

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**APRIL 6, 2025**



**MELLINGERS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
80 GOCKLEY ROAD  
STEVENS, PA 17578  
717-336-8800

## **MELLINGERS STAFF**

### **Pastor's Contact Information**

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*Diane Adair (717) 715-3124*

## ***PRAYER CORNER***

### **Please pray for the following people:**

Jay Weaver, Dave Wilhide (Home Hospice), Pat McQuate, Dave Haldeman, Tom Parrish Sr., Emily Parrish, Amy Weik, Roger Gehman, Jonah Hogan, Clair Miller (with family in NJ), Tim Harting, Tess Freeman, Mike Leed, Elaine Haldeman, Shirley Sweigart, Skip Hutchinson, Jane Goshert (Home Hospice), Jay Stoltzfus (with family in FL), Beverly Sweigart, Theda Raffauf, Mary Weidman, Sam Soto, Roy Latshaw, Amanda Benton, Marty Leed & Family, Fay Weitzel, Vivian Gehr, Barb Moyer and Judy Meckley.

Artman Lutheran Home, Ambler: Sally Wealand

Ephrata Manor: Iris Weaver, Dorothy Hutchinson, Vesta Reber, Shirl Tobias, Pauline Sawyer, Joan Wentzel and Bob Weaver

Encompass Rehab, Green Hills: Jeff Moyer

Keystone Villa: Betty Firestine

Maple Farms: Janet Hirneisen

Neffsville Rehab & Nursing: Pauline Martin

Phoebe Berks: Nick Rampolla

Natalie Redcay, Nancy Shortuse, Pastor Glover's mother Joan, Ruth Mae Grace, Doug Cody, Pope Francis, Fred Leathery, Mark Wojcicki, Karen Velez, Ron Neidigh, Kara Trowbridge, Randy Vollmer, Polly Stendl, Mary Morton, Dick Reed (Home Hospice), Brenda Sweigart, Nancy Good, Jason Harting, Nancy Bolotine, Bea Hassler, Paul Sweigart, Kelly Root, Karen Leonhard, Sue Kreitz, Dennis Betz, Dale Firestone, Mary Sanger, Andy & Brenda Gabig, Brian Fetter, Pastor Karen Larson, Brian Kerns, Mary Lou Crum, Bob Bos, Curtis Townsley, Robyn Redcay, Corrina Bender, Margaret Weller, Bud Bender, and Cynthia Peters.

### **Pray also for the grieving families of:**

Evenly Shade, Dick Mountford, Russell Petticoffer, Ella Felker, Tony Frey, Brittany Merklinger, Chris Miller, Richard Keller, Susie Wentzel, Matt Thorn, Nicholas Bolotine, John Hutchinson, Reverend Judy McKee, Ethel Leed, Grace Wentz, Don Craven, Faye Pannebecker, Maggie Bollinger, Harriet Stoltzfus, Mick Smyer, Lavern Gehman and Patricia Kieffer.

† WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP †

\*Please stand if you are able

Welcome / Announcements

Prelude: *“The Cross, Our True and Only Hope”*

-Cochrane Penick

†GATHERING†

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

**Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN: #357** *“Lamb of God Pure and Sinless”*

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(a brief silence is observed)

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen**

**P:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: 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.

**C: And also with you.**

## THE KYRIE



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **Christ, have mer - cy.**  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

**LENTEN HYMN: #334** Sing Verse 1 then Lent 5 “*Tree of Life*”

### † GOD’S WORD †

#### FIRST READING

**ISAIAH 43:16-21**

Lay Reader (Pat Haller): A reading from Isaiah the 43rd chapter.

*The prophet declares that long ago God performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, God is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new Exodus.*

- <sup>16</sup> Thus says the Lord,  
who makes a way in the sea,  
a path in the mighty waters,  
<sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse,  
army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
<sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.  
<sup>19</sup> 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.  
<sup>20</sup> 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,  
<sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALMODY

## PSALM 126



*Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. (Ps. 126:5)*

<sup>1</sup> When the Lord restored the for- | tunes of Zion,  
then were we like | those who dream.

<sup>2</sup> **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue  
with | shouts of joy.**

**Then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done  
great | things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup> The Lord has done great | things for us,  
and we are | glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup> **Restore our for- | tunes, O Lord,  
like the watercourses | of the Negeb. R**

<sup>5</sup> Those who | sowed with tears  
will reap with | songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup> **Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,  
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. R**

## CHILDRENS SERMON

## \*LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

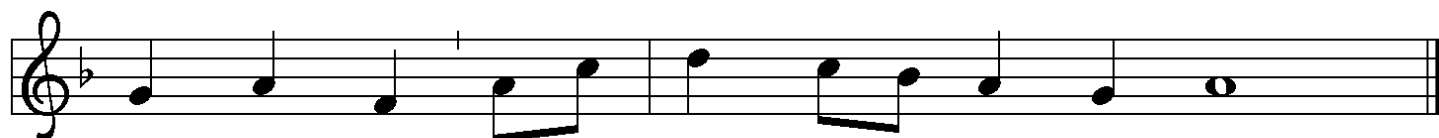
*“Return to the Lord Your God”*



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

**JOHN 12:1-8**

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 12th chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*P: Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.*

<sup>1</sup> Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup> (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.) <sup>7</sup> Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

**MESSAGE:** “*A New Thing: Reconciliation*”

-Pastor Craven

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** “*When I Survey the Wonderful Cross*”

“*O Waly Waly*” Hymn Tune – Arr. Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi

**\*THE APOSTLE’S 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

† **Prayers of Intercession** †

\*P: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

P: The church declares your praise, O God. Guide us in the example of Isaiah’s imagination, Paul’s transformed identity, and Mary’s faith and devotion; that our lives, too, may be poured out in love as we trust in your promises. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: The earth declares your praise, O God. Make a way for the planet’s future in the sea and the wilderness, the mountains and plains, the tundra and wetlands. Repair habitats and sustainable ecosystems on, above, and beneath the ground. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**



P: The nations declare your praise, O God. Where religious differences divide, bring together those who worship you in the name of Jesus Christ and those who call to you with different names. Guide interreligious dialogue, that faith may unite rather than divide communities. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: The people declare your praise, O God. Restore those whose hope has been dampened through a health diagnosis, job or home loss, divorce, or death. Bring healing to those in need (*especially*). May all who weep now sing songs of joy again. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: The gifts of the Spirit declare your praise, O God. We thank you for artists who proclaim the gospel (*especially Albrecht Dürer, Matthias Grünewald, and Lucas Cranach*). Inspire music, poetry, and images that proclaim the new thing you are doing. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: The communion of saints declares your praise, O God. Giving thanks for those who have died, we trust in the one who has made them his own: Christ Jesus, our crucified and risen Savior. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**C: Amen**

## **\*THE PEACE**

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**\*OFFERTORY HYMN #481:**

*“Come To The Table”*



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

**C: God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

† WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER †

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

## THE PREFACE:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....  
 We praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

## THE SANCTUS

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. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

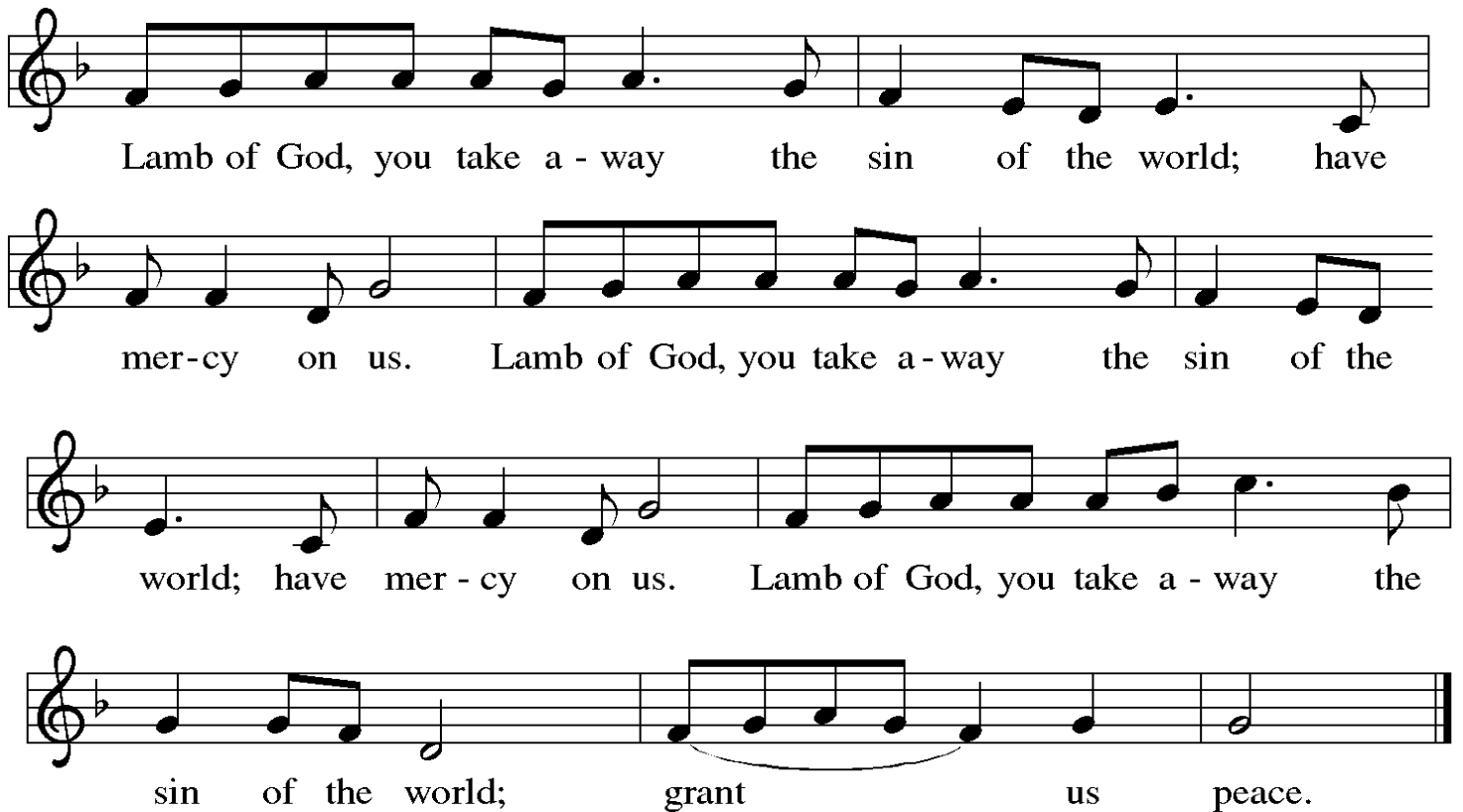
P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks and gave it for all to drink saying: 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.

## TRADITIONAL 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**

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### THE AGNUS DEI



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.

**We ask parents to bring their non-communing children with them for a blessing. Pick up an empty cup. A grape juice option and gluten free communion wafers provided. If you cannot come to the Chancel, Communion will be taken to you. Please notify an Usher.**

**Those in the parking lot partake of Communion at this time.**

During Communion

**Hymn #460:** *“Now Silence”* Sing x2

**Hymn #471:** *“Let Us Break Bread Together”*

**Hymn #494:** *“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”*

**Hymn #616:** *“Jesus Remember Me”*

**\*POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

**\*Post Communion Canticle: Hymn #210:** *“Blessed Be God”*

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation,  
The spirit of mercy.

**\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**P:** Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

† WE LEAVE TO SERVE †

**BENEDICTION AND BLESSING**

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**C: Amen Amen Amen (sung responsively)**

**\*SENDING HYMN #666:** *“What Wondrous Love is This”*

**DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord with joy.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:** *“Postlude in G Minor”*

-J. S. Bach

Participants in the Service:

Pastor: Timothy Craven

Church Secretary: Ashley Weinhold

Organist: Vickie Kissinger

Lay Reader: Pat Haller

Communion Assistant: Kimberley Craven

Psalmist: Choir

Videographer: Troy Adair & Elijah

Soundboard: Troy Adair

Ushers: Head Troy Adair, Randy Brubaker and Alternate Joan Moore

<b>Weekly Receipts Report as of 04/03/25</b>	
<b>Attendance (Inside / Parking Lot)</b>	<b>75/2</b>
<b>Online Attendance</b>	<b>209</b>
<b>General Receipts</b>	<b>\$1,733.00</b>

**Please use our QR code to donate via PayPal.**



Orders for your Easter Flowers are due today, April 6th to Pat Haller.

Peanut Butter Eggs are being sold today and next Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup> for \$5.00 a box.

The following dates are open for dedication of Altar Flowers & Bulletins:

April 13<sup>th</sup>, April 27<sup>th</sup>, May 4<sup>th</sup>, May 11<sup>th</sup> and May 18<sup>th</sup>.

If you are interested in one of these Sundays, please let Ashley know by 11 am the Thursday prior. (May 4<sup>th</sup> contact her by May 1<sup>st</sup>)



**Altar Flowers**

Please help us celebrate  
**VESTA'S 100TH BIRTHDAY**  
with a

*Shower*  
**BY MAIL!**

We would like to make Vesta's birthday a memorable one this year by showering her with love and cards from her friends and family - that's you! Include a favorite memory, an old photo, or simply well wishes for her milestone birthday! We will collect all the cards and gift them to her on her birthday, May 13th!

Send your card by May 1st

JEAN TOWNSLEY  
155 MORTAR LANE  
EPHRATA, PA 17522

*Thank you for making this birthday a special one!*

# GREAT 8 APPEAL OFFERING

March 9 to May 25



Mellingers Evangelical Lutheran Church  
80 Gockley Road  
Stevens, PA 17578

## GREAT 8 APPEAL OFFERING

ENVELOPE #: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK #: \_\_\_\_\_

(Check one)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Builders of Hope             | <input type="checkbox"/> ELCA Hunger Appeal      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ephrata Area Social Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Lutheran Camping Appeal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ELCA Mission Support         | <input type="checkbox"/> Seminarian Fund         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peter's Porch                | <input type="checkbox"/> Mellingers Needy Fund   |

If you are unable to pick-up the Great 8 Appeal envelopes. Please call and we will mail them to you. Or just designate Great 8 Appeal and your name or envelope number on an envelope with your choice to support.