A close-up of a church steeple

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**Altamont Reformed Church**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**March 17, 2024**

**Prelude**  **“Blessed Jesus, We Are Here” J.S. Bach**

**Audrey Daly-Gilman, Organist**

**The Liturgy of Approach**

**Votum**

**Call to Worship**

Eternal Mystery, Ground of our being,

**you are the soil from which we grow.**

Risen Christ, Loving Presence,

**you are the courage with which we die.**

Holy Spirit, Radiant Oneness,

**you are the joy with which we are raised.**

**In mercy, receive our praise, our prayers and our lives,**

**and transform us in the spirit of compassion. Amen.**

**\*Hymn: “May Jesus Christ Be Praised” (blue) #87, vv. 1, 3, 6**

**Prayer of Confession**

Eternal God, we confess our sin,

that we have not loved you perfectly,

nor loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have clung to our lives

rather than surrender them to you.

**Forgive our sin,**

**heal our fear,**

**and transform our desires,**

**that we may trust you wholly and serve you heartily,**

**in the Spirit of Christ. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon:   Psalm 91:14-15**

**The Law of God**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

**\*Gloria Patri (Purple) #581**

**Glory be to the father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world with-out end. Amen, Amen.**

**Ministry of Music “What Wondrous Love Is This?” arr. Mark Hayes**

**The Liturgy of the Word**

**Children’s Message**

**Hymn: “The Solid Rock” (blue) #404**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Reading: Mark 13:1-8, 24-37 (New Testament pp. 50 & 51)**

**Sermon**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

**We are not alone,  
    we live in God’s world.**

**We believe in God:  
    who has created and is creating,  
    who has come in Jesus,  
      the Word made flesh,  
      to reconcile and make new,  
    who works in us and others  
      by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
    to celebrate God’s presence,  
    to live with respect in Creation,  
    to love and serve others,  
    to seek justice and resist evil,  
    to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
      our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
    God is with us.  
We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Service of Healing and Wholeness**

That the divine healing power may enable each of us to become whole persons, able to love and be loved, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That we might find the strength and openness to forgive and also to be forgiven, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That we will always remember that we are members of Christ’s body, and that whenever one person suffers, we all suffer, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That God will grant us relief from every illness and disease, and from all suffering and anxiety, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That God will grant mercy, courage, patience, and dignity to all who are survivors of serious disease, and to those who are disabled in any way, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That God will grant us forgiveness of sins and freedom from fear, compulsions, and addictions, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That the Lord will enter our lives and be present with us in our pain, hurt, grief, separations and loss, and in our brokenness, confusion, darkness and doubt, bringing us divine mercy and the sweet soothing balm of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That through the Holy Spirit we may bring our suffering siblings in Christ your peace, love, healing, and consolation, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Finally, that the power of the all-holy, good, and life-giving spirit will sanctify this oil and all who are anointed with it, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

O God, who in Jesus Christ called us out of the darkness into your marvelous light; enable us always to declare your wonderful deeds, thank you for your steadfast love, and praise you with heart, soul, mind, and strength, now and forever. **Amen.**

**James 5:13-16**

**Invitation**

**Laying on of Hands and Anointing with Oil**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving with the Lord’s Prayer**

**The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

**THE LITURGY OF RESPONSE**

**Announcements**

**Offering**

**\*Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below: Praise God above, ye heav’n-ly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Closing Hymn: “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending” (blue) # 241**

**\* Choral Benediction**

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude   “Fugue in D Minor” Pachelbel**

\* *indicates the congregation stands, if able.*

**WELCOME** as we worship together. Please join us for coffee hour fellowship after our worship service.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 17**

**PLEASE SPEAK TO A GREETER ABOUT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

**CHILDREN BULLETINS AND SACK COLORING PAGES** are available in the front of the sanctuary.

**ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES**are in the back of the sanctuary.

**LARGE PRINT HYMNAL:**If you are visually challenged, a larger version of the *Glory to God* hymnal is available in the front or back of the sanctuary. The covers are black.

**VOLUNTEERS FOR TODAY**

Greeters & Counters……………………………………………. .Jan Chisholm & Jeff Countermine

Side Door Greeter…………………………………………………………………..Sallie Townsend

AV Support…………………………………………………………………………….Mike Gilman

Coffee Hour…………………………………………………………...Betty Ketcham & Dave Glass

**FUTURE VOLUNTEERS**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Palm Sunday** | **Easter** | **April 7** |
| **Greeters** | John & Natalie  Drahzal | Chisholm, Novak,  Ward | Kelli Moore &  Marianne Baratier |
| **Offering Counters** | John Drahzal &  Tracy Mayer | Jan Chisholm &  Noreen Novak | Kelli Moore &  Marianne Baratier |
| **AV Volunteer** | Ryan Brewer | Tom Boink | Mike Gilman |
| **Coffee Hour** | Palm Sunday  Luncheon | No Coffee  Hour | John & Natalie  Drahzel |

**COMING UP**

**Today 11:30p.m. Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall; Faith Formation Comm. in the lounge**

**6:30 p.m. Joint Bible Study at Helderberg Reformed**

**Mon. March 18 7:00 p.m. Men’s Study Group; last day for pet food drive**

**Tues. March 19 6:00 p.m. Women’s Potluck Dinner**

**Wed. March 20 Consistory meeting**

**Sun. March 24 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship Service**

**11:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Soup and Bread Luncheon**

**AT A GLANCE-READ BELOW FOR DETAILS ON THE FOLLOWING:**

* Joel Edwards Annual Pet Food Drive ends tomorrow
* Tuesday, March 19 Women’s Potluck
* Last day to order Easter Flowers
* Palm Sunday Luncheon, Sunday March 24
* Palm Sunday Luncheon sign-ups
* Holy Week Worship Opportunities
* Volunteers Needed for the April 1 Community Dinner

**JOEL EDWARDS DVM MEMORIAL PET FOOD DRIVE ENDS TOMORROW**

**Donations gladly accepted:** **Dry and wet cat food,** **Dry dog food (no bags bigger than 20 lbs. please).** Bins are located in the back parking lot entryway to the church and at the top of the back staircase under the bulletin board. Baskets are in the sanctuary today. Thank you for your support of animals in need.

**WOMEN’S POTLUCK DINNER THIS TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 6:00 P.M.**

As spring showers arrive, come celebrate a little Easter and shower our kitchen with some needed items. There is a sign-up list in the back of the sanctuary of items requested by many who use the kitchen. If we left anything off feel free to add. No need to wrap! Any questions or to sign-up call Barbara Wilford-518-313-9633.

**LAST DAY TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS**

Forms are available in the sanctuary and in Fellowship Hall. Return forms to John or Natalie Drahzal or mail them to 1512 Thompsons Lake Rd. East Berne, NY 12059. Make checks payable to John or Natalie. If you have questions, you can call them at 518-872-9735.

**YOU ARE INVITED: PALM SUNDAY SOUP AND BREAD LUNCHEON**

**When?** Next **Sunday, March 24**, immediately after the morning worship service in Fellowship Hall. Come and enjoy a time of good food and fellowship. **Please sign up in Fellowship Hall if you plan on attending.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON**

To provide soups, breads, and cookies, and work set up, the kitchen, and clean up after the luncheon. **Sign-up sheets** **are in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!**

**HOLY WEEK WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**Palm Sunday**

**Sunday, March 24 10:30 a.m.  Worship Service**

**Maundy Thursday**

**Thursday, March 28  7:00 p.m. Service of Communion with** **Helderberg Reformed**

**at Helderberg Reformed Church**

**Good Friday**

**Friday, March 29       1:00 p.m. Community Worship Service at ARC followed by the carrying**

**of crosses to St. John’s Lutheran Church**

**Easter**

**Sunday, March 31   6:30 a.m. Joint Sunrise Service, Pleasant View Farm, 6856 Lainhart Rd.**

**10:30 a.m. Worship Service at ARC**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR APRIL 1 COMMUNITY DINNER**

Check out the sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall. You can also call the church office or email Nancy at [nancymacarc@gmail.com](mailto:nancymacarc@gmail.com). Join other volunteers as we provide an outreach to the community and enjoy a time of fellowship and fun. This month we served 171!!!!

**THANK YOU** to all who gave so generously to our Church World Service Drive. We surpassed our goal and last year’s total. We received $2,020! Thanks to everyone who gave to the Hygiene kits also.

**PRAYERS FOR:**

**Claudette Riek**, having a tough round of chemo treatment; **Jim Pavoldi**, seeing just a little improvement after a tough week; **Erin Parker**, experiencing undefined health challenges; **Roberta** **Burke**, friend of Lois, having surgery this week

**CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR:**

**Jan Davis**; **Sandra**, daughter of Lois and Ron Ginsburg; **Barbara Ryan**, still in the hospital with heart issues; **Nicole**, friend of Barb and Craig Sargeant, **Joyce Laiosa**, sister of Steve Ritzko; **Natalie**, daughter of Judi’s brother Jack; **Emmit**, Diane Stedman’s grandson; **Curt Damhoff**

**THOSE WITH LONG TERM HEALTH ISSUES**

**Mona Shuker;** **John & Marlene Williams**; **Paige and Eric Tooker** (Cystic Fibrosis); **Patti Percoski**; **Paula and Karen Eagan**; **Lois Wood**; **Becky Bryne**, neighbor of Deb and Steve Ritzko; Keith Baratier’sfather **Paul**; **Clara and Ralph Lasselle** in Kingsway Community Assisted Living; **Jeanne Picard-Fish** at Daughters of Sarah; **Joan Whinnery** at Judson Meadows Ass’t Living in Glenville; **Nancy** **Harrigan**, sister of Jackie Gregory at Glendale Home in Scotia

Altamont Reformed Church

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