



Sunday, March 7, 2021

Third Sunday in Lent

Welcome to Worship and Announcements

Prelude

***Confession and Forgiveness:**

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

Congregation: Amen.

P 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.

P Fountain of living water,

C 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.

P 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.

C Amen.

***Gathering Hymn: "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" ELW 324**



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872
Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

Public Domain

***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.**

*Please stand as you are able.

***Prayer of the Day:**

All Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Kidsword: Pastor Jerry O'Neal

Our first reading is from Exodus 20:1-17

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You 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.

L Word of God. Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19: (Read responsively between Lector and **Congregation.**)

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²**One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

³Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

*Please stand as you are able.

4their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

5It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

6It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

7The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

8The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

9The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

10More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

11By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

12Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.

13Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

14Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Our Second reading is from 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

18The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. **19**For it is written,

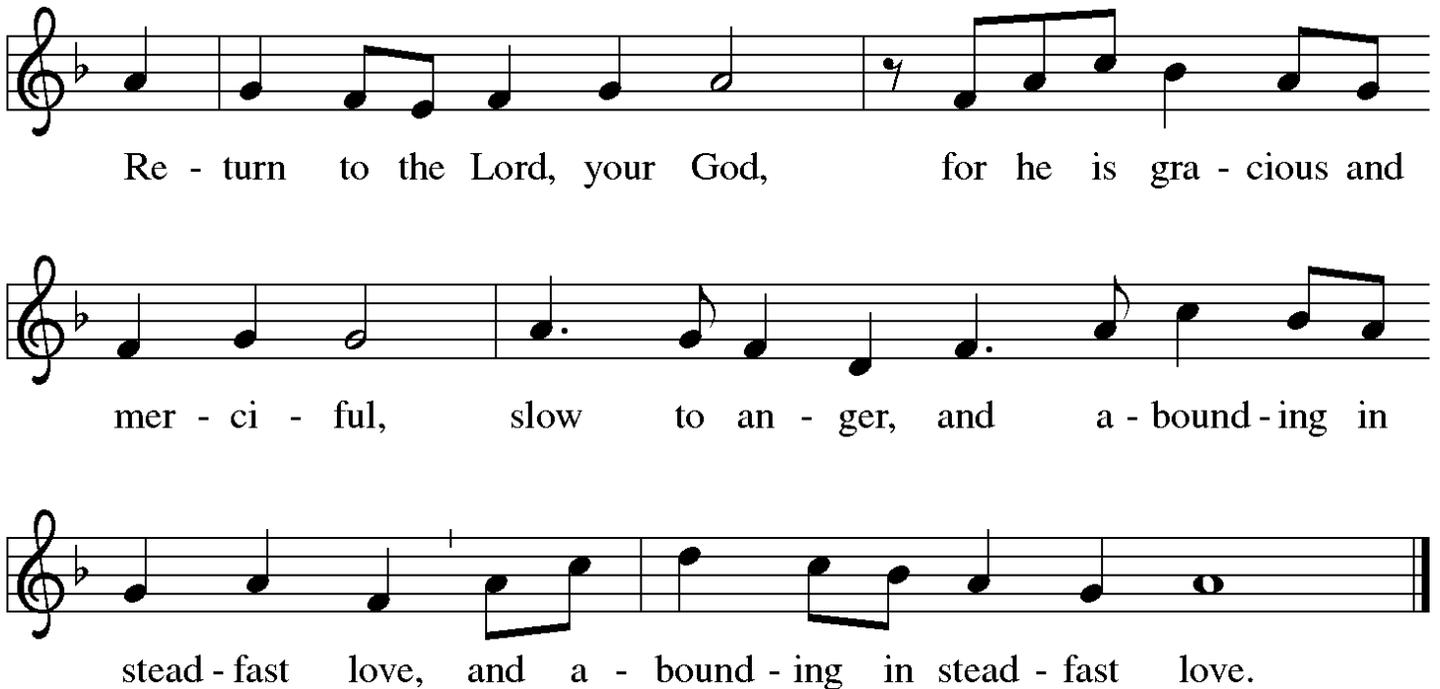
"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

20Where 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? **21**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. **22**For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, **23**but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, **24**but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25**For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

L Word of God. Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation (setting 3)**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

***Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22**

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

- P The Holy Gospel according to John the 2nd chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making 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. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After 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.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: – Pastor Jerry O’Neal

*Please stand as you are able.

***Hymn of the Day: "Canticle of the Turning" ELW 723**



***Apostles' Creed:**

P&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 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.

***Prayers:** (Congregation's response in bold type.)

L For our prayers today, I will conclude each petition with "Hear us, O God" and your response is, "Your mercy is great.."

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

A brief silence.

There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering. Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your peace surpasses all human understanding. Surround those who are ill with your healing spirit and hold those who are nearing the end of life and their loved ones in your loving arms. We especially ask you to be with those we now name either aloud or in the silence of our hearts (pause). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In this season of Lent, open our hearts to your cleansing and our minds to your Word. Bless our mid-week Lenten studies and help us to share your Word with those around us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

*Please stand as you are able.

The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death. 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.

***Sharing the Peace:**

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Offering:

If you would like to give electronically, you may

1. Download the ELCA Giving App from Google Store or Apple Play, or
2. Go to our website www.holytrinitylutheranchurch.com and click on the green "Give" button.
3. Using your bank's online BillPay features.

Thank you for your support of Holy Trinity and our ministries!

Offering Music: "Christ Is the Life" ACS 927

(This is from our new supplemental hymnal *All Creation Sings*.)



1 Christ is the life of all that is, God's pure cre - a - tive
2 Christ is the death of all that is; a broad and beck - 'ning
3 Christ is the death of all that is, a bright, con - sum - ing
4 Christ is the life of all that is, Be - gin - ning and the



Word, whose pow'r be - yond and through all space the
tomb, who wel - comes us from well - worn ways to
fire, whose flames re - quire our pri - or self as
End; cre - a - tive force, most peace - ful death, trans -



worlds to Be - ing stirred. Christ is the life be - yond all
dark - ness of the womb. Christ is the death, the sink - ing
kin - dling for the pyre. Christ is the death of dust - y
form - ing burn - ing brand. Christ is the life, in whose wise



time, cre - a - tion's birth and breath, whose la - bor
down past all de - sire and fear, whose prom - ise
days of un - cre - a - tive strife, for out from
love cre - a - tion lives and dies and thus for -



brings all things to be and brings all things to death.
in the gen - tle dark bids new - ness to ap - pear.
fire we tread up - on the thresh - old of new life.
ev - er - more shall bless the Source, the liv - ing Christ.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: COE FEN, Kenneth Naylor, 1931–1991

Text © 1989 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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***Offering Prayer:**

L Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

***The Great Thanksgiving**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

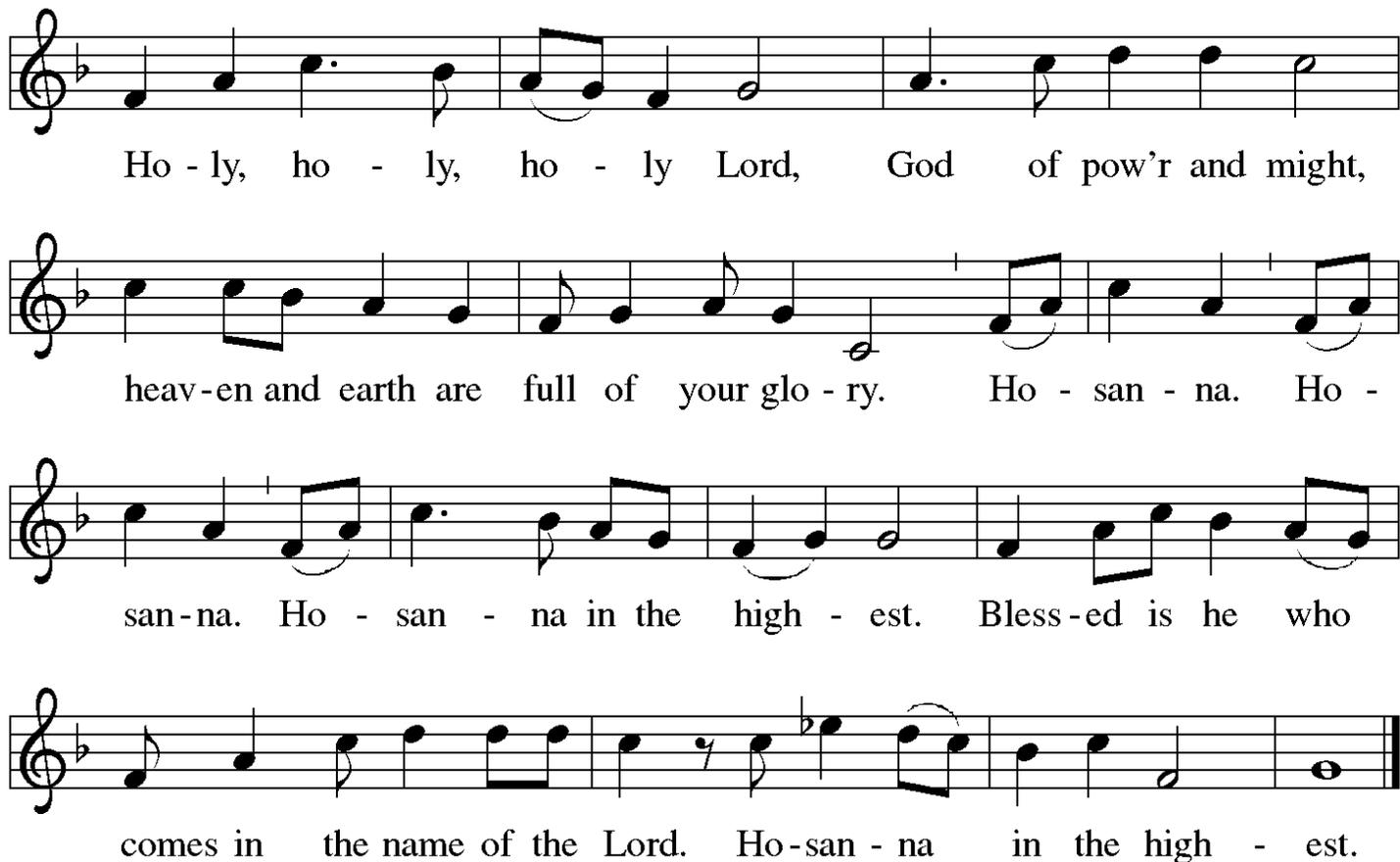
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P Covenanting God...

...singing the hymn of your unending praise.

(setting 3)



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. Ho -
san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Righteous God...

...Great is the mystery of faith.

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P Merciful Father...

...Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

***Lord's Prayer:**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. (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 Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

Communion Hymn "Lamb of God" (setting 3)

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.

*Please stand as you are able.

Distribution:

This is the Table of Grace for all who belong to Christ and seek his gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. We extend to you all that we have in the Lord Jesus and invite you to his Holy Supper. Those communing with us who haven't been baptized and desire God's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation in Holy Baptism are invited to talk to the Pastor. We invite you to come forward, receive the bread in your hand, and take a cup from the tray and take them back to your seat. After all have been served, we will consume Communion together. White grape juice is offered as an alternative to wine and are in the cups in the center of the tray.

***Post Communion Blessing**

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

***Post Communion Prayer**

L God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

***Sending Call and Response:**

L God's work!

C **Our hands!**

L God's love!

C **Our hearts!**

L God's story!

C **Our voices!**

***Benediction:**

P "Barocha" - Michael Card

C **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn: "Lift High the Cross" ELW 660**



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

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Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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***Dismissal:**

L Go in peace. Share the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.

Announcements for March 7, 2021

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the week of March 7 - 13:

Birthdays:

March 7 – William Robertson

March 12 – Roger Hollands

Anniversaries:

No anniversaries on record.

This week's Prayers: Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Carol Pinckney

Mary Broughton

Sue Donnellan

Kent Windmiller, Karen Wenger's brother

Rachel Wagner, Nancy Wagner's daughter

Denise Amschler

Those who are infected with the COVID-19 Coronavirus and the frontline workers who are caring for them.

Walking Group

The HTLC walking group will continue to walk at the Muncie Mall at 10 AM on Tuesday mornings. The entrance is just past the Books A Million entrance.

Coat racks, restrooms, signs regarding distancing, hand sanitizer is available. Masks must be worn. Come join us. Linda Hamilton, Parish Nurse

A Reminder to Thrivent Members:

Please remember to direct your 2020 Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31 by logging in at Thrivent.com. Thanks to Thrivent and its clients, Holy Trinity has received \$1,529 Choice Dollars @ grant funds since January 1, 2020 and Project Stepping Stone has received \$624.

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Walker (765) 212- 2307. Thank you.

Updated [03/04/2021] Vaccination News:

Recent news from the Indiana State Department of Health has opened up the availability by appointment only for Indiana residents age **50 and older** to receive a COVID 19 vaccination.

You may schedule your appointment by going online at **ourshot.in.gov** or by calling **211**

Volunteers Needed:

We need volunteers to work in the Christian Ministries Food Pantry on Wednesday, March 31; Thursday, April 1; and Friday, April 2 from 9:00am to 12 Noon. We need 2 people per day. If you can help with this, please contact the church office.

Mid-Week Lenten Book Study:

We continue our Mid-Week Lenten Book Study, via Zoom, on Wednesday, March 10th at 7:00pm. We will be joining Lutheran Church of the Cross, Grace Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church and Riverside United Methodist Church, in this Lenten Zoom Study.

****This week, March 10th, we will be discussing the Chapter Three.****

Here is the Zoom link information:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82224448890?pwd=R2E3d3EwWWwwYW5TaS9WbDU1V085Zz09>

Meeting ID: 822 2444 8890

Passcode: 225469

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

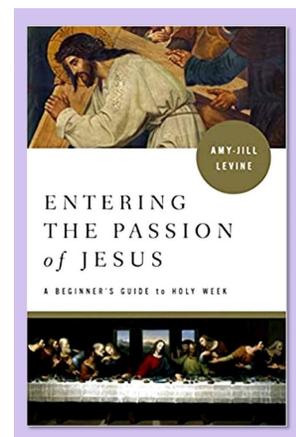
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 822 2444 8890

Passcode: 225469

On Thursday, April 8th at 7:00pm via Zoom, we will be having a virtual Q&A with the author of *Entering The Passion of Jesus*, Amy-Jill Levine.

We pray that the Lord provide you during Lent "the opportunity to think about your life alongside the life of Jesus, inviting inward transformation and then outward action." (excerpt from *Entering The Passion of Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine pp.13)



Holy Week Schedule 2021:

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on March 28 at 10:00am via Facebook Live.

Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 7:00pm at High Street United Methodist Church (UMC), 219 S. High St, Muncie. This will be an in-person service. Masks and social distancing required.

Good Friday, April 2 at 7:00pm via Facebook Live. This will be a joint service with High Street UMC.

Facebook link:

<https://www.facebook.com/HTLCMuncie/>

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at 7:00am with an in-person, outdoor service. Masks and social distancing required.

Easter Sunday Service at 10:00am via Facebook Live only (no in-person service)

*Please stand as you are able.