

*West Kishacoquillas Presbyterian Church
Belleville, Pennsylvania*



Salvation Mountain, a 15 year project built by Leonard Knight in Niland, CA.

*Third Sunday in Lent
March 7, 2021*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*You are invited to stand if you are able at the places marked with * and say aloud the words printed in **bold***

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome on this third Sunday of our Lenten Journey. The first three weeks of Lent emphasize self-examination, repenting for those things we regret, and finding willingness to face those sins or weaknesses we have tried to deny. This is the time when the scripture and the pastor's message may cause us to feel uncomfortable with ourselves personally or ourselves as an element of our current society, "that sinful generation."

INTROIT *1x organ, 1x organ and pastor, 2x congregation (in English)*

Come and Fill our Hearts

Come and fill our hearts with Your peace
You alone O Lord are Holy
Come and fill our hearts with Your peace
Allelulia

Confitemini Domino
Quo-ni-am bonus
Confitemini Domino, Allelulia

SILENT PRAYER

Gracious God, whose power is made perfect in weakness, whose wisdom appears as foolishness in this world, we thank you for the scandal of the cross. In Jesus Christ, you overturn all our usual ways of behaving and believing. You scatter our false notions of discipleship as easily as coins are spilled from a box. You correct our notions of piety and order with fierce passion. Do not let your church become content or contained as an institution. Raze to ruins what is distorted in us, and raise us to new life as a community so that we may be the body of Christ in and for the world. With fear and joy we ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

*OPENING WORDS/CALL TO WORSHIP (from Ps. 19 and 1 Corinthians:1)

Leader: Heaven is declaring God's glory; the sky is proclaiming God's handiwork.
 There is no speech; there are no words;

People: Their voices cannot be heard by us.

Leader: Yet their sound extends throughout the world;

People: Their words reach the ends of the earth!

Leader: The message of the cross sounds foolish to the world;

People: But to us it is the power of God!

Leader: We proclaim the scandal of Christ crucified.

People: The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than our strength.

397 O for a Closer Walk with God

William Cowper, 1772

DALEHURST CM

Arthur Cottman, 1874

1. O for a clos - er walk with God, A calm and heaven-ly frame,
2. Re - turn, O ho - ly Dove, re - turn, Sweet mes - sen - ger of rest!
3. The dear - est i - dol I have known, What - e'er that i - dol be,
4. So shall my walk be close with God, Calm and se - rene my frame;

A light to shine up - on the road That leads me to the Lamb!
I hate the sins that made Thee mourn And drove Thee from my breast.
Help me to tear it from Thy throne, And wor - ship on - ly Thee.
So pur - er light shall mark the road That leads me to the Lamb.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'O for a Closer Walk with God'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The first system contains four verses of lyrics. The second system contains a single line of lyrics. The music is in 4/4 time and has a key signature of one flat (Bb).

READING OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house;

you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Despite all that God has taught us, we still act foolishly; we are still weak. In the cross of Christ, we find forgiveness and grace. We confess our sins, trusting in God's wisdom and strength rather than our own.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (from Ps. 19:12–13, Exod. 20:2-17)

Merciful God, how fickle we are; we sin against you without even knowing it. Clear us, we pray, of any unknown sin, and save us from willfully ignoring your way. Let your commandments rule and guide us. Forgive us for worshiping anyone or anything except you; keep us faithful. Forgive us for failing to honor all our relationships—with those closest to us and those who are distant neighbors. Help us to speak words of blessing and kindness, rather than words that belittle or destroy. Turn us away from violence, falsehood, and selfishness. Forgive us for thinking everything depends on our efforts and power, for you are the God who made us, led us out slavery, and has brought us into the community of faith. Help us to depend on you alone and to rest in your peace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Brothers and sisters in Christ, as forgiven people, we are now freed to live in grateful response to God, following God's law, which is our guide for full and abundant life: We are freed to worship God and God alone ... freed from having to make anything an idol. We are freed to call on the name of the Lord without abusing God's name. We are freed for a day of worship and rest, freed to love those who gave us birth and nurtured us. Freed from all that binds us, we shall not kill or break sacred bonds; we need not steal or lie, nor crave anything that belongs to another. God's law brings us goodness and blessing; God's grace gives us confidence and joy.

In Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and coming again, we are forgiven and set free to live in faithfulness with God and with one another! **Thanks be to God!**

PEACE OF CHRIST – Extend the Peace of Christ to those here and opening our hearts to those beyond the walls of our Sanctuary.

The Peace of Christ be with You!! **And Also with You.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (from Ps. 19:1–4, 1 Cor. 1:21, Ps. 19:14)

God of Glory, we cannot hear the heavens proclaim your handiwork, though the speech of the skies must be magnificent. We cannot hear what day and night are singing about you, though their song must be both bright and deep. Yet, somehow you are made known to us through our own foolish proclamation. It is only by the power of the Holy Spirit that your Word can be heard in our words. Open our ears to what you are saying to us today, we pray; and perhaps we may also hear echoes of your glory in the broad firmament above. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

FIRST READING 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

GOSPEL READING John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

MESSAGE Rev. Ela J. Robertson

Lenten Journey #3 Do you need a walking stick? Where will you find it?

The Glory of These Forty Days

87

ERHALT UNS, HERR LM

Gregory the Great (540-604)
Trans. Maurice F. Bell, 1906Klug's *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543
Harm. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1725

1. The glo - ry of these for - ty days We
 2. A - lone and fast - ing, Mo - ses saw The
 3. So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, De -
 4. Then grant that we like them be true, Con -

cel - e - brate with songs of praise; For Christ, by whom all
 lov - ing God who gave the law; And to E - li - jah,
 liv - ered from the li - on's might; And John, the Bride - groom's
 sumed in fast and prayer with You; Our spir - its strength - en

things were made, Him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
 fast - ing, came The steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
 friend, be - came The her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
 with Your grace, And give us joy to see Your face.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*STATEMENT of FAITH – Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Exod. 20:12-17; Gal. 5:1)

Unifying God, you have called us to live before you and with one another in all faithfulness. Unable to live as you intend, we inflict harm and hurt on others and on ourselves as well. In all these ways, we know we grieve your heart also. Hear, then, our prayers of intercession. Restore us to communion with you and one another that we might live in the freedom you have bestowed.

We pray for people who are victims of crime, from petty theft to murder. We pray that those harmed will find healing and will dwell in safety. Hold especially close to your heart, O God, those who have lost a loved one suddenly to violence, and accidents on the highway, at work and at home. Help us to offer tenderness and care in their struggles and grief.

We pray also for those who have committed crimes, that they may seek and find forgiveness, and begin a new life of responsibility and integrity before you and in the community.

We pray for healing and reconciliation where trust has been broken, hostility has flared, or misunderstanding has grown. Restore us not only to one another, but reconcile us to ourselves and to you, loving God. If restoration proves beyond hope, then grant new beginnings and possibilities for all.

In every relationship, we seek your grace as we honor others by caring for them, being truthful, and working for their welfare. Root out in us any jealousy toward what others possess, and let generosity grow in and among us instead.

Gracious God, we pray for those who are ill, in mind, body, or spirit; for those lonely and isolated from community; for those burdened by guilt or grief, by depression or despair. Do not let us turn inward as a church, lest we shut out or neglect those who long for a community of welcome and companionship.

Send us out in love, with open eyes, ears, and hearts. Make us true neighbors to one another and true children of your own calling. We pray in the name of Christ, who has come to set us free. Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (John 2:16)

The house of God is not a marketplace for buying and selling. It is a house of prayer, a place of healing and restoration, a place where we bring before God our provisions to be used for present needs. Let us bring our tithes and offerings to God.

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/DEDICATION (Exod. 20:2–4, Exod. 20:17)

O Lord our God, we want to follow all your commandments—to love only you, not worshipping the things of this world; to love our neighbor freely, not desiring for ourselves something they possess. Accept these offerings, we pray, and teach us to be generous, giving fully of ourselves that we may truly be the body of Christ in this world. Amen.

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

84

RATHBUN 8.7.8.7

John Bowring, 1825

Ithamar Conkey, 1849



1. In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tower-ing o'er the wrecks of time;
2. When the woes of life o'er-take me, Hopes de-ceive, and fears an- noy,
3. When the sun of bliss is beam-ing Light and love up - on my way,
4. Bane and bless-ing, pain and plea-sure, By the cross are sanc - ti - fied;



All the light of sa - cred sto - ry Gath-ers round its head sub-lime.
 Nev - er shall the cross for - sake me: Lo! it glows with peace and joy.
 From the cross the ra - diance stream-ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.
 Peace is there that knows no mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.



*CHARGE Exod. 20:1-17

In the Lenten week ahead, study God's commandments, practice the way of life they teach, lean upon them and see how God's laws revive your soul.

*BLESSING

May God shine upon you, Christ fill you with true wisdom and strength, and the Holy Spirit guide you into all faithfulness, now and forever.

*SENDING SONG

Organ plays 1x, organ and pastor 1x, congregation (English) 2x

NOTHING CAN TROUBLE

Nothing can trouble, Nothing can frighten
Those who seek God shall never go wanting
Nothing can trouble, Nothing can frighten
God alone fills us.

Nada te turbe, nada te espanta
Quien a Dios tiene nada le falta
Nada te turbe, nada te espanta
Solo Dios basta.

POSTLUDE

Question for Reflection:

The third Sunday of Lent focuses on the gift of God's law. John Calvin (1509–1564) described three uses for the Ten Commandments: First, they show us how to live before God and neighbor, and expose our sins in failing to live as God intends. Second, they instruct our civic or common life, showing us how to live responsibly in the freedom God gives. Third, rather than show us what we must do in order to receive God's grace and love, the commandments show us how we should live because we are a people who have already received God's grace and love in Jesus Christ. Does God's law restrict or enhance our freedom as human beings?

Household Prayer: Morning

God of heaven and earth, I listen this morning for the sound of your glory: in the songs of birds, in quiet conversations that begin the day, in easy laughter among friends, in sunlight's warmth, pattering rain, or silent snowfall. Give me ears to hear your glory in its many forms. Give me eyes to see your glory in its many guises. Throughout this day, I, too, will proclaim your glory, your grace, and your love so that I may be a part of the chorus of praise that stretches to the ends of the earth. In Christ's name I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God of freedom, I thank you for claiming me as your own and for setting me in the midst of the community of faith. Today the news was filled with stories of people who do not live according to your commandments, with grievous results. Lives are shattered as your ancient tablets of stone are broken again and again. And I struggle, too, in my own ways, to live before you and my neighbors in faithfulness, generosity, and love. As the day comes to an end, I pray for forgiveness for myself and for this weary world, confident of your grace and mercy. Send your gift of Sabbath rest, and let me sleep in peace as, over and around me, night declares to night your power and glory. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Symbols, questions, and practices for the Lenten journey:

1st Sunday - Backpack -

What do we need? what is better left behind? what can we do without?

Fasting and doing with less,

2nd Sunday - Boots -

Do we trample Christ's footsteps in 'walk all over you boots? Aligning with
Christ's footsteps through Lenten Practices

3rd Sunday - Walking Stick -

What do we lean on? What do we need to turn over?

The Ten Commandments and good use of resources

Announcements

Pastor:

Rev. Ela J. Robertson

Lay Reader: Matt Waddell

Organist:

John Haubrick

Our sincere sympathy to the family of Bob Himes. Bob was a member of West Kish and also our organist for many years. Prayers for Tim, Toni and family!

The first three weeks of Lent emphasize serious inward reflection, repenting for those things we regret, and finding willingness to face those sins or weaknesses we have tried to deny. This is the time when the scripture and the pastor's message may cause us to feel uncomfortable with ourselves personally or ourselves as an element of our current society, "that sinful generation," whenever that it is.

Next Sunday is the 4th Sunday of Lent. Called "Laetere Sunday" or Rejoice Sunday, it marks the half way point, a turning in the Lenten journey. We continue attention to Lenten practices and are strengthened in our willingness and discipline as begin to see around the bend to the light of the Resurrection. This 4th Sunday is also the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day so come to rejoice as we emphasize the Celtic affirmation the God created all things good and Christ came not to condemn but to save and bring us freedom and joy.

On Sunday MARCH 14th at 5 p.m. people are invited to sing along or listen to the National Lutheran choir (hopefully on the big screen) in the Sanctuary at St. Johns, Sunday March 14 at 5 p.m. Let's connect with singers across the country joining together to praise God. You can also join in at home - <https://nlca.com>.

There is a sign-up sheet being passed around to sign up for white Easter tulips. The cost is \$7.95 each. Indicate how many you would like and you can place your money in with your offering and mark it "flowers".

There are Lenten devotionals for this week in the narthex! You are welcome to pick up a copy!

The winter Congregational meeting will be held today following worship, which will be somewhat shorter to accommodate the meeting.

The amount received so far for the Roof Fund is \$31,303. Thanks for your continuous offerings! Our goal is \$35,000!

You may text or email your joys and concerns at any time to Matt Waddell. His cell phone number is 717-994-5613 or email at waddellmj1@yahoo.com.

March birthdays include:

- March 10 - Kimberly Russell
Jon C. Helfrick
- March 11 - Nathan Maclay
- March 13 - Nancy Kauffman Abt
Lindsay M. Miller
- March 14 - Betty Jo Johnson
- March 19 - Larry Eckland
- March 20 - Linda Corbin
- March 23 - Gary Eichhorn
- March 24 – Jonah Waddell
- March 27 - Sarah Elizabeth Rumbaugh
- March 28 - James Stroup
Shari A. Spicher

MARCH ANNIVERSARYS

March 19th – Tim & Melinda Davis

Joys and Concerns

Please pray for all the concerns expressed for family and friends of those in the congregation: for patience in dealing with COVID, and compassion for all affected physically, financially and psychologically by the pandemic, for a new and better year in 2021.

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|--|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Hannah Faulkner | Elliana Byler | Pam Ritchey | Bertha Penepacker | Jim Marthouse |
| Reed Henderson | Laura Baggus | Leevi Fultz | Ev Wilde | Jon Helfrick |
| Cindy Coder | Richard & Pat Byler | Timmy Parson | Frank Pandolfino | Kathy Wilson |
| Rachel Boyd - wife of Krislund Director, Josh Boyd | | | Himes family | |
| Lana Weld – daughter of Larry & Jean Ecklund | | | | |
| All of our communities pastors and congregations | | | | |
| All those on the Frontlines of this COVID pandemic | | | | |

Valley View Haven: Shirley Morris – Room 504 VVH, Belleville, Alice Long, Room 510

Valley View Assisted Living: Art Kauffman Room A214 & Doris Wilson Room A110

Westminster Woods: Bill Rumbaugh & Nancy Bailey – 360 Westminster Dr., Huntingdon, PA 16652

In the Military: Rob Westover, Dave Westover, Eric Kauffman, Shawn Seager, Micah Yoder, Michael Yutesler

Presbytery Prayer Calendar

Bellefonte congregation – Rev. Debbie Johnson, Pastor

Sawattanatham Church – Pastor Kamoichai Wanasatit

Visioning Team Elder Linda Vance, Chair

