

The First Sunday in Lent

February 26, 2023

AGAIN IT IS WRITTEN,

'YOU SHALL

NOT

PUT THE LORD

YOUR GOD

TO THE TEST.'

MATTHEW 4:7, ESV

***Christ's Lutheran Church
Murrysville, Pennsylvania***

CHRIST'S CHURCH FOR ALL PEOPLE

CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

5330 Old Logan Ferry Road
Murrysville, Pennsylvania 15668

Office: 412-795-1212/email:
office@christsmurrysville.org

Visit our website at

www.christsmurrysville.org

Pastor Wayne's email:

revwaynegillespie@gmail.com



We welcome you to our church's house of worship. If you are new to worship in the Lutheran church, this introduction will guide you through the worship service. The prayers, responses, and service music are all printed in this bulletin. You will need to use the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnals for the hymns.

Communion - All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion during today's service. Children, who have not previously received Holy Communion, may also come forward for a special blessing. When you come to the altar, you can either kneel or remain standing. We offer both wheat and gluten-free wafers, and both wine and grape juice during our celebrations of Holy Communion. If you would like to receive grape juice today, please take a glass from the tray that has already been filled with juice when you come forward. If you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer, all that you need to do is let Pastor Wayne know when he is giving you the bread.

Children are always welcome at worship. If your child needs to move around, please feel free to walk him/her in the rear area of the sanctuary. The rest rooms (with diaper decks) are located in the hallway to the right of the entryway. At the back of the sanctuary, you'll find a basket with cloth bags containing activities for children age 3 and older. Feel free to allow your child to borrow a bag for quiet entertainment during services. With the exception of any artwork your child creates (feel free to tear out), we ask that you return the contents to the bag, and the bag to the basket at the back of the church, after our service.

Please take a moment to silence your cell phone. Thank you.

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The First Sunday in Lent

(Please take a moment to silence your electronic devices)

PRELUDE

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Friedrich Wilhelm Marpurg

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHARING OF CONCERNS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our continuing need for repentance and God's mercy.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess to you our faults and failings.

Too often, we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation;

we cause hurt though you call us to heal;

we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave his only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, + forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: Amen

GATHERING HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

ELW #504

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.

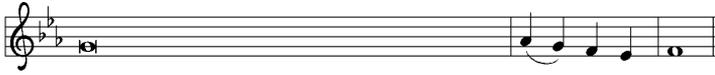
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



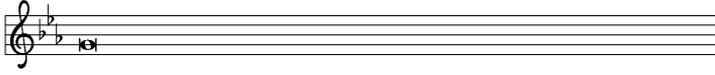
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our own mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

FIRST READING: GENESIS 2:15-17, 3:1-7

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 5:12-19

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the

abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Therefore, just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sing Out!

Based on Psalm 30:4

Wayne Gillespie

Sing out, you peo-ple of the

Lord. A-wake and lis-ten to God's Word. God's pro-mise to us points

toward "Ol-am Ha-ba." "What our world is yet to be.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the fourth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It

is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you," and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Wayne Gillespie

(please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days"

ELW #319

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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**

THE PRAYERS

P: Lord in your mercy, (*after each petition*)

C: **hear our prayer.**

TODAY, WE ARE INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Dorothy Beacom, Debbie Faust, Patti Federovich, James Holt, Richard Hood, Kenley McCurdy, Derwood Montgomery, Joe Purdue John Rambo, Jack Tjaden, Wally Utley, Betty Vance, Sue Werner, Donna Yoder.
Family & Friends of Pastor Hans Andrae and Bob Yoder



P: Gracious God, we lift to you these prayers and the prayers of our hearts, trusting in your everlasting love and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

OFFERING for God's work through the Church (*please be seated*)

This is a time in our service that we use to remember that all that we are, all that we have, and all that we do is an offering to God. If you would like to support our ministry through automatic, electronic giving, you can create a PushPay account by scanning the QR Code below or by visiting the website: pushpay.com/g/clcmurrysvillepa



You can, also, send your offering to support our ministry by mailing it to: Christ's Lutheran Church 5330 Old Logan Ferry Road Murrysville, PA 15668

The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.

OFFERTORY

"If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee"

Marpurg

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



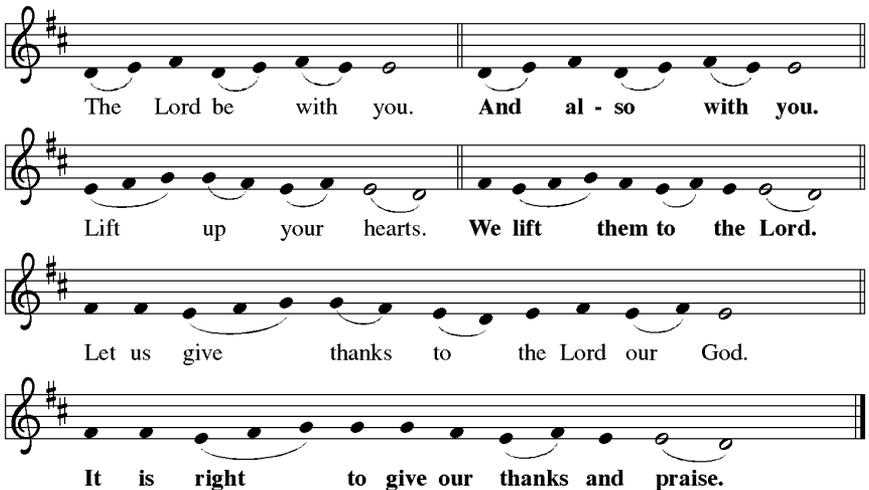
Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: God of good gifts, receive these and all of our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your Gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Jesus Christ, the wellspring of eternal life.

C: Amen

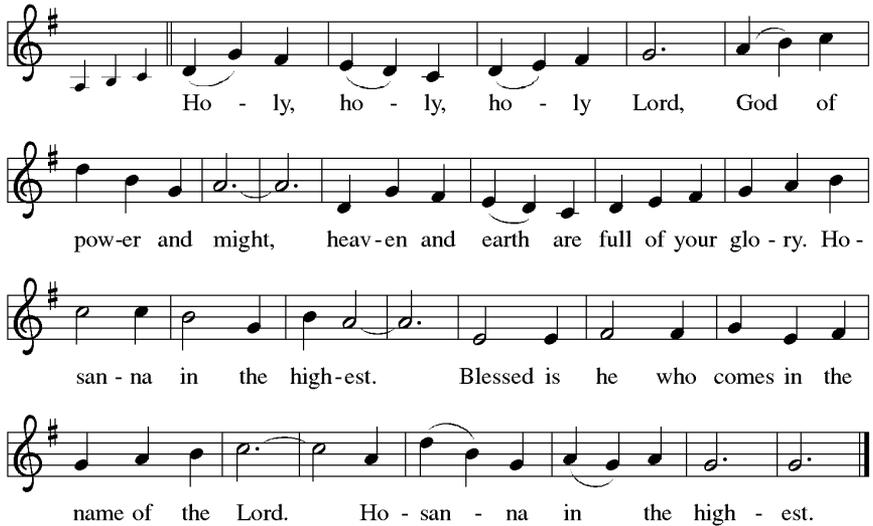
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . (*concluding*)
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER (*all*)

**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.

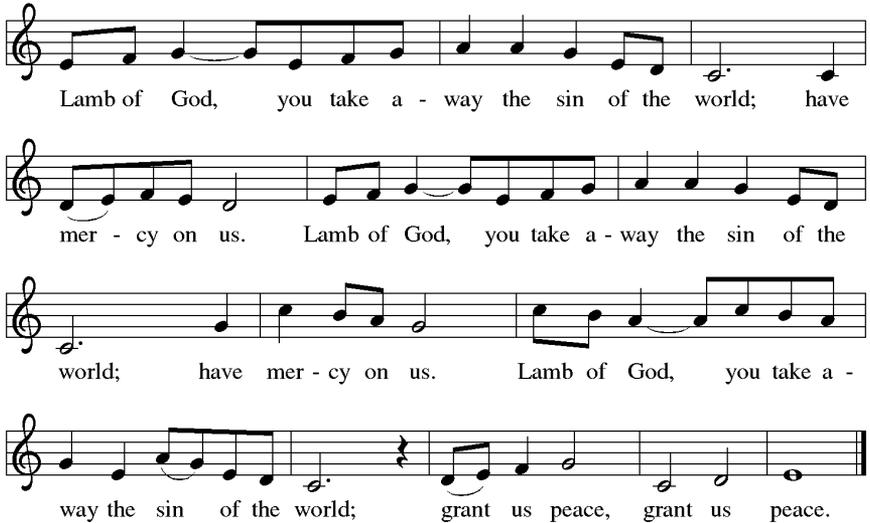
**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.**

Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

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, grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

(When Communion is finished, please stand)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

P: God, the giver of love, + Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you on your Lenten journey.

C: Amen

“AARON’S BLESSING”

Pastor Wayne Gillespie

**May the Lord bless and keep you forever.
May the Lord always be by your side.
May the Lord make His face shine upon you,
and be gracious to you ev’ry day.
May the Lord give you peace on your journey.
May God’s love and peace fill your heart.
May the Lord bless and keep you forever.
May the Lord always be by your side.**

SENDING HYMN

“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”

ELW #618

THE DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee”

Marpurg

Pastor

Pastor Emeritus

Organist

Wayne G. Gillespie

Steven J. Myers

Kevin Clemens

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Big Thank You is extended to our readers, worship assistants, reconcilers, Tech Team, and to the many other helpers who made this weekend's services possible. This week, we especially thank those who are sharing their time and talents with us....

Saturday: Barb Hall, Sandy Buehner, Linda Gould.

Sunday: Linda Paulovitch, Diana Hooper, Trish Lasher, Joe Kelly.

JOB OPENING

We are currently seeking qualified applicants who are interested in serving as our part-time Administrative Assistant. You can find a detailed job description on our church webpage or our Facebook page. If you are interested in applying for this position, please send your resume to: office@christsmurrysville.org

CLC Database Questionnaire: We recently mailed everyone in our congregation a questionnaire with a return envelope. We are moving into the final stages of creating our new church database and want to make sure we have your current mailing and email address, and a telephone number where we can reach you. If you have not returned your questionnaire, please do so. If you need another form, please contact the church office. Thank you.



PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO HEIFER INTERNATIONAL DURING LENT

Heifer is a non-profit organization that has helped over 34 million families during the last 79 years since 1944 and is currently in 19 countries including the United States. Their mission is to end hunger and poverty in a sustainable way while caring for the Earth. Heifer shares the spirit of Christ by helping those in need. They understand the true meaning of Easter--to thank God for our salvation through His Son and to share His love by serving others--especially families facing grave hunger and poverty.

They go into a community with an organized 5-year plan. People are taught to be self-reliant and to make a living income. A family signs a contract and is required to pass along at least one offspring of an animal and also to pass along their acquired

knowledge. Families make full use of different animals in a cyclical manner. More information can be found online at www.heifer.org. Our church has a great history of giving. We have donated \$38,815 since 1992. Last year we gave \$990 which was more than the previous two years combined. Thank you for your generosity. In exciting news this year Heifer has arranged with companies and individuals to MATCH our congregation's gifts this Easter. So our donation will be DOUBLED. To make a tax-deductible donation please make out your check to Christ's Lutheran and write Heifer on the memo line. That is how we are keeping track of our donations.

Thank you. Eric Waxbom



Christ's Little Pantry: Are you, or someone that you know, experiencing food insecurity? Our church has a little pantry in our lower parking lot. If you need food, "Take what you need". If you have food to share, "Leave what you can." Please let other people know about our Little Pantry, so that no one goes hungry. A container

has been placed in the Entryway for donations for your use, or you can simply put food and non-perishable items into the Pantry at any time. The Little Pantry is being used by folks in our neighborhood. If you are able, please consider bringing one or two items to add to the collection box in the Entryway when you come to worship, or to put your donation directly into the pantry. Your kindness and generosity are truly appreciated. Thank you!

Sunday Worship Broadcast: We are broadcasting our Sunday morning worship service each week. If you do not want to be seen during the broadcast, please not sit in the front two pews and commune on the pulpit (left) side of our worship space. We want to be sensitive to people's privacy preferences and needs.

Bulletin and Newsletter Deadlines: Please remember to send any announcements that you would like us to include in our weekly bulletins to the Church Office by no later than noon on **Thursday** (to give us time for bulletin preparation and printing). The deadline for submitting information you want us to include in our monthly newsletter is due at the end of the business day on the 20th of the preceding month. The church email is office@christsmurrysville.org or call 412-795-1212.

Lent 2023

“Streams in the Desert”

A Midweek Lenten Journey

“Streams in the Desert: - Video Series

Watch for links on both our website and Facebook page.

Palm Sunday Weekend – April 1 & 2

Saturday Evening Worship - In-Person

6:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning Worship -In-Person and Livestream Worship

10:00 a.m.

Holy Week and Easter Worship Services

Maundy Thursday – April 6

In-Person and Livestream Worship

7:00 p.m.

Good Friday – April 7

In-Person and Livestream Worship

7:00 p.m.

Easter Weekend – April 8 and 9

Easter Evening Worship (Saturday) – In-Person

6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunrise – Hankey Cemetery – April 9

6:30 a.m.

Easter Worship (Sunday) April 9

Sunday Morning Worship - In-Person and Livestream Worship

10:00 a.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
February 26, 2023 – March 5, 2023

Sunday 2/26

9:00 am	Sunday School
10:00 am	Sunday Morning Worship
7:30 pm	NA Meeting

Monday 2/27

8:00 pm	AA Meeting
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Tuesday 2/28

9:00 am	Sewing Group
9:30 am	Kindermusik
6:00 pm	Girl Scouts

Wednesday 3/1

9:00 am	
10:30 am & 5:30 pm	Kindermusik
6:00 pm	Girls Scouts

Thursday 3/2

9:30 am	Kindermusik
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Friday 3/3

Saturday 3/4

6:00 pm	Worship Service
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Sunday 3/5

9:00 am	Sunday School
10:00 am	Sunday Morning Worship
7:30 pm	Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

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