniels, Darlene and Bob Zechman, Diane Laine

Those with Long-term health issues:

Bonnie Jean Foose, Michelle Ochenrider, Rich & Sandy Moyer, Ethan Yost, Carol Landes, Donna Drenzo, Jim Musico, John Krater, Fawn Goodman, Rebecca Marshall, Sapphire Schaeffer, Mark Wyllie, Krysta Kolbe, Shirley Emrich, Anna Heffner, David Wise, Donna Leashefski, Florence Clemens, Chuck Copley, Jeff Kamar, Mary Sewalt, Pat Thomas, Casey Watson, Linda Bonfiglio-Boyer, Harold & Fay Sausser, Ruth Brown

Those serving in the Armed Forces:

Major Michael Shay, Staff Sgt. Joseph Moyer, Senior Airman Matthew Nettles, Airman Jackie Nettles, Sgt. Travis D. Miller, Sgt. Anthony Cooper, Private 3rd Class Caleb Levan

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR TODAY

	8:00am	10:30am
Assisting Ministers	Lou Messina	Rob Baessler
Lectors	Laurie Bedford	Linda Covert
Communion Assistants	Karen Ochenrider	Rebekah CdeBaca
Ushers	Bill Shay Conner Roeder	Greg Gross Noah & Luke Hale
Sound Board	Paul Boyer	Gary Reager
Counters	Lou Messina and Janet Sattizahn	

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

	8:00am	10:30am
Assisting Ministers	Karen Ochenrider	James Covert
Lectors	Julie Coleman	Bob McCloy
Communion Assistants	Jean Loose	Linda Covert
Ushers	Donald Nettles John Macnutt	Mark Conville Shelia Conville
Sound Board	Melissa Boyer	Rachel Kramer

Counters

Linda Collins, Deb Reed, Marie Shay

TODAY WE WELCOME the Rev. Robert Reier to our pulpit as our supply Pastor. Please take a moment after the service to greet him.

TUESDAY MORNING MEET AND GREET. To welcome Pastor Laine, all are invited to join him for coffee, tea, and a treat on Tuesday, March 15th, 2022 at 10:00 am in the church library. The side office door will be unlocked. Come share your ideas on what you would like to see happen with Jerusalem's Ministry.

MINISTRY CELEBRATION FOR 2022, will be held NEXT SUNDAY at 9:15 AM! There will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on that day. Please join us in the social hall to view displays from Jerusalem's different committees and ministries. Annual Reports will be distributed that morning as well!

JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY AT 3:00PM FOR AN ORGAN CONCERT featuring Randall D. Perry.

DUE TO THE FALLING NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES, the Coronavirus task force and Jerusalem's Church Council have decided to make masks optional in worship. Jerusalem's leaders continue to monitor the severity of COVID-19 cases and will announce worship changes in the Sunday bulletins.

OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN "BUILDING TOGETHER THROUGH FAITH AND VISION," for our new roof and HVAC system has reached \$327,291.03 as of February 28th! Thank you for your faithful giving to keep our building in good condition.

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER will once again be our Wednesday, Mid-week Lenten Services, from March 9 – April 6 at 6:30 PM. Our theme will be 'Praying With Others' in which a story concerning prayer will be told and then time taken to pray as a group. Join us for these Wednesday evening worships, which have become a meaningful part of our Lenten journey.

WEEKLY SOUP SUPPERS WEDNESDAYS AT 5:30 P.M. We hope that you will join us Wednesday evenings during Lent for "Bread, Bowl and Worship," a simple meal of bread and soup followed by worship in the sanctuary. Please sign the sheets at the sign-up center if you are able to contribute soup, bread, and other items of food needed for the five soup suppers. Volunteers to clean up after the soup suppers are also needed. Thanks.

AN UPCOMING SPRING CONCERT. SAVE THE DATE! April 24, 2022 at 3:00pm, Clarinet and Piano concert featuring Dr. Steven Christ on Clarinet with Caleb Flick on Piano and Dr. Annie Rose Tindall-Gibson on Piano.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN WILL BE BLESSING US WITH THEIR VOICES ON PASSON/PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 10TH, 2022. Now through Palm Sunday. Our Sunday School children will rehearse a song with our

Music Director, Audrey Christ during Sunday School. Please bring your children or grandchildren to join us!

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION/PALM SUNDAY worship services will be held on Sunday, April 10. We will have the Procession with Palm branches and the reading of the Passion of Jesus according to the Gospel of Luke. We will need readers to participate in the reading of the Passion gospel. If you would like to be part of this, see Pastor Jim Covert.

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE WORSHIP will be held on Good Friday, April 15 at 6:30 pm. A Tenebrae is a worship where the church is gradually darkened as the service progresses. Tenebrae means darkness or shadow. We will need people to participate in the service, including readers of the seven last words of Jesus, someone to do some sound effects, someone to extinguish candles as the service progresses, and most of all, someone to operate the dimming of the lights. If you would be willing to help, see Pastor Jim Covert.

FREE SUMMER CLOTHING "GIVE AWAY"! St. John's UCC in Schuylkill Haven is offering a summer clothing give away on April 23rd (rain date is April 30th) from 9:00 am til noon. If anyone would like to contribute clean, gently used clothing for this mission, the items can be dropped off at St. John's Church on the corner of Dock Street and Main Street any Tuesday from 9:30 am – 3:00 pm. Or on March 29th, April 5th, or April 12th from 5:00 – 7:00pm. Thank you!

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:

TODAY	8:00am Worship
	9:15am Sunday school
	9:15am Bell rehearsal
	10:30am Worship
WEDNESDAY	5:30pm Soup Supper
	6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer Worship
	7:30pm Choir Rehearsal
THURSDAY	6:00pm Childcare Committee Meeting
FRIDAY	1:00pm Food Pantry Distribution

STAFF AND LEADERS

The Rev. Larry Laine, *Pastor*

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pastorlaine@jerusalemchurch.com

Audrey Christ, *Music Director*

musicdirector@jerusalemchurch.com

Tanya Cartwright, *Director of Faith & Families Ministries*

faithandfamilies@jerusalemchurch.com

Rachel Kramer, *Parish Administrator*

mail@jerusalemchurch.com

Jill McCloy, *Treasurer*

treasurer@jerusalemchurch.com

Karen Ochenrider, *Financial Secretary*

karenochenrider@comcast.net

Gina Cappel, *Child Care Director*

jccckids@jerusalemchurch.com

Mike Sausser, *Sexton*

linknomad@hotmail.com



Easter Lily Orders

Orders are being accepted from those who would like to adorn our church with the placement of Lilies or Tulips for Easter Sunday. The cost per plant for a lily is \$11.00 and the cost per plant for a tulip is \$9.25. All plants must be paid for through the Church Office. Please make checks out to Jerusalem Lutheran Church. Please fill out your order on this sheet. Make sure the Church Office receives your order and money by Monday, April 11th. Thanks!

NAME _____

NUMBER OF LILIES _____

IN MEMORY OF

IN HONOR

OF _____

Amount Enclosed _____

• WANDERING IN THE WILDERNESS •



Inspired by the ELCA's Lenten study, "A way in the wilderness," the Social Ministry Committee would like to encourage you to participate in your own Lenten discipline by giving weekly suggestions for you to enhance how you make your way through Lent.

Week 2 "Wandering in the Wilderness"
"I must be on my way" (Luke 13:33)

In Luke 13, Jesus is teaching people through parables and ministering to them. The Pharisees warned Jesus that Herod wanted to kill him. But Jesus would not be deterred from the work he wanted to do.

During Lent, we turn inward, reflecting on our dependence on God's grace. Repentance and self-reflection are important practices, but the season is about so much more than our own self-examination. The season of Lent also leads us to turn outward. Herod is coming for him, and Jesus responds, "I have work to do."

As people of faith, we look to Jesus' example to reach out and help others. This week, you are encouraged to mindfully seek ways to display random acts of kindness. Give a compliment to a stranger, babysit for free, let someone go in front of you in line at the store, or send someone a "Thinking of you" card. A little kindness goes a long way!