

1st Sunday in Lent

March 9th, 2025 ~ 8:30am



+ Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church +

2451 Saucon Valley Rd. Center Valley, PA 18034

Office: 610-865-4144

The Rev. Lisa K. Borrell, Pastor ~ 610-762-2139

Quinette Brucker, Dir. of Music/Organist

WELCOME

() Please stand as you are comfortable and able*

Prelude Music

Welcome & Announcements

***Opening Litany** (written by Thom Shuman)

P: Jesus began His ministry to the world, led by the Spirit into the wilderness.

C: As we begin our Lenten journey, let us be led by the Spirit, even into the uncomfortable places.

P: In those forty days, and in that place, Jesus was faced with hunger, doubt, and temptation.

C: As we seek to follow Jesus, we would be led, even into the uncomfortable choices.

P: Jesus left the wilderness, faithful and obedient to God, rejoicing in the One in whom He trusted.

C: As we continue on our path to faithfulness, we will be led by our Christ, rejoicing in the Lord our God.

***Opening Hymn #774**

"What a Fellowship ..."

***The Greeting and Prayer of the Day**

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.

P: Let us pray. ~ O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that following your Son, we may walk safely through

P: the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The First Reading ~ Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.

¹ When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.

⁸ The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 91 (selective verses, read responsively)

¹ You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty —
² **you will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust.”**
⁹ Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,
¹⁰ **no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**
¹¹ For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in all your ways.
¹² **Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**
¹³ You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.
¹⁴ **I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**
¹⁵ They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.
¹⁶ **With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.**

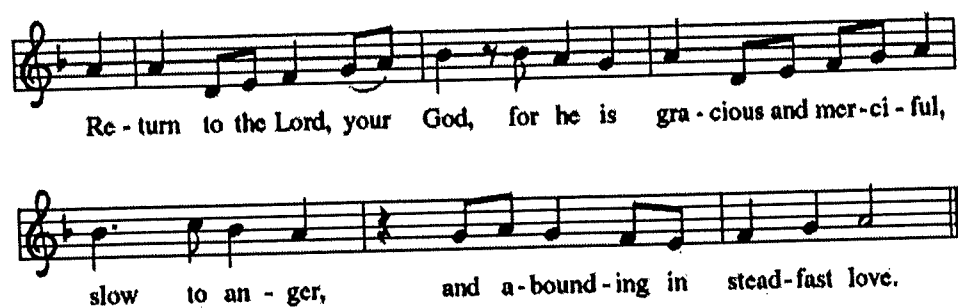
The Second Reading ~ Romans 10: 8b-13

Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.

^{8b} “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***The Gospel Acclamation (sung by all)**



*The Holy Gospel ~ Luke 4: 1-13

After being filled with the Holy Spirit at His baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through His responses to the temptations of the devil, He defines what it means to be called "the Son of God."

The Holy Gospel according to the 4th chapter of St. Luke.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" ⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' ¹¹ and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from Jesus until an opportune time.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

***Hymn #319 “O Lord Throughout These Forty Days”**

***The Apostles’ Creed (professed together)**

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.

***Prayer of the Church**

After each prayer petition, please respond:

God, in Your mercy ... **Receive our prayer.**

Anthem

“Show Me the Way, O Lord”

The Blessing of the Communion Elements

The Lord’s Prayer (traditional ~ prayed by all)



+ Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

Communion will be distributed by method of intinction,; that is, the wafer will be dipped in the chalice so that both elements are received together.

Post-Communion Blessing, Prayer, and Benediction

P: Compassionate God, You have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

P: The God of all grace + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

*Hymn #329

“As the Sun with Longer Journey”

*The Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord in love.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude Music

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*thank
you*

... to Diane Ernst for serving as our lector and usher

... to Kristin Nepomuceno and Kim Strauss for serving as
our counters

... to Drew Wagner for serving as our live stream tech



To be remembered in prayer ... Leona Callahan, George, Karan Eddy, Kevin Filler, Sharon Edwards, Hope Geary, Helen Kerositz, Jeanne Logan, Kathleen Tuomela May, Zachary, people living in war-torn countries, especially Ukraine and Israel, and others whom we name before God.

We are looking for more volunteers to serve as offering counters (to serve on teams of 2). Please speak with Pastor Lisa if you are interested in helping in this way!



If you have interest in helping with our Easter egg candy making project, please see or speak with Nancy Filler at 610-282-1386. Thank you!

Orders are now being taken for our Easter candy. The cost is \$1.75/per egg. Flavors include milk & dark peanut butter, dark coconut cream, and dark shredded coconut.

Order forms are in the narthex.



ALSO ... Friedens will be hosting the mid-week Lenten soup supper (6pm) and worship service (7pm) this coming Wednesday, March 12th.

Soup makers are needed! Sign up sheet on narthex table.

There are upcoming opportunities to
volunteer at Betty Lou's Pantry.
Please see the informational poster and
sign up sheet on the table in the narthex.





Today is Daffodil Day. A time to
remember our cancer victims who
have passed on, and a time to
honor our cancer survivors.

THE CANCER PRAYER

A PRAYER FOR THE CONQUEST OF CANCER

OUR LORD, in whose hands are the issues of life and death,
we thank Thee that Thou art a God of Love.

From the gift of our lives to the moment we return to Thee,
we are in Thy loving care. We turn to Thee in times of joy and pain.

We are concerned for those in pain, those who suffer from cancer,
and for those who care for them.

Bless, we pray, those who minister to the victims of this dread disease.
Give them skill and knowledge that cures may be wrought.

Heal, we pray, those who suffer that their pain may be replaced by joy.

Give, we pray, a discovery of the cure for cancer
and the knowledge of how to prevent it.

Increase, we pray, Thy ministry of healing through all who labor
in research and the health professions,
that one day we may rejoice in a world free from the scourge of cancer
in which all may live out their span of life in useful service
to Thee and Thy children.

To Thee we shall give the praise!
AMEN





Bread of Life ~ Lent 2025

Come join us for a day of fun, fellowship and discussion!

Where: New Jerusalem's Upper Room

When: April 5, 2025 ~ Registration 8:30 ~ Opening 9:00am

~ Followed by service at 4:30

What: Lenten focus of Jesus as the Bread of Life

Why: Because you are a beloved child of God

How: Hands on, discussion groups, cooking, creating

For information or questions ~ Terry Ravier - 610.360.0956 or Sharon Bender - 610.597.8764

PLEASE USE THE SIGN-UP SHEETS AROUND
THE BUILDING ~ Thanks!