

**PRAYER SERVICE
MARCH 14, 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God loves you all the time
And all the time God loves you.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity ☩ one God,
the keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ.
Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Fountain of living water,
pour out your mercy over us.
Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood.
Make us alive in the Spirit
to follow in the way of Jesus,
as healers and restorers of the world you so love.

Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails.
The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are ☩ forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.

Amen.





1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

OPENING DIALOGUE

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22

- ¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,
for God’s mercy endures forever.
- ²**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**
- ³gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- ¹⁷**Some were fools and took rebellious paths;
through their sins they were afflicted.**
- ¹⁸They loathed all manner of food
and drew near to death’s door.
- ¹⁹**Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD
and you delivered them from their distress.**
- ²⁰You sent forth your word and healed them
and rescued them from the grave.
- ²¹**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love**

and your wonderful works for all people.

²²Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 3:1--21

The gospel according to St. John the third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you

a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE MESSAGE

Reverend Ed Kay

PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

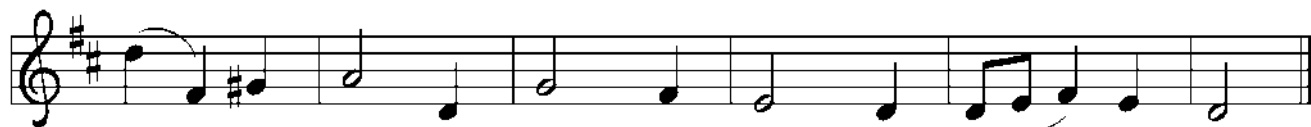
And also with you.



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

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,

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

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

You sent your Son that the world might be saved through him. Inspire the witness of the church throughout the world. Empower missionaries, Bible translators, and ministries of service in your name. Bless our partners in ministry (*specific mission partners may be named*), our ELCA global partner churches, and Young Adults in Global Mission. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

From east to west your steadfast love is shown. Nourish seas and deserts, wilderness areas and cities. Give water to thirsty lands; nurture spring growth that feeds hungry creatures; bless farmers as they prepare for the growing season. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** You sustained your people in the wilderness. Give courage to all who lead in times of crisis and scarce resources. Prosper the work of those who aid victims of famine and drought (*especially*). Bring peace in places where scarce resources cause violence. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your mercy endures forever. Deliver all who cry to you, especially those who are hungry or without homes. Give life in places where death seems triumphant; give healing to those who are sick and comfort to those who mourn. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

By grace we have been saved. Fill this congregation to overflowing with that grace, that we show mercy to others. Nourish any in our midst who are hungry, especially children, and bless our ministries of feeding and shelter (*especially*). Give us patience and courage when the way seems long. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your Son was lifted up that whoever believes might have eternal life. We praise you for all who have died in Christ. Bring us with all the saints into the fullness of your promises.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING

You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Tara Magoon, Pastor
Rev. David Wasgatt, Pastor Emeritus
Jordan Irazabal, Director of Music
Susan Wells Allen, Office Manager
Louis Jones, Custodian

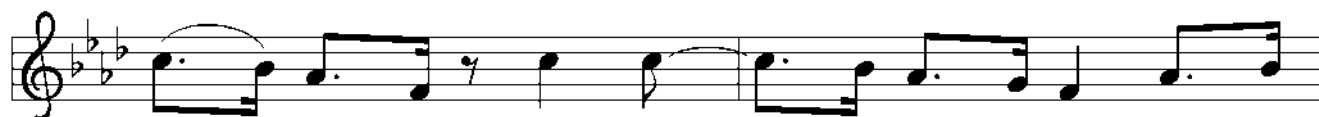
2033 Graves Road, Hockessin, DE 19707 Office: 302-239-6481

Email: Office@gmail.com Website: glcde.org

This morning of Grace's 49th anniversary, we welcome guest preacher; Reverend Ed Kay.

Refrain – All

Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a



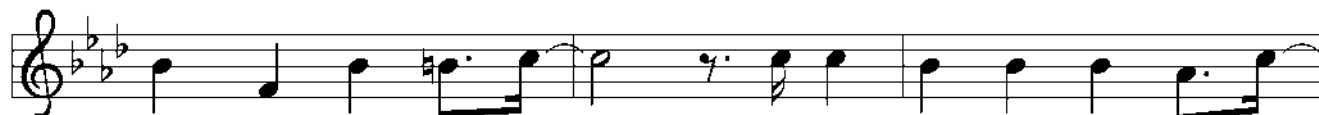
wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a



wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

Leader or All

1 No one can do like Je - sus, not a
2 When Je - sus was on earth, the . .
3 Yon - der comes my Sav - ior, him . .



mum-bling word he said; he went walk - ing down to Laz -
flesh was ver - y weak; . . he took a towel and gird -
whom I love so well; . . he has the palm of vic -

*Refrain*

- a - rus' grave, and he raised him from the dead.
ed him - self and he washed his dis - ci - ples' feet.
- to - ry and the keys of death and hell.

Prayers for Week of March 14

TODAY we pray for:

Russ and Joan Snyder
Debbie
Bill
Ben
Nancy Miller
Brian
Allen Whitley
Roger Camp
Krisida Alberto

- all in our hearts and minds today.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

Stacy Dambaugh, Pat Kizuka, Polly Gillis, Louise Ench, Kathy Long, Gener Ernst, Barbara Hewlett, Russ & Joan Snyder, Clare Schoening, Scott; Chris, Denise, Clare Benz and Lynda Martinez, Barbara Lynn Grabher; daughter in law of Erika and Ed Burke, Kyle, Bill Smith; step-father of Rebecca Koreck, Lena, Leslie, friend of Diane Teig, Jack Baskow, Claudia and Geof Bromfield, Scott & Lia Wycoff, The Fenner family, John Worrell—brother in law of Bill Baur, Mike Goyda, Lis Verbeck, Lois Snyder, Connie—mother of Karen Ehemann, Sue David & Angie Wasgatt, John Deaton, Joan Sandstorm, Delores Sipe, Doug Price, Bob Waller, Kent Hardel, Gretchen Platz, Ellen Hall, Nanci Hunsinger, Claire Schoening, Tyler, Bill Howerin, Marcia Burton, Gina Clay

For our bishops; Elizabeth Eaton, Bill Gohl
For the Dean of the Delmarva Conference; Pastor Paige Evers
For our staff; Pastor Tara, Susan Allen, Jordan Irazabal, Louis Jones
For leaders & congregations of the Delmarva Conference;
For all pastors and church leaders
For our country; the United States, leaders and citizens.
For all of our global neighbors, stricken by the corvid-19 virus.

**To request a prayer, or update prayers, please call the church office (302-239-6481)
or email office@glcde.org.**

Lent Week 4

Mender of division, you sent Christ to heal the world and to gather those on the margins. Bring your healing power to us. May we extend your power and grace to those separated from their communities and those longing for a tangible sign of your love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Join

COFFEE & CONNECT

Every Sunday on Zoom at 10:00AM

Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89184540007?
pwd=VW5Vb25JanJNdjdRK2hkRnZQZVpKdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89184540007?pwd=VW5Vb25JanJNdjdRK2hkRnZQZVpKdz09)

Meeting ID: 891 8454 0007

Passcode: Connect

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,89184540007#,,,,*5655226# US (New York)

+13017158592,,89184540007#,,,,*5655226# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 891 8454 0007

Passcode: 5655226

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcONF1jp4H>



COFFEE & CONNECT
starts at 10:00am on Zoom

Adult Education Opportunity

Continuing.....

The study of **1 Peter "God's Own People"** from the Book of Faith initiative through Augsburg Fortress continues this Sunday. Pastor Tara will be leading the study at 11 AM on Sunday mornings. You can participate through the "Coffee and Connect" link in this newsletter. Grab your coffee and snack and join in the discussion!



Join Us For a Live
Hymn Sing!

Sunday, March 14 at 10:30am
Join on Zoom

Sunday, March 14



LENT 2021

All worship services will be available all day on our website or Facebook page.

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Our *Midweek Lenten worship series* is “Open My Life, Lord” a cooperative series by Grace, Hope, St. Stephen’s and Bethel Lutheran churches of the Delmarva North Conference.

Each week we will hear a liturgy and meditation that invite God to open, lead and dwell within us:

February 24th—Open My Eyes, Lord

March 3rd—Open My Hands, Lord

March 10th—Open My Ears, Lord

March 17th—Open My Heart, Lord

March 24th—Open My Life, Lord

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As promised in the season of Advent, we will continue the Bible study or texts from *Handel’s Messiah* on Wednesdays in Lent at 7PM beginning February 24th.

The study will be available on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84338548999?pwd=bkd6S3NueTdOOTZ6UE1URlNqK1pIUT09>

Meeting ID: 843 3854 8999

Passcode: 799577

Phone: Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcyc92mflx>