



Jerusalem

evangelical lutheran church

April 6, 2025
Fifth Sunday in Lent
9:30 AM Worship Service

Fifth

SUNDAY IN

LENT



Mission Statement

SOW. The Gospel of Jesus the Christ to all generations
GROW. His followers into spiritually mature disciples
GO. Back into the world to serve others in His name

WELCOME

We are so glad you have chosen to join with us today as we gather in worship to give thanks to our gracious and loving God. If you have particular needs and/or questions please speak with an usher. Again, thanks for spending a little time with us.

THIS WEEK AT JERUSALEM

Sunday, April 6	<i>First Communion Celebration</i>	
	9:30 AM	New single worship schedule begins with live stream
	10:45 AM	Christian Education
Monday, April 7	1:00 PM	Worship & Music Committee Meeting (OP)
	5:00 PM	Yoga Class at Carrie Burger's Residence
	7:00 PM	JLNSDC Board Meeting (SH)
Tuesday, April 8	5:30 PM	Girl Scouts Troop #645 Meeting (YC)
	7:00 PM	Council Meeting (SH)
Wednesday, April 9	6:30 PM	Lenten Soup Suppers and Devotion (SH)
	8:00 PM	AA Meeting (YC)
Thursday, April 10	6:30 PM	Steepleringers Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	Asaph Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, April 12	7:00 AM	AA Meeting (YC)
Sunday, April 13	<i>Palm Sunday</i>	
	9:30 AM	New single worship service with live stream & First Communion celebration
	10:45 AM	Palm Sunday Christian Education Celebration

The People of Jerusalem Congregation, Ministers Reverend Stanley Steele, Pastor

David A. Crist, Director of Music Glenda Ortiz, Secretary

311 Second Street Schwenksville, PA 19473

Monday– Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Phone: 610-287-7104

Glenda Ortiz Cell: 215-237-7707 Email - secretary@jelc.org Website: www.jelc.org

Facebook: facebook.com/jelcville/ Instagram: jelc_schwenksville

For pastoral care please contact the church office by email or phone call.

David Crist: 610 489-3320 Email: da1crist@protonmail.com

Jerusalem Lutheran Nursery School and Day Care 610-287-6360

PRELUDE “*The Old Rugged Cross*” Wilson

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***GATHERING SONGS** “*The Wonderful Cross*”

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross
bids me come and die and find that I may truly live.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown.

O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross
bids me come and die and find that I may truly live.
O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross;
all who gather here by grace draw near and bless Your name.

[Instrumental interlude]

Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross
bids me come and die and find that I may truly live.
O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross;
all who gather here by grace draw near and bless Your name.
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“Amazing Love”

1. My Lord, what love is this that pays so dearly;
That I, the guilty one may go free.

CHORUS: Amazing love, O what sacrifice,
The Son of God, giv'n for me;
My debt He pays and my death He dies,
That I might live, that I might live.

2. And so they watched Him die, despised, rejected;
But O the blood He shed flowed for me. CHORUS.

3. And now this love of Christ shall flow like rivers;
Come wash your guilt away, live again. CHORUS.

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*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

*GREETING

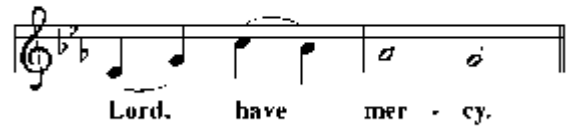
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*KYRIE RESPONSES (SUNG)

CANTOR: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



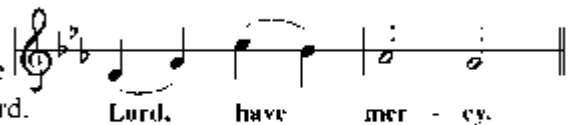
For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



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.



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



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



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
 they lie down, they cannot rise,
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸ Do not remember the former things,
 or consider the things of old.
¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
 now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
 I will make a way in the wilderness
 and rivers in the desert.
²⁰ The wild animals will honor me,
 the jackals and the ostriches;
 for I give water in the wilderness,
 rivers in the desert,
 to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
 so that they might declare my praise.

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



CANTOR: Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,
 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of
 God in Christ Jesus.

ALL: Repeat acclamation above.

***GOSPEL READING John 12:1-8**

The holy gospel according to John, the twelfth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Thomas Kochenderfer

***HYMN "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" (#338)**

1. Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat and the burdens of the day.

2. Upon the cross of Jesus, my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears, two wonders I confess:
the wonder of His glorious love and my unworthiness.

3. I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face;
content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all, the cross.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

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**

Each portion of the prayer ends: **A:** Lord, in your mercy, **C:** hear our prayer.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

OFFERING**OFFERING MUSIC****Asaph Choir***“Come Home”* Page & Shafferman***OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

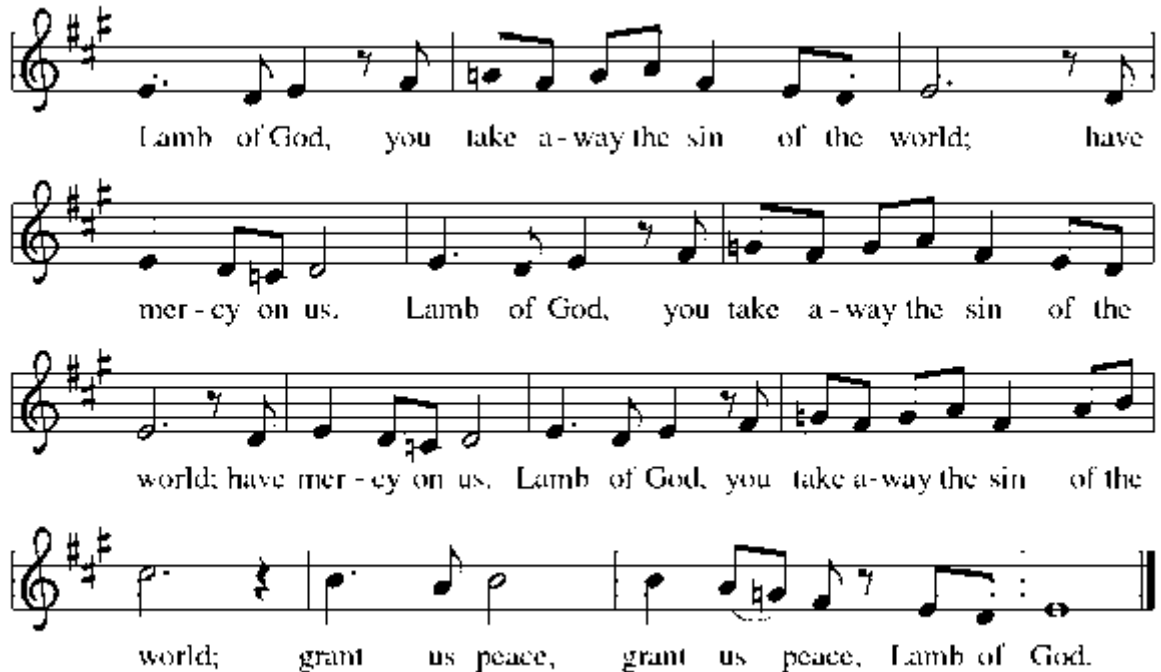
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**LORD’S PRAYER**

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**

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

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, Lamb of God.

DISTRIBUTION

Please come forward down the center aisle, receive a cup from the usher, and fill the altar rail from the left (pulpit side) to the right (lectern side). Gluten-free wafers are available in the container on the small table. You may take the wafer for yourself. Grape juice is available from the ushers for those who do not take wine..

COMMUNION HYMNS "O, Mighty Cross," #335, #581

1. O, mighty cross, Love lifted high,
the Lord of life raised there to die;
His sacrifice on Calvary,
has made the mighty cross
a tree of life to me.

2. O, mighty cross, what throne of grace,
He knew no sin, yet took my place;
His sacrifice on Calvary,
has made the mighty cross
a tree of life to me.

3. O, mighty cross, O Christ, so pure,
love held Him there, such shame endured;
His sacrifice on Calvary,
has made the mighty cross
a tree of life to me.

4. O, mighty cross, my soul's release,
the stripes He bore, have brought me peace;
His sacrifice on Calvary,
has made the mighty cross
a tree of life to me.

***COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

Lay Communion ministers come to the rail during Canticle

***POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**

O Lord, now let your servant depart in heav'nly peace,
for I have seen the glory of your redeeming grace:
a light to lead the nations unto your holy hill,
the glory of your people, your chosen Israel.

***BLESSING OF LAY COMMUNION MINISTERS**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen**

***SENDING HYMN “Christ, the Life of All the Living” (#339)**

1. Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, Yourself for me once giving to the darkest depths of woe:
through Your suff'ring, death, and merit life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto You.

2. You have suffered great affliction and have borne it patiently,
even death by crucifixion, fully to atone for me;
for You chose to be tormented that my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto You.

3. Then, for all that bought my pardon, for the sorrows deep and sore,
for the anguish in the garden, I will thank You evermore;
thank You for the groaning, sighing, for the bleeding and the dying,
for that last triumphant cry, praise You evermore on high.

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE “We Thank Thee, Lord Jesus Christ” J. S. Bach

UPCOMING EVENTS & NOTES...

Asaph Choir... As we combine our worship services into one, we combine our choirs into one – with a new name! Asaph (pronounced “**áh-sahf**”) was one of the leaders of the tabernacle musicians during King David’s reign. He was a descendant of Gershom, son of Levi (1 Chronicles 6:39-43 and 25:1-2), and he wrote Psalms 50, and 73 through 83.



Lenten Soup Suppers: Bread and soup suppers followed by a devotion will be held during the 5 Wednesdays during Lent: **March 12th, March 19th, March 26th, April 2nd & April 9th.** We will gather in the **Social Hall from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM.** Everyone is invited to come for both or just for devotions. We are asking 2 volunteers to bring a favorite soup to share with the group at each Wednesday supper. Look for sign-up sheets on the Bulletin Board & Evite shared by email



The congregation council would like to remind everyone on the use of the Social Hall during regular daycare hours. The daycare is a vital ministry of our church and the Social Hall is included in their operational footprint. We kindly ask that everyone attending the Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers be mindful and respectful of this important ministry by refraining from attempting to enter the Social Hall prior to 6:15 PM. Thank you for understanding.



Easter Candy Donations: We are in need of candy donations for our Palm Sunday Easter celebration for our Sunday School and Confirmation classes. If you would like to donate a bag of candies it would be greatly appreciated! We have lots of Easter eggs to fill! Donations can be dropped off in the Coffee Corner, Sunday school room across from the Coffee Corner or the Church office no later than April 10th. Thank you so much for your help!!

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE Red Cross Blood Donation at JELC: **Saturday, April 19th from 9AM to 2PM in the Social Hall.** Scan the QR code to register or visit: Redcrossblooddrive.org/ give. Enter zip code 19473 and enter date 12/7/24 in the search box for Jerusalem Church from list of donors.





Ensminger Scholarship

Ensminger Scholarship: Applications are now available for the Ensminger Scholarship for all 2025 graduates that would like to apply. Applications are available on the usher's stand in the Narthex, Good News, or by emailing the church office for a digital copy. ***Deadline for the applications is Sunday, April 27th.*** Applications can be mailed, or dropped off at the Church Office or emailed to: secretary@jelc.org.



Altar Flowers

Sign up for Altar Flowers

If you would like to sponsor altar or chancel flowers, please feel free to request them by either one of two options: Regular sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board in front of the coffee corner or contacting the church office to be added to the sponsor list schedule. Order forms are located inside red file folder on the Bulletin Board. Write your name and message desired for dedication on the schedule, fill out an order form, place order form with payment in the offering plate or mail it into the church office. Any questions feel free to contact the church office.



Teen Time: Third Tuesday of the month! ***Tuesday, April 15th.***

This month we have a special treat! We are going Bowling at Bowlero in Limerick. Please RSVP for we need a head count to reserve a lane. Please text Glenda Ortiz at 215-237-7707 to RSVP or visit the evite link sent by email.



Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School 2025

June 23rd - June 28th ~ 9AM-12PM

Road Trip: *Trusting God to Be with Us Wherever We Go!*

Based on Joshua 1:9, "*The Lord your God is with you wherever you go*" we will learn through our journey that:

God is with us on the journey
God is with us when we get off course
God is with us when we are joyful
God is with us when we are lonely
God is with us near and far



Registration forms are available on the ushers stand in the Narthex, upcoming monthly newsletter, website or by emailing the church office at: Secretary@jelc.org

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SERVING TODAY

9:30 AM

Ushers: Linda Kehs &
Mike Kehs

Acolyte: Adriana Cusumano

Cantor: Norma Grosick

Worship Assistant: Sarah Englehart

Counters: TBD

Altar Guild: Janet Luyben, Diane Martin & Dalilah Freer

Banners: Louise Hunsicker & John Souder

*Altar flowers are presented by Mary Poust-Warnas,
in celebration of Brett Poust's birthday.*

PARTICIPANTS IN FIRST COMMUNION:

Adelina Freer, Addy Johnni, & Audrey King.

We welcome this year's children to the Lord's table tonight
as they make their First Holy Communion.

May God continue to bless them and their families.

PRAYER CONCERNS....

PRAYERS FOR SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL HEALING & RENEWAL

Barbara Hartenbauer, Babs deFrenes, Michelle Derecola, Becky Dice, Anne Fisher,
Joe Hallman, Marion Herden, Pat Giarrocco, Donnie Grosick, Joan Howling, Effa Hunt,
Mary Jane Kehs, Nellie Ann Kodoziejski, Judy Leveille, John Markley,
Gene & Pat Miesse, Ardie Musselman, Don & Nancy Peters, Linda Petrucelli,
Noel Pumphrey, Shawn Schlichter, Joseph Schmitt, Jennifer Sone,
Brian Wheatcroft, & Gail Wetzell.

ONGOING PRAYERS

DiDomenico Family, Susie Barker, Jeanne Bullard,
Bryan Delowery, Betty Erwin, Adelina Freer, Aaron Hamlin, Hunsberger Family,
Morgan (Smith) Jordan, Linda Kuiken, Leslie Leben, Sharon Morgan,
George Miller, Janet Neumann, Bev O'Brien, Robert Schirk,
Robin Schlichter, Carol Sprainer, Ashley Steele, & Marie Wolfe.

Online Giving: Please scan the attached QR code for online giving
or to set-up automatic recurring payments if desired.

