# The Third Sunday in Lent March 3, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship

We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our



pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **PRELUDE**

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, 

  → one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. C: Amen.
- P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
- P: Holy God,
- C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

#### \*OPENING HYMN

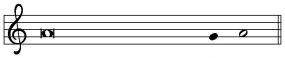
Let the Whole Creation Cry

ELW # 876

#### \*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 *ELW # S147* 

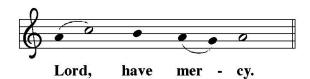


In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



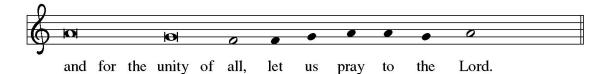


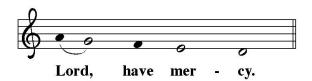
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.

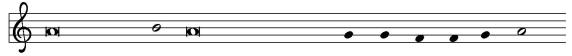




For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,





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

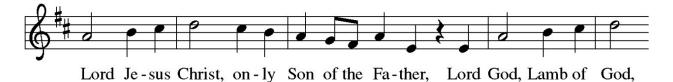


Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



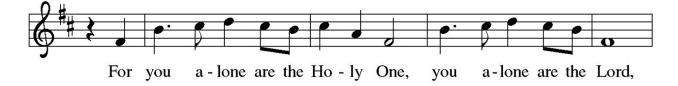
Lord God, Heat on IJ Ising, at Imgile y God and Tu their, we















#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*P: Let us pray* ... 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. *C:* Amen.

#### FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words:

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

<sup>4</sup>You 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. <sup>5</sup>You 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, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

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

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But 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. <sup>11</sup>For 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.

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

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You 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: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 19 (read responsively)

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

<sup>2</sup>One day tells its tale to another,

and one night imparts knowledge to another.

<sup>3</sup>Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

<sup>4</sup>their 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.

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

<sup>6</sup>It 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.

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

<sup>8</sup>The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

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

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

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

<sup>12</sup>Who can detect one's own offenses?

Cleanse me from my secret faults.

<sup>13</sup>Above 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.

<sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,

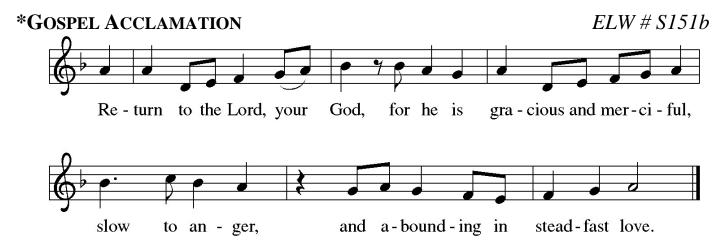
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

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

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." <sup>20</sup>Where 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? <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.



\*Gospel: John 2:13-22

The holy gospel according to John.

## Glory to you, O Lord.

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

HOMILY Pastor Traci

#### \*HYMN OF THE DAY

#### Built On a Rock

ELW # 652

#### \*APOSTLES' CREED

- P: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.
- 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 of the Church

- A: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.
- A: You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family. We pray for those preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God. *C:* Your mercy is great.

P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. C: Amen.

#### \*THE PEACE

*P:* The peace of the LORD be with you always.

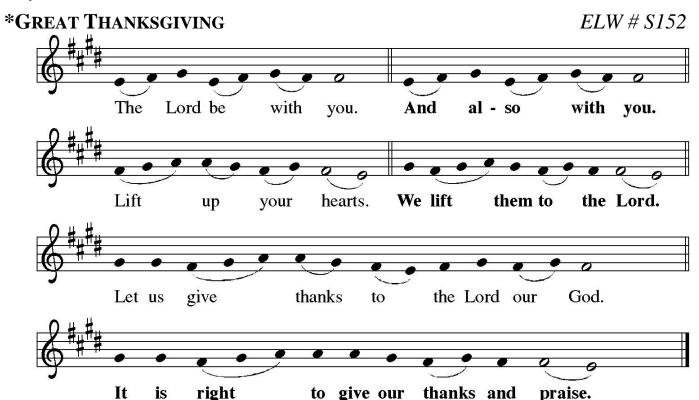
C: And also with you.

Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting that is comfortable for both you and them.

#### \*Offertory Prayer

An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave; we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:

A: Let us pray... Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. C: Amen.



#### \*PROPER PREFACE

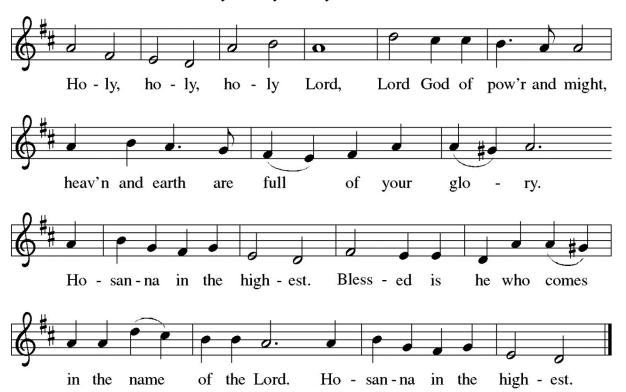
P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

\*SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

ELW # S153



#### \*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P:Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

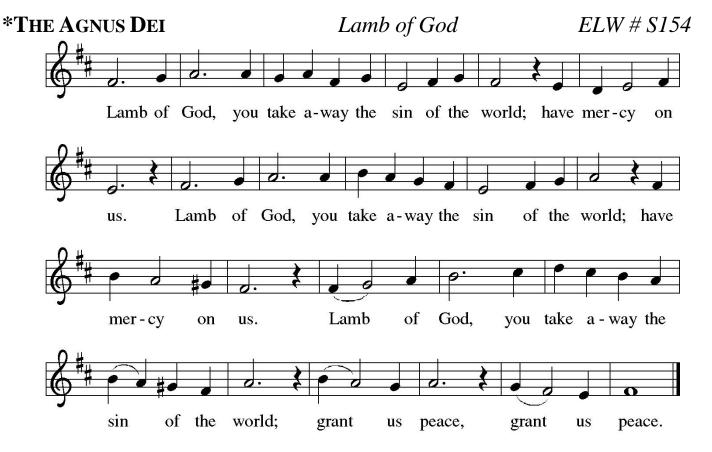
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Grace our table with your presence. Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. *C:* Amen.

#### \*LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:





#### \*INVITATION

P: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

#### \*BLESSING

P: May 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... Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life *C*: Amen.

#### \*BENEDICTION

\*SENDING SONG

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

ELW # 588

## \*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share your bread. C: Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

Reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006 Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #SB105031 Also, please be advised that our parking lot has surveillance cameras and that our worship service is video recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

## Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Organists – Mary Nelson, DeAnna Cree

Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings

Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Assisting Minister – Greg Haffling

Our Lector – Jane Hoenstine

Our Acolyte – Lucy Lightner

Our Usher – Paul Decker

Our Altar Guild – Laura Orczeck, Jane Fagans

Our Audio/Video Tech – Jay Hoenstine

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Local Needs"

#### This Week at St. Matthew:

## 814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Tues. 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Jen – Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

## **This Week Events**

**Today** – Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday – Meager Meal, Fellowship Hall 6:15 pm

Lenten Service, Fellowship Hall 7:00 pm

Thursday – Food Pantry, Allegheny St. 9:00-11:00 am

Saturday – Daylight Savings time

Set your clocks 1 hour ahead before bed.

Sunday – Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Carl Alexy, Mary Jane Allision, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenberg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Ginny Sell, Bill Stahl.

Prayer Concerns: Dawn Alexy, Amy & Family, Randy Barrett, Elaine Buchart, Kaye Burket, Caleb, Diane Cappel, Ted Chipperfield, Phillip Claar, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry & Cathy Creek, Greg Dick, Pastor Sharon Erb, Brian Fleck, Ron Focht, Jim Fritz, LJ Gilbert, Martie Gilbert, Brenda Harley & Family, Joe Harteis, Rodger Hoover, Marilyn Horton, Baby James, Alex Klotz, Darren Kreutzer, Linda Lehman, Carrie Lively, Kristen Malloy, Ruth Marshall, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Bob & Annette Ritchey, Paul Ruth, Ron Short, Denny Smith (Shelly Hill), Jean Stonerook, Cindy Thomas, Tiffany Townsend, Drew Wenzel, Craig Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Pat Winston, Tom Woodrow, Jody Zelanko, and for our Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.

**Away at School:** Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Camryn Gates, Elizabeth Haffling, Jeff Hoenstine.

**Those Serving in our Armed Forces:** Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep, Colin Guyer, Nathan Smith (Germany).

**Prayers and Christian Sympathy** are asked for the Janet Kreider family upon her death on Friday, March 1, 2024.

## **Office Closure During Inclement Weather**



On days that the Spring Cove School District cancels or delays instruction due to weather, the church office will be closed as well. In the event of an emergency, Pastor Traci can be reached at 814-935-9237.

## **Martinsburg Food Pantry**



Volunteers from the Grace Brethren Church will be helping, along with the regulars, to distribute food on the first and third Thursdays, March 7 and March 21 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.



March items most needed are: Cereal, Fruit, Scalloped Potatoes, Pancake Mix, Syrup and Toilet Paper

These or any items can be placed in the basket at the church.

Many thanks for the February donations! *Linda Smith* 

## 2024 Young at Heart Luncheon



Social Ministry & Fellowship Committees will host a Young at Heart Luncheon which is being planned for July 16, 2024 at Noon in the Fellowship Hall. Main course will be ham loaf. We will require an RSVP and more details will be announced.

#### **Lent of Love**

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for dinner and worship on the five Wednesdays between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week. Dinner is at 6:15PM & Evening Prayer is at 7PM. Each worship service will focus on a biblical story about different aspects of love.



#### Mid-Week Lenten Meals & Services

Beginning Wednesday, February 21, a mid-week Lenten meal will be prepared and served for anyone wishing to attend. The soup and sandwich meal will be served at 6:15 pm; the Mid-week Lenten service will begin at 7 pm. The meal AND the service will take place in the Fellowship Hall.

Social Ministry Committee will deliver soup and a sandwich to the shut-ins.

Following is a list of menus:

March 6 Tomato soup and toasted cheese sandwich

**Christian Education Committee** 

March 13 Vegetable soup and pulled pork sandwich

Fellowship Committee

March 20 Potato soup and ham and cheese sliders

Social Ministry Committee

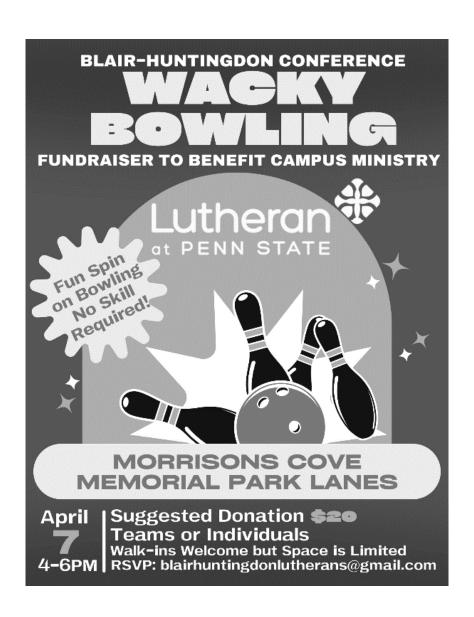
Everyone is invited to attend and join in the fellowship of sharing a meal and worship together.



We are offering a variety of flowers to enhance our sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

If you wish to place flowers in the church for Easter Sunday, please complete the bulletin insert and return it to Margie Smith by placing in her mail box OR, place the form in an envelope and then in the offering plate. Your check should be made **payable** to: "St. Matthew Flower Fund."

Deadline for ordering is Sunday, March 10, 2024.





## Boy Scout Troop 358 Pancake Breakfast Saturday, March 23, 2024



Martinsburg Volunteer Firehall 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. By Donation

## ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE SCOUTS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!

## **Good Friday Prayer Vigil**



Scheduled at St. Matthew Lutheran Church on Friday, March  $29^{th}$ , from 6:00 a.m. -6:00 p.m. Members are asked to commit one half hour to pray for any concerns of a personal, church, or worldwide nature. We hope to have enough participation to fill a twelve-hour time period with continuous prayer. The sign-up sheet is located on the **bulletin board in the Narthex**. This is an excellent way for you to enrich your spiritual

and prayer life. You may pray at home. If you would like to participate and can't come to the church to sign up please call the church office at 814-793-2413.

## **Church Messenger**

The March 2024 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** (stmatthewlc.com), and on your recent **Email** message from St. Matthew by using the link listed in the body of the message. A paper copy of the *Messenger* is available in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office at (814-793-2413), you can request a paper copy to be sent by mail to your home. Do not hesitate to call the church office if you need help in securing a copy of the *Messenger*. Your readership and articles are always appreciated.



- 1 Let the whole cre a tion cry, "Glo ry to the Lord on high!"
- 2 Ser-vants striv-ing for the Lord, proph-ets burn-ing with the word,
- 3 Men and wom en, young and old, raise the an them loud and bold,



Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!" those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song. and let chil-dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;



Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, er bright and fair in love: ev knowl-edge and of law, the glo-rious cir-cle draw; Pow'rs of to from the north to south-ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:



up your voice; night and stars, in sun and moon, lift God re - joice. sing,"The Lord is good and great!" all who work and all who wait, a - lone!" "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God

Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832–1916, alt. Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702



- Built on a rock the church shall stand, e ven when stee ples are 2 Sure ly, in tem ples made with hands God the Most High is not
- 3 Christ builds a house of liv ing stones: we are his own hab i -
- 4 Yet in this house, an earth ly frame, Je sus the chil dren is
- 5 Through all the pass ing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are



fall ing; crum-bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, dwell ing high in all earth - ly fills our hearts, his he hum - ble thrones, grant - ing tion: us bless ing; hith - er we come praise his name, faith in our to who here this ring ing, man - y may come to hear your Word,



chim-ing and call - ing—call-ing the young and old to rest, call-ing the tem-ples ex-cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a - life and sal-va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their Sav-ior con-fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak-ing with prom-ise is bring - ing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the



of those dis-tressed. long - ing for life souls ev - er - last ing. mak - ing our bod - ies his bide with us in love. tem ple. bless-ings up - on them be - stow will show his grace. midst ing. cov - e - nant, grant-ing his chil-dren the his king dom. my peace I leave with you. world, my face shall see; A men."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt. Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMEL HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887 Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator

\*SENDING SONG There's a Wideness in God's Mercy ELW # 588



- 1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
- 2 There is wel-come for the sin-ner, and a prom-ised grace made good;
- 3 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures of our mind;
- 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je sus; it is some-thing more than all:



there's a kind-ness God's jus - tice which is in more than lib - er - ty. there is mer-cy Sav-ior; there is with the heal - ing in his blood. the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won-der - ful - ly kind. great - er good be - cause of mer - cy through the fall. e - vil, larg - er



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n. There is grace e - nough for thou-sands of new worlds as great as this; But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own; Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind-ly judg-ment giv'n. cre - a - tions in that up - per home of there is room for fresh bliss. we mag-ni - fy zeal God will not its strict-ness with a own. our lives will thanks-giv - ing for the good-ness of and be Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt. Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.