

Welcome to

Linden-Linthicum United Methodist Church

In this "holy ground" we offer hospitality to all who seek food for the spirit and a faithful community that seeks to embody and express God's grace.

4th Sunday in Lent

RELUDE: *Just As I Am* arr. Carol Tornquist

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

WORDS OF GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 23):

Leader: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
 People: He makes me lie down in green pastures;
 Leader: He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
 People: He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
 Leader: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil.
 People: For you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me.
 Leader: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
 People: You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
 Leader: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
 People: And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

HYMN: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* #138

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION:

O God, source of all that makes life possible, giver of all that makes life good: We gather to give you our thanks, yet we confess that we have often failed to live our thankfulness. What we have we take for granted, and we grumble about what we lack. We have squandered your bounty, with little thought of those who will come after us. We are more troubled by the few who have more than by the many who have less. Forgive us, O God. In this hour of worship, accept our thanksgiving; and teach us to make gratitude and sharing our way of life; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 5: 8-14

GOSPEL: John 9: 1-41

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Most Holy Lamb* by John Parker & Benjamin Harlan

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* #206

SERMON: "Seeing Again" Rev. Bryant M. Oskvig

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES & COMMITMENTS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY: *How Firm a Foundation (in the style of Aaron Copeland)* arr. Craig Courtney

*PRESENTATION: #95

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

All who intend to lead a Christian life, together with their children, are invited to receive the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
 And also with you.
 Lift up your hearts.
 We lift them up to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good, and joyful thing always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. . . And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ who acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the name of the almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Our Communion today is by intinction – re-
is for One Great Hour of Sharing. Please ap

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this life and for yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world and give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ.

*CLOSING HYMN: *O For a Thousand Tongues*

*BENEDICTION: *Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life*

POSTLUDE

*Please stand at the beginning of the postlude.

Serving in Today's Ministries:

9:00

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| Liturgist: | Carol Brain |
| Greeters: | The Geritz Family |
| Ushers: | The Newcomb Family |
| Hospitality: | Becky Joyner |
| Info Person: | Mark Ferguson |

Please Pray For:

Betty Beam – is still on oxygen. Continue to pray for her.
 Darlene Bouma – has moved to a rehabilitation center.
 * Carol Brain's 4 month old grandson Noah – health concerns.
 Estelle Brown – continued strength.
 Jennifer Della'Zanna's nephew – health concerns.
 Debbie Gottwals – her sister, Denise, needs prayer.
 Sally Grantham – continues with chemo for breast cancer.
 Hank Maeser – prayers for successful on-going cancer treatment.
 Jennifer Marrow – is seeking answers to personal prayer requests.
 * Tatianna McFadden – JOY – was in service last Sunday.
 prayers.
 Anthea Nwandu – continued success with her HIV treatment.
 Susan Roth – strength, comfort and encouragement in her cancer.
 * Judy Rotz – asks for prayers for strength and health to resume regular activities.
 Mitzie Scruggs – physical health.
 * Charlotte Stoughton's daughters, Corean & Cayla – keep the extended family in your prayers.
 Gina Winfield – Crohn's disease complicates her medical treatment. Prayers for successful growth of the baby.
 Cold Weather Shelter Guests – Prayer of warmth, comfort, and love with us.

Continued Prayers for our Military serving in harm's way.

(* denotes new prayer requests) A complete list of prayer requests is available in the back of the church.