



March 20, 2022

Welcome!

We are glad to have you join us
in the worship of Our Lord.

**Please sign the guest book at
the back of the sanctuary.**

**Mask wearing is optional if
you are fully vaccinated.**

Today's Altar Servers

Pastor:Rev. Peter Kuritz
Greeters/Ushers: Phil Newlander
Lector: Ben Mroz III
Music: Molly Finkbiner

Faith Lutheran Church
550 Rt. 940 PO Box 228
Blakeslee, PA 18610
Office 570-646-0309

Email:

faithoffice@faithlutheranblakeslee.org

Website:

www.faithlutheranblakeslee.org

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Faith-Lutheran-Church-Blakeslee-PA-1721550018126312>

Third Sunday in Lent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meetings

AA Meeting – Tuesday and Friday at 12 pm and Thursday at 10 am.

Choir: Rehearsals in the Sanctuary at 8:45 on Sundays.

Boomwhackers, Bells and Chimes: Wednesday, at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday School soon after practice.

Faithful Community Quilters: Every 2nd Monday of the month from 10 am to 3 pm.

Bible Study: Each Sunday morning at 7:30 am in the Community Room.

Lenten Bible Studies

We will be studying Adam Hamilton's THE WALK which can be found on Amazon or in the Christian Bookstore. Dates: **March 23, 30, and April 6.** There will be Soup Super at 6:15 pm and Lenten Study at 7:00 pm. Please sign up for bread and soup on the table in back of the church.

Usher and Lector Volunteers needed, contact Jacquie Halko Please call (570) 646-3922 or email at jacquie5444@yahoo.com.

Bulletin Sponsors and Flower Donations: New 2022 Bulletin located in the foyer table entrance of the church. In-house bulletin for \$10 and \$20 towards silk flowers or you may bring your own fresh flowers.

Easter Egg coloring on Wednesday night, April 13th at 6- 8 pm and the ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT on Saturday, April 16th from 11 am to 2pm. All children are welcome! Lunch will be served.

Easter Flower forms are available. Please complete and return to the Church Office no later than March 28th. Be sure to have your dedication clearly marked.

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved.

In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love.

In **✠** Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: *“Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart”*

LBW 486

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

In Peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Peace from above and for the well-being of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

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 mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord. **AMEN**



HYMN OF PRAISE “GLORY TO GOD



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



Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



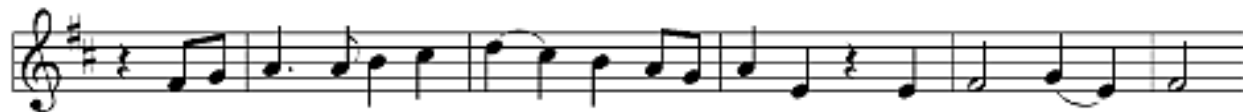
We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

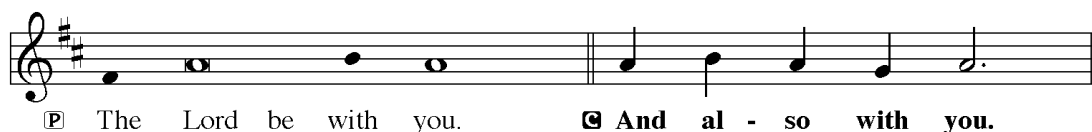


you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

PRAYER OF THE DAY



Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 5: 1 -9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 63:1-8

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.

My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

SECOND LESSON: 1 CORINTHIAN 10: 1 – 13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

(Please stand as you are able)

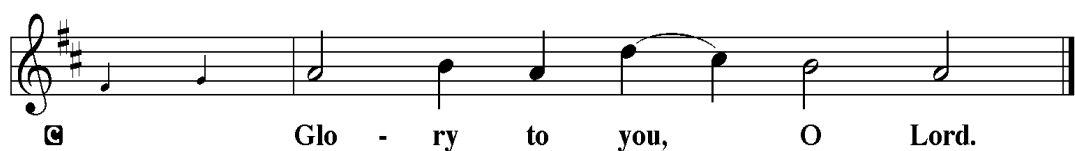
VERSE / GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Return to the Lord”



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.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to **Luke 13: 1 - 9** (NRSV).



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.



(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able after the sermon.)

HYMN OF THE DAY: *“There is a Balm in Gilead”*

WOV 737

NICENE CREED

We believe in on God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in on Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken by the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look to the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church around the world in all its forms: for pastors, deacons, bishops, chaplains, and mission developers; for church councils, committee chairs, and all lay ministry leaders; for congregations that contemplate difficult decisions about the future of their ministry. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the health of this planet and the well-being of its creatures: for lands impacted by droughts and at risk of wildfires; for fig trees and vineyards that produce fruit for our nourishment and delight; for animal habitats threatened by climate change. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For those called into positions of civic responsibility: for judges, attorneys, and court administrators tasked with uncovering truth and delivering justice; for activists and community leaders who cast a vision of a more compassionate and equitable society. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For those who call upon you for mercy: for all who live in poverty and experience hunger; for any who feel tested beyond their strength; for those who are hospitalized or near death, and for all in need of healing (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the advocacy efforts of this congregation: for those whose faith leads them to speak difficult truths and engage in difficult conversations with policymakers; for those who promote mercy over vengeance or retaliation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

PRAYER LIST

Barbara, Matt, Geroge A., Susan, Swatzell Family, Bobbies family: Denise P., Bob Jr, and Brent P. Jason R., Robert F., RC, Mike and Brenda G., Rich, Erik C, Sabrina, Tracey E., Drew D., Margery B, Barbara M, Kevin D, Sherry K, Walt D, Adam C. and Family, Megan, Jim, Roberta R., Judi O'D, Diana, Wolcott Family, Dawn, Jeanine, Allen B., Tom and Valerie M., and Ed.

For those whose earthly journeys have ended, we give thanks. With (*names* and) all the saints, we praise you for the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

(Please share Christ's peace in social and acceptable ways.) (Please be seated)

OFFERING Music: Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil....Handt Hanson. Played by Mrs. Molly Finkbiner

(Please stand as you are able)

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

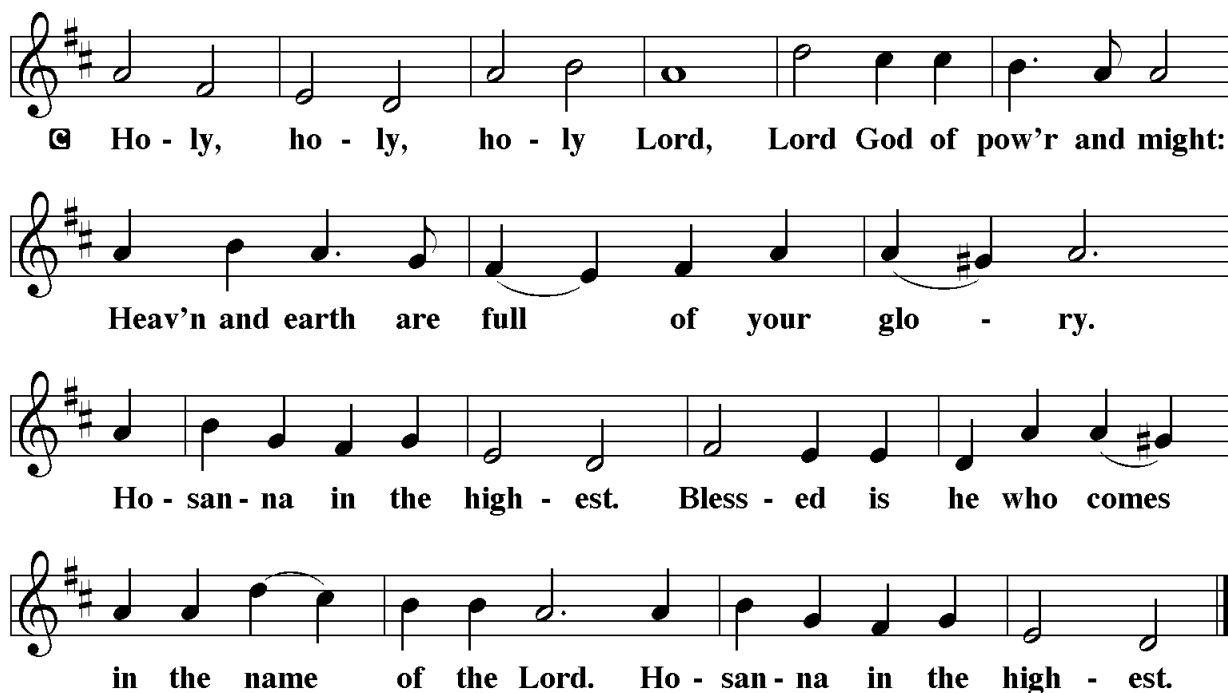
The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

And also with you.
We lift them to the Lord.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.



PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to our own brilliant light. So, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
 You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people.

Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son,
 who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his
 life. 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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we
 proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And,
 believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power
 to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection,
 that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory
 and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

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

Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

(Please be seated. If you would like, please take a couple of moments and prepare your communion elements by lifting both films back halfway or however comfortable.)

LAMB OF GOD



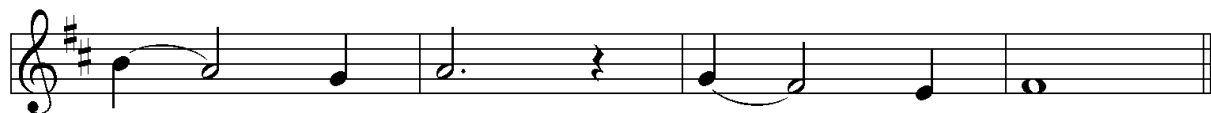
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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.

“The body of Christ.... Given for you.” “The blood of Christ.... Shed for you.”

(After all have communed—please stand as you are able)

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. **Amen.**

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✝ bless you this day and always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

Preludes:

Gathering Song:

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart, Text: George Croly, 1780-1860. Tune: Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841-1897. © Public Domain.

Hymn of the Day:

There Is a Balm in Gilead, African American spiritual. #84268. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Offering Music:

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil, Handt Hanson. © 1985, Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc. #117695. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Sending Hymn:

Glory Be to Jesus, Text: Italian, 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878. Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804-1876. © Public Domain.

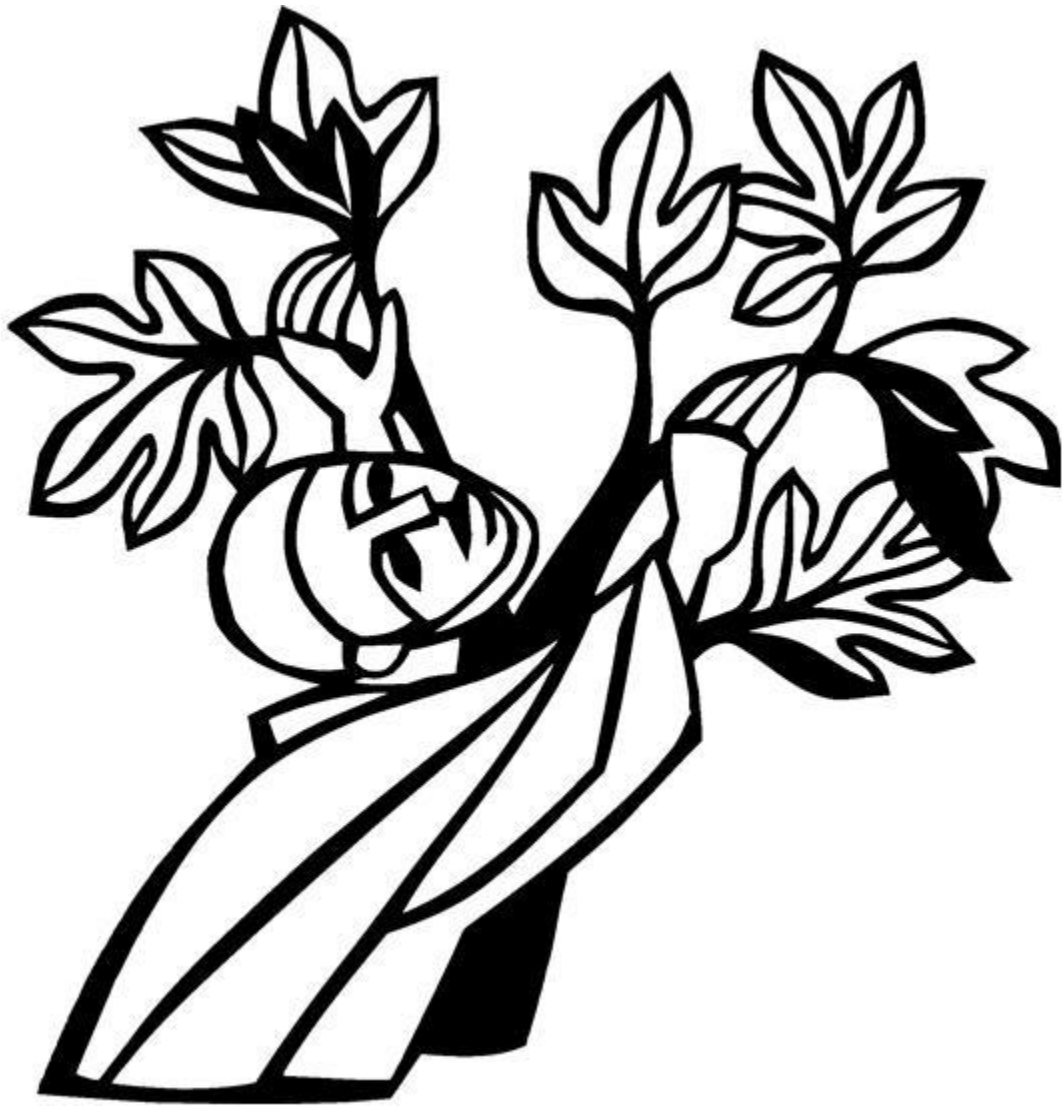
Postlude:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, Dale Wood. © 2000 The Sacred Music Press. #40250. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Service Music:

In Peace Let Us Pray. Tune and Text: © 1978 Augsburg Fortress. #AF2019204. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.

Lamb of God, Lutheran Book of Worship. LBW Settings 1-3, ELW Settings 3-5. #AF2019222. Tune: © 1978, Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726919. All rights reserved.



*Thank you for coming in and
joining us in today's service.*