# The Third Sunday in Lent March 12, 2023

9:30 a.m. Adult & Youth Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

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!

Masks are optional but available in the narthex for anyone who feels more comfortable taking that precaution for themselves or on behalf of others.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **PRELUDE**

#### \*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 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 the 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.

#### \*OPENING HYMN

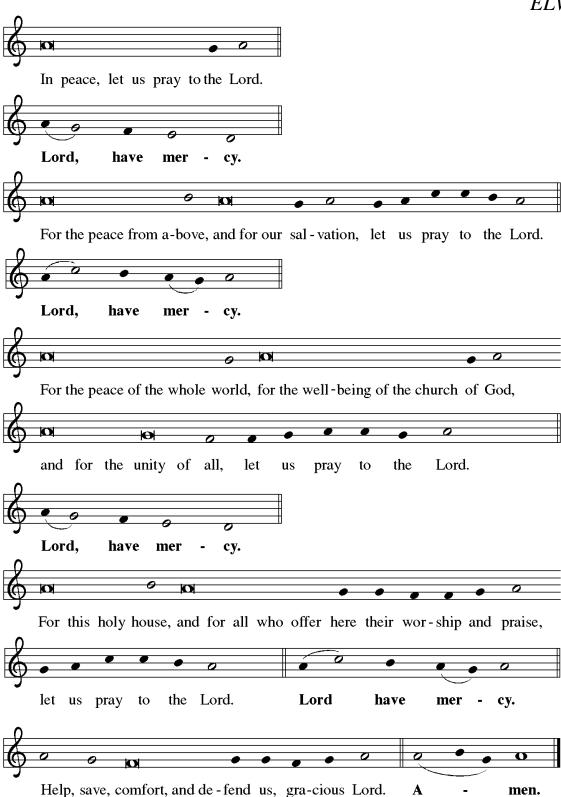
Come Let Us Sing to the Lord

ELW pgs. 300-301

## **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 # S 147





### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*P: Let us pray* ... Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth 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 17:1-7

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

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

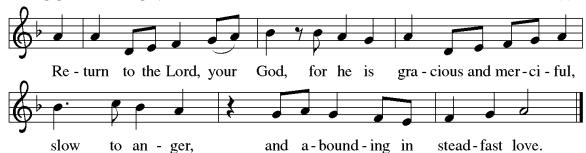
## **SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

ELW # S 151b



# \*P: Gospel: John 4:5-42

The holy gospel according to John.

# C: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>5</sup>[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.

<sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" <sup>28</sup>Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup>"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" <sup>30</sup>They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." <sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup>The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY Pastor Traci

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

ELW # 611

# \*The Apostles' CREED

- A: 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: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.
- A: We pray for your church. Bless partnerships with other Christians and interreligious dialogue. Guide the daily work of denominational and congregational leaders. Strengthen our combined witness for the sake of the gospel, that all experience your life-giving love. Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.
- A: We pray for the universe. All creation teems with life, from the depths of the earth and seas to the skies above. Fill us with awe and reverence for the diversity and preservation of life. Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.
- A: We pray for the nations of the world. Topple the dividing walls that separate us from our neighbors. Form us into your beloved community where diversity of gender, race, language, ability, and ethnic origin is celebrated and affirmed. Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.
- A: We pray for those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit. Be present with all who are lonely, and give courage to all who are afraid. Comfort those who live with chronic illness or other sickness. Give them your living water always. Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.
- A: We pray for this congregation, especially those preparing for baptism. Nurture their faith and pour your love into their hearts. Inspire our community by their testimony to God's grace in their lives. Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.
- A: We give thanks for the lives of all your saints. Their hope in you sustained lives of faith and service. Encourage us with the hope they shared in you. Merciful God, *C:* receive our prayer.
- P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; 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.

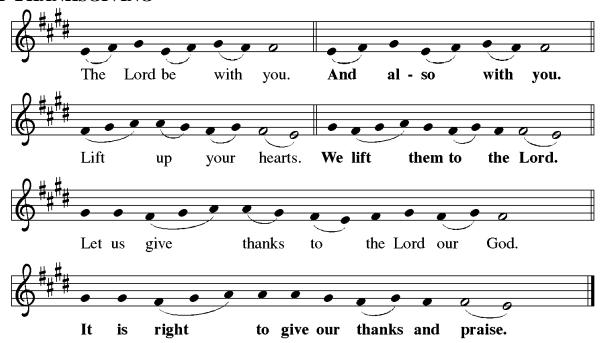
#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

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 ... Receive 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 Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. C: Amen.

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

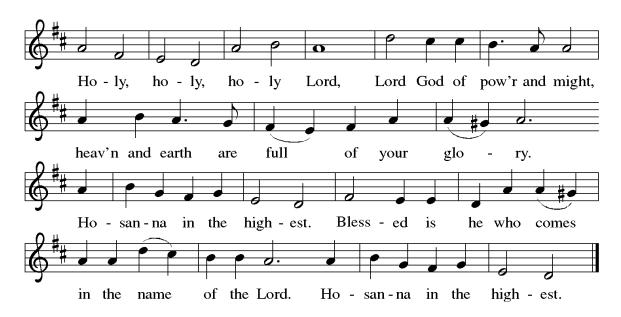
S 152



## **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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

P: Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

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.

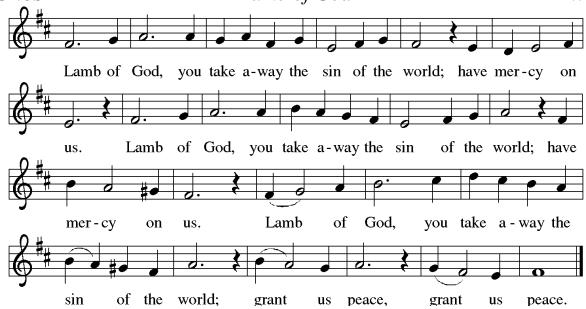
Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world. Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. *C*: **Amen.** 

#### \*LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: 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**

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

#### **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...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.

#### **BLESSING**

\*SENDING SONG

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

ELW # 742

# **Dismissal**

*P*: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

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# **Martinsburg Food Pantry**

Volunteers from Martinsburg Grace Brethren Church will be helping at the Food Pantry on the third Thursday, March 16. The Food Pantry will be open to distribute food items from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on this day and other times by appointment.

**The March items most needed are**: Peanut Butter, Jelly, Pasta or Rice Sides, Canned Fruit, and Scalloped Potatoes. These or any items can be placed in the basket at church. Thank You! *Linda Smith* 

Flowers 1

The 2023 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones. There are plenty of dates available. Please sign up now for the Sunday you

wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price - \$40.00.

Dates available: 4/30, 5/21, 6/4, 7/2, 10/8, 10/15, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17, 12/24. If you would like a Sunday(s) you can also call the church office at 814-793-2413.

**Council Secretary** is needed for Council meetings. Council meets via Zoom or in the Window Room once a month on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Please consider filling this position that is required in our Constitution and By Laws.

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Carl & Dawn Alexy, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenberg, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Bill Stahl, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Diane Cappel, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry & Cathy Creek, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Marilyn Horton, Melissa Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Carrie Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Paul Ruth, Cindy Thomas, John Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Camryn Gates.

Those Serving in the Army Overseas: Nathan Smith (Germany), Melody Estep.

**Prayers and Congratulations go to** Elaine Buchart and family upon the birth of a great grandson, Russell James Buchart, on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

# **Prayer Vigil**



Scheduled at St. Matthew Lutheran Church on Friday, April  $7^{th}$ , 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. <u>You may pray at home</u>. If you would like to participate and can't come to the church to sign up please call the church office at 793-2413.

# Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Organist - Mary Nelson

Our Missionary Family - On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Lector – Carla Brumbaugh

Our Acolyte – Lily Lightner

Our Assisting Minister – Greg Haffling

Our Altar Guild - Cindy Snyder, Jeannie Smith

Our Usher – Jeff Garner

Our Audio/Video Tech - Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Local Needs"

**Annual Directories** are now located on a table in the Narthex. Please take your directory with you. If you know a homebound member has a directory in the box, please take it to them.

**Easter Flower Order Forms** are now available. You can find them in your bulletins, at the usher's station or in the church office.

This Week at St. Matthew:

814-793-2413

**Office Hours** 

Pastor Traci – No hours this week

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

## **This Week Events**

**Today** – Worship Sunday Service in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Baked Potato Bar & Board Game Day 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Monday – Scouts, Scout Rooms 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday Council Meeting, Window Room & via Zoom 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday – Meager Meal, Fellowship Hall 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Lenten Service, Sanctuary 7:00 p.m.

Sunday – Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship/Youth Service in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hall in use 12:00 p.m.

#### Mid-Week Lenten Meals & Services

The Fellowship Committee announced that mid-week Lenten Meals will again be offered on Wednesdays prior to the service. The meal consisting of soup and sandwich will be served at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The service will follow in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.

Below is the schedule for menus, and the committee who will prepare and serve the meal:

March 15 Tomato Soup and Grilled Cheese Sandwiches - Christian Ed. Committee

March 22 Chili and Corn Bread - Council

March 29 Broccoli Cheese Soup & Ox Roast Sandwiches - Social Ministry Committee

The Social Ministry Committee would like to take soup to the homebound on Thursdays during the season of Lent. A list of homebound members is in place. However, if you would like someone to deliver soup to you, please contact the church office to have your name placed on the list.

# **Third Century Fund (Endowment Fund)**

The Third Century Fund had a good earnings year in 2022 and as a result has \$6,056.37 for distribution in 2023. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting David Lehman, chairperson, or committee members Allen Kuster, Laura Orczeck, Beth Garner or Pastor Traci.

Deadline to submit a request is Sunday, May 28, 2023. Funds will be distributed in June 2023.

The following is from the by-laws of the Third Century Fund and outline the guidelines for fund requests.

## **PURPOSE**

The St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund is established to encourage responsible Christian stewardship and to promote the mission of the congregation. In response to God's love and mercy, the Endowment Fund seeks to enhance and expand the mission outreach objectives of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Members and friends of St. Matthew congregation are encouraged to practice responsible Christian Stewardship by making contributions to the Endowment Fund. There are a variety of ways such gifts can be made such as, Cash, Securities, Bequests through wills or living trusts, Life insurance policies, charitable gift annuity and Life estates.

The Endowment Fund provides financial support for the church in a manner that is separate from the expenditures normally funded by the annual operating budget of the congregation.

# **USE OF THE FUND**

All contributions to the St. Matthew Lutheran Church Endowment Fund will be undesignated and added to the principal balance of the fund. The Endowment fund principal balance will be retained and only the dividend income will be used for annual disbursements.

Consideration for awarding fund requests will be given using the following guidelines.

- 1. Youth of all ages scholarship support of congregational members and their children; for youth events, for church camps or similar Christian programs and education.
- 2. Christian outreach ministries and missions of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, its members and the ELCA.
- 3. Worship and Music support for the worship of St, Matthew.
- 4. Capital Projects major renovations or building projects of St. Matthew.



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 form below and return it to Margie Smith by placing in her mailbox 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 27, 202	<u>23.</u>
Given by		
In Memory of		
OR		
In Honor of		
I would like:		
6½" Tulips \$10.00 Assortment	6" Daffodils \$10.00	<b>6" Hyacinth \$10.00</b> White, Pink or Purple
I will pick up my flo	wer after Sunday.  AL ENCLOSED \$	

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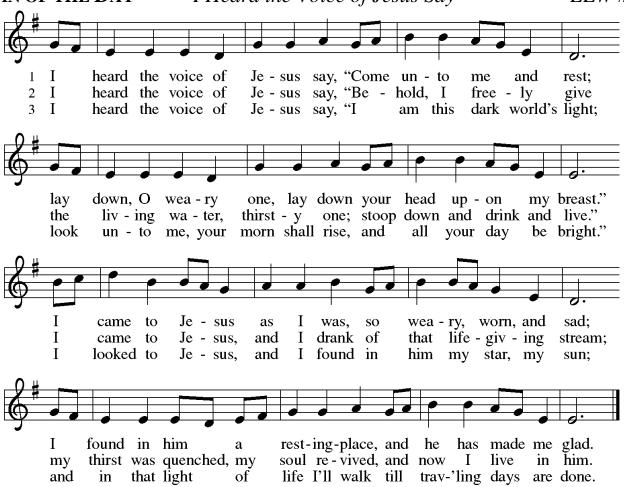
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Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune



- 1 What a friend we have in Je sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
- 2 Have we tri als and temp ta tions? Is there trou-ble an y where?
- 3 Are we weak and heav-y lad en, cum bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer! We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer. Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share? Do your friends de-spise, for-sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be-cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer! Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer. In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so-lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918