

HOLY COMMUNION

Fourth Sunday in Lent

10:30 am

March 22, 2020

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

SILENT PRAYER

PRELUDE:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

Stand

HYMN: *Dearest Jesus, at Your Word*

520

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ABSOLUTION)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

P Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel/Stand

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,
and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

GREETING

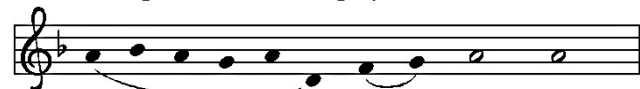
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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,



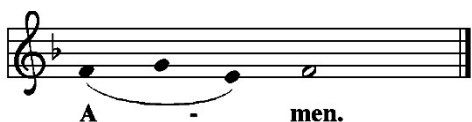
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

God of all mercy, by your power to heal and to forgive, graciously cleanse us from all sin and make us strong; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.

A A reading from First Samuel.

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons

and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is now before the LORD.” ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”

⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”

¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.”

¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

A The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23 *(The congregation sings the verses in bold face type.)*

¹The LORD | is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want.

²**He makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

³He re- | vives my soul

and guides me along right pathways | for his name’s sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall |
fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort
me.**

⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of those who | trouble
me;

you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of
my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

A A reading from Ephesians.

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The congregation sings the Acclamation.



The choir sings the Verse.



The congregation repeats the Acclamation.

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

P The holy gospel according to John.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of

age. He will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.

²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Weleck

The Nicene Creed is appropriate during Advent, Christmas, Easter, and on festival days; the Apostles' Creed during Lent and at other times.

APOSTLES CREED

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C 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 into hell.
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

A With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A Lord Jesus Christ, light of the world, you give sight to the blind and to those who think they see but do not. Open the eyes of our hearts to see and believe that we may worship you as Lord. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for the church, for its pastors and bishops, for the newly baptized, for all the faithful, for this congregation here gathered, and for our growth in grace. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all nations, for all rulers, legislators, and judges, for an increase of justice in our lands, and for all who work for peace among nations and among peoples. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all in any need, for the hungry and the homeless, for victims of war and injustice, for prisoners, for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, for the sick and infirm, for all with incurable illness, and for all who this day will die. We pray especially for those we name in the silence of our hearts... Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for the members of our armed forces wherever they serve, and especially when they serve in harm's way, that they might speedily complete their mission and be safely reunited with their loved ones. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say Peace be with you or similar words.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

Sit

OFFERING

ANTHEM:

Stand

OFFERTORY

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 un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

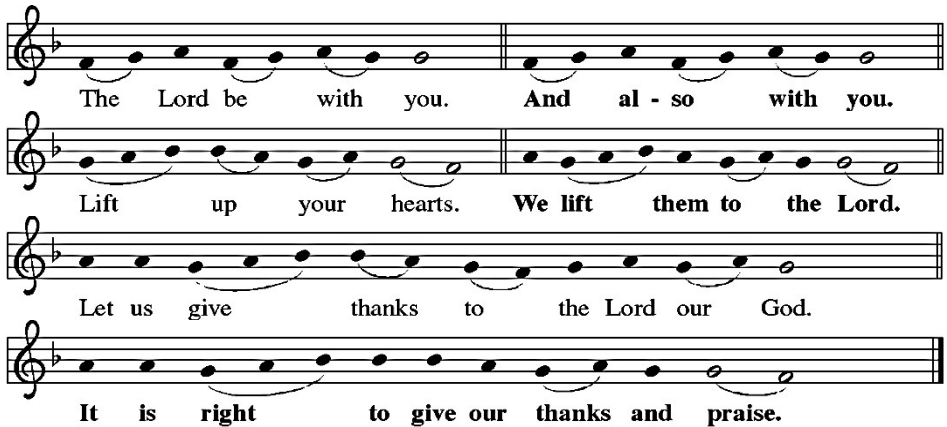
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

- A** Let us pray...Merciful Father,
C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks:

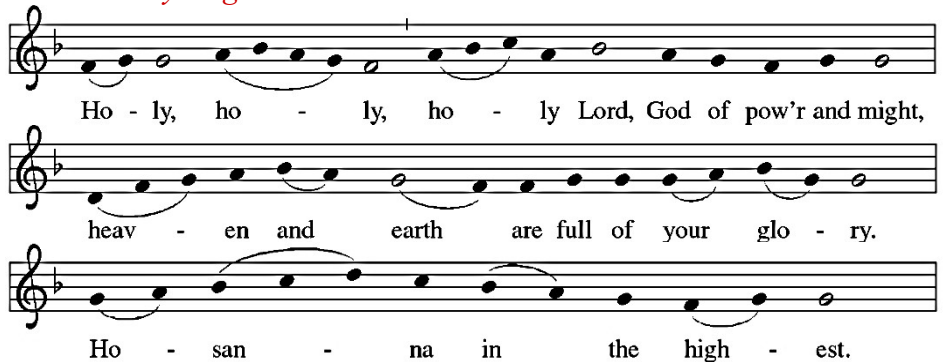


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

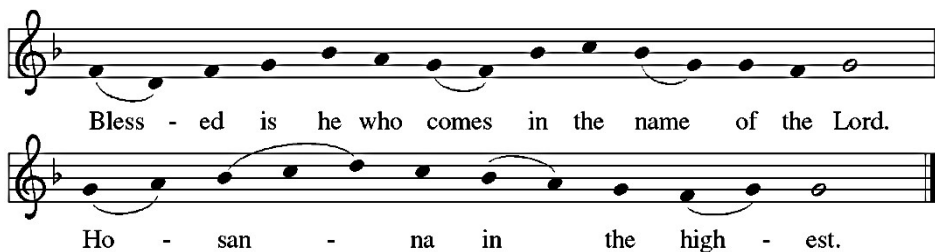
The minister continues with the PROPER PREFACE:

- P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:* ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The assembly sings the SANCTUS:



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 in the high - est.



The minister continues with the WORDS OF INSTITUTION, usually included in a Eucharistic Prayer.

- ❏ You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

- P** Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

LORD'S PRAYER



- P** Lord, re-mem-ber us in your king-dom and teach us to pray.



Our Fa ther, who art in heav en, Hal low - ed be thy Name,

Thy King-dom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in
 heaven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread; And for-give us
 our tres-pass-es, as we for-give those who trespass a-gainst us;
 And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, But de-liv-er us from e-vil,
 For thine is the king-dom, and the pow-er and the
 glo-ry, for ev-er and ev-er. A-men

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P** Behold the Lamb of God,
 behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
 Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.
- C** Lord, I am not worthy
 that you should enter under my roof,
 but only say the word
 and my soul shall be healed.

Sit

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond

 Amen.

We Lutherans believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are “truly and substantially” present “in, with, and under” the forms of bread and wine. We invite to the communion all who are baptized and communing in this or another Christian denomination. We welcome children and others who are not communing to kneel at the altar rail for a blessing. The Body of Christ is received in the palm of the hand. The Blood of Christ is poured into a small glass which should be picked up on the way to the altar rail.

Music during Communion:

LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI)



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. A - men.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

HYMN: *Lead Me, Guide Me*

768

Stand

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you
and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

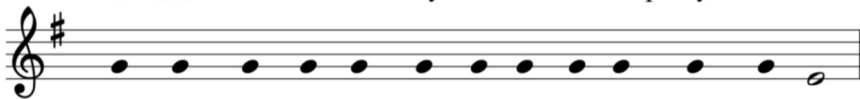
C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING (BENEDICTION)



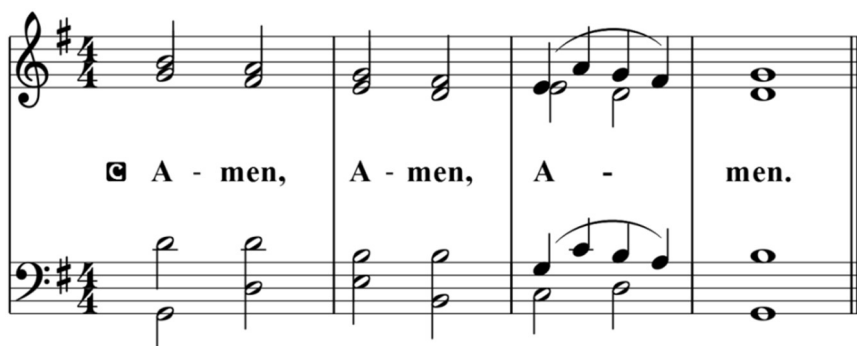
P The Lord bless you and keep you.



The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.



The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



DISMISSAL

Ⓐ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

HYMN: *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

324

POSTLUDE:



The Easter Cycle celebrates the events surrounding our Lord's passion, death, and resurrection. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, the Easter Cycle includes the Lenten season, Holy Week, and the Easter Season. This cycle concludes with the Day of Pentecost, as the culmination of the resurrection through the coming of the Holy Spirit to Christ's followers.

During Lent, a Hymn of Praise is not appropriate because of the preparatory and penitential nature of this time.

The liturgical color purple, symbolic of our penitence and Jesus' royalty, is used in Lent.

Vestry Members	Special Area	E-mail Address or Phone
Pastor Weleck		pastor@augustustrappe.org
John Kochel	<i>President</i>	John.kochel@thrivent.com
Gary Wessner	<i>Vice President</i>	gtwessw@comcast.net
Sherry Jessee	<i>Secretary / Old Church</i>	dsajessee@hotmail.com
Janice Reiff	<i>Treasurer / Finance</i>	janicetreiff@gmail.com
Robert Rodenberger	<i>Trust Fund Treasurer / Finance</i>	r.rodenberger7@gmail.com
Debra Augustine	<i>Mutual Ministry</i>	anniedwebb@verizon.net
Frank DePaul	<i>Property</i>	Fvdp52@gmail.com
Chris Dogonniuck	<i>Christian Education</i>	Bulldog7224@comcast.net
Jeanne Funk	<i>Assistant Treasurer/Comm. & Tech</i>	jfunk@kpinterface.com
Chilly Lyaro	<i>Christian Education</i>	chillylyaro@yahoo.com
Lois Robinson	<i>Worship and Music</i>	Drloisd Robinson1@gmail.com
Karl Stefan	<i>Cemetery / Mutual Ministry</i>	kssurf@verizon.net
Janet Stokes	<i>Parish Life / Stewardship</i>	sjastokes@aol.com

2020 Stewardship Campaign Update		
	Commitment Cards	Dollar Amount
Total Possible	274	\$275,000
Received as of 2/23/2020	80	\$135,826
Amount Outstanding	194	\$139,174
<p>If you have not yet returned your Commitment Card for 2020, please return the completed card as soon as possible. A copy of the 2020 Commitment Card can be downloaded from the parish web site, www.augustustrappe.org, under the "About Us" tab.</p>		

Worship Assistants

Altar Servers: Piper Bouchard and Nathan Long

Ushers: Chilly Lyaro, Shane Elison, Dennis Ludwig, and Dick Allebach

Lectors: 8:00 am: Karl Stefan

10:30 am: Vicky Gallagher and Abby Gravel

Communion Assistants: 8:00 am: Debra Augustine

10:30 am: Jeannie Funk and Gary Wessner

Altar Guild: 8:00 am: Sally Sweeney 10:30 am: Mike Van Blaricum

Offering Tabulation: Gary Wessner, Lois Robinson, and Frank DePaul

The Flowers that Adorn the Altar this morning are given to the glory of God by Helen and Charles Newton and Pam Sharkey in loving memory of Parents and Grandparents, Helen B. and Charles D. Newton, Sr.

The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by David and Jeanne Halteman in honor of children, Taylor and Zachary's birthdays.

The Worship Bulletins are given to the Glory of God by Pastors Howard and Martha Kriebel.

All activities at Augustus Church are cancelled or postponed through March 31st.

Please check our web site: **www.augustustrappe.org**,

Call the office: **610-489-9625**,

Or e-mail the office: **office@augustustrappe.org**
for closing updates or if you have questions about a church-related event.

For outside events, contact your organization.

Please continue to pray for all those who have been affected by this virus.

Also please mail your offering envelopes to the church so we can continue to pay routine expenses like heat and electricity.



2020 Easter Flowers

Flowers can now be ordered for Easter!

Please include payment with your order.
Make checks payable to: Augustus Flower Fund

Orders can be left in the church office, or mailed to:
Karen Lachenmayer
412 Dartmoor Road, Schwenksville, PA 19473

Phone: 610-715-4850

E-Mail: karenlachenmayer@gmail.com

ORDER DEADLINE: March 29, 2020

Name: _____

(Please Print)

QTY

Lily _____ @ \$12.00 = _____

Daffodil _____ @ \$9.50 = _____

Tulip _____ @ \$5.50 = _____

Order Total _____

Check One:

I will take my flowers AFTER the Easter Service _____

Please distribute my flowers to others _____

I would like the bulletin acknowledgement to read:

(PLEASE PRINT)

SPONSORS: * Imperial's Catering * Risher Van Horn Florist *
* Brandywine Assisted Living * Thrivent Financial *
* Phoenixville Federal Bank & Trust *
* Boy Scout Troop 87 * Boy Scout Troop 39 *

Spring Turkey Dinner

**CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR
SILENT AUCTION**

**TWO GREAT EVENTS
ONE LOCATION!**

**4 TO 7 PM SIT-DOWN DINNER
4-6 PM TAKE-OUTS
ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT & MUSIC**

adults: \$ 14.00 children 3-10 yrs: \$ 5.00
children under 3: free

**TO RESERVE TICKETS CALL:
610-489-9625**

**CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR:
2 TO 7 PM
FREE ADMISSION**

crafters and vendors needed:
AugustusCraftShow@gmail.com

**AUGUSTUS LUTHERAN CHURCH
717 W. MAIN STREET
TRAPPE, PA 19426**

SATURDAY APRIL 25, 2020

Proceeds benefit: Irente Children's Home in Tanzania
Dr. Stephen and Jodi Lynn Swanson, Missionaries in Tanzania
Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University in Tanzania

Sunday Services: 8:00 AM Communion * 9:00 AM Sunday School * 10:30 AM Communion



Women
of the
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA

UPPER MONTGOMERY CONFERENCE OF THE SE PA SYNOD WOMEN OF THE ELCA

FIRST TUESDAY GATHER BIBLE STUDIES WINTER/SPRING 2020

Coffee and treats at 9:30 am

Bible study 10:00 to 11:30 am

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND BRING FRIENDS.



JANUARY – FEBRUARY Mid-winter break; SAVE GATHER ISSUES FOR USE IN MARCH AND APRIL.

GATHER magazine Winter/Spring 2020 Bible Study: **WE ARE CALLED!** by Kathryn A. Kleinhans

Reformer Martin Luther used the word "vocation" or "calling" to refer to all aspects of human life. We are called to respond to God not just in our personal relationship with God but in our relationships with family and friends, in our work, and in our communities. This four-part Bible study will explore stories from both the Old and New Testament. As we reflect on how our biblical forebears heard and responded to God's call, we will gain insight into how God is calling us—and how God may be calling others through us.

Tuesday, March 3 Bible study from the **January** issue of *Gather*

Session 1: Hearing God's Call

Janet Luyben, Presenter

Focus is on men and women in the Old Testament. Some of them heard and recognized God's call clearly. Others struggled to realize that it was God who was calling them or exactly what God was calling them to do.

Where: St. John's Lutheran Church, 3104 Main Street, Sumneytown

Tuesday, April 7 Bible Study from the **February** issue of *Gather*

Session 2: The Call of Jesus

Kitty Pell, Presenter

This session focuses on Jesus' calling of the disciples, on Jesus' call to Saul (Paul) on the road to Damascus, and on Jesus' call to all Christians to take up the cross and follow.

Where: St. James Lutheran Church, High & Price Streets, Pottstown

Tuesday, May 5 Bible study from the **March** issue of *Gather*

Session 3: Called to Serve

Bobbie Hoffman, Presenter

Jesus is clear that one of the central ways we respond to God's call is by serving others. When we serve others, we are recognizing Christ present in their need. When we serve others, they see Christ visible in our loving service.

Where: St. James Lutheran Church, Kugler Rd. & Swamp Pike, Limerick

Tuesday, June 2 Bible study from the **April** issue of *Gather*

Session 4: Calling Networks

Pat Leberman, Presenter

The title of this Bible study, "We Are Called!" reminds us that calling is not something private or individualistic but are always interwoven with our relationships and our communities. This session focuses on how we support others in hearing and responding to God's call.

Where: Augustus Lutheran Church, 717 W. Main Street, Trappe

Study materials are found in the *Gather* magazine; subscriptions are available by calling 1-800-328-4648.