

Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church
419 Bossardsville Road,
Stroudsburg, PA

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

"I am
casting out demons
and
performing cures
today and tomorrow,



and on the third day
I finish my work."

LUKE 13:32, NRSV

Welcome to Christ Hamilton! Thank you for joining with us in worship in whatever manner you can. This service is also available anytime on Facebook or our website along with a bulletin at www.chrighthamilton.org. Please share in the responses, sing the hymns, and pray the prayers. Call us and connect with us whenever you need. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Please know that all are welcome at Christ Hamilton! Life is difficult enough and shouldn't be when you come to church. Regardless of how you got here, we are glad you did. If you don't know your neighbor please welcome them. **All are welcome here!** At Christ Hamilton we are an intentional community of faith, gathered in worship, united in fellowship and generous in our outreach.

The service: *Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."*

During the five Sundays in Lent we ask that instead of sponsoring altar flowers that you prayerfully consider donating to PATH (Pocono Area Transitional Housing) using the envelope in your bulletin or pew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Please stand.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

All: Amen.

Minister: 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.

All: Amen

Minister: 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. . . . Most merciful God,

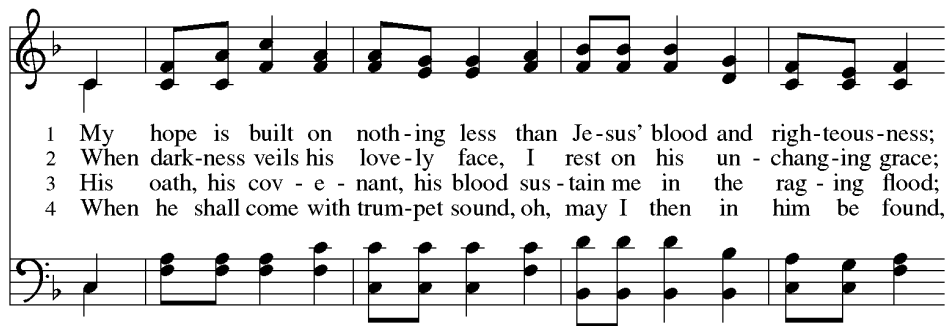
**All: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free
ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word,
and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left
undone.**

**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**

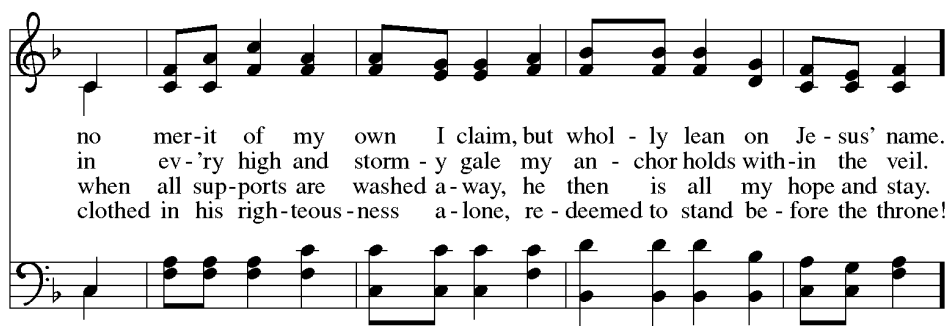
Minister: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us
and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and
ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his
authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of
all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

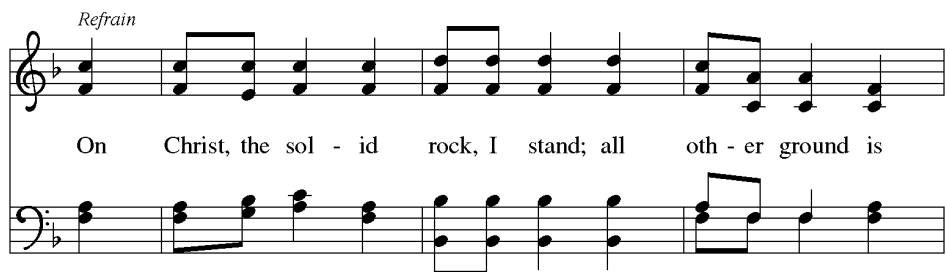


1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
2 When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,

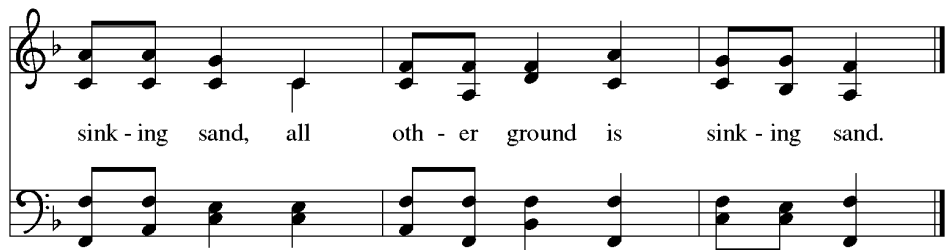


no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
in ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.
when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.
clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

KYRIE

Your Heart, O God, Is Grieved

Leader



Otče nebeský, Svoritel'u sveta, Bo - že, zmi - luj sa nad na - mi.

- 1 O God, Father in heav - en, have mer - cy up - on us.
- 2 O Son of God, redeemer of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
- 3 O God, Holy Spir - it, have mer - cy up - on us.

All



Vie - me to, Pa - ne Bo - že náš, že sa na
Your heart, O God, is grieved, we know, by ev - 'ry
Your arms ex - tend, O Christ, to save from sting of
O lav - ish Giv - er, come to aid the chil - dren



nás hrieš - nych hne - váš, sved - či o tom smrt'
e - vil, ev - 'ry woe; up - on your cross - for -
death and grasp of grave; your scars be - fore the
that your word has made. Now make us grow and



ne - vin - ná Tvoj - ho je - di - né - ho Sy - na.
sak - en Son our death is laid, and peace is won.
Fa - ther move his heart to mer - cy at such love.
help us pray; bring joy and com - fort, come to stay.

PRAYER

Minister: Let us pray. . . 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.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

READING

GENESIS 15:1-12, 17-18

Reader: A reading from Genesis, the 15th chapter:

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ² But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵ He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ Then he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” ⁸ But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹ He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

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

Spoken responsively.

PSALM

Psalm 27

Reader: The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

**All: When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

Reader: Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.
Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

**All: One thing I ask of the Lord; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my
life;
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God in the
temple.**

Reader: For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary,
and raise me high upon a rock.

**All: Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who
surround me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary,
sacrifices of rejoicing;**

I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Reader: Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

**All: My heart speaks your message— |“Seek my face.”
Your face, O Lord, I will seek.**

Reader: Hide not your face from me,
turn not away from your servant in anger.
Cast me not away—you have been my helper;
forsake me not, O God of | my salvation.

**All: Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the Lord will take me in.**

Reader: Teach me your way, O Lord;
lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

**All: Subject me not to the will of my foes,
for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**

Reader: This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living!

**All: Wait for the Lord and be strong.
Take heart and wait for the Lord!**

READING

PHILIPPIANS 3:17—4:1

Reader: A reading from Philippians, the 3rd chapter.

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly


things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

GOSPEL

Luke 13:31-35

Minister: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 13th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³² He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’”

³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

Minister: The Gospel of our Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

MESSAGE

As the Winter Days Grow Longer



1 As the win - ter days grow long - er, draw - ing short the hours of night;
2 As the vines burst in - to blos - som, fra - grant in the morn - ing air,
3 As we jour - ney through this sea - son, pil - grims through a thirst - y land,



as our ea - ger ex - pec - ta - tion waits for Eas - ter's dawn - ing light—
lift - ing spir - its with their sweet - ness, lur - ing hearts to thank - ful prayer—
quench us with your liv - ing pres - ence; guide us with your lov - ing hand.



yearn - ing peo - ple, here we gath - er, turn - ing watch - ful eyes to you:
Lent - en peo - ple, here we gath - er, seek - ing lives re - fresh - ed from sin.
Wan - d'ring peo - ple, here we gath - er, called to rest a - long our way.



God who bless - es earth with spring - time, shine with - in our world a - new!
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, bloom with - in our hearts a - gain!
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, grant us sab - bath joy this day!



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody; arr. hymnal version

Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

APOSTLE'S CREED

Minister: Let us confess our faith together.

**All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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

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

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,

All: Receive our prayer.

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy,

All: Receive our prayer.

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,

All: Receive our prayer.

Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need especially May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,

All: Receive our prayer.

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. We especially pray for the faith communities of St. Paul, Albrightsville, St. Mark, Appenzell, Trinity Bangor, and Faith, Blakeslee. God, in your mercy,

All: Receive our prayer.

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. God, in your mercy,

All: Receive our prayer.

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.

All: Amen.

The Peace is shared with one another.

PEACE

Assisting Minister: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Please stand.

OFFERTORY

CREATE IN ME

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. . . Merciful Father,

All: We offer with joy and thanksgiving

what you have first given us—

our selves, our time, and our possessions,

signs of your gracious love.

Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,

Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Minister: 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.

The Lord's Prayer

Minister: Let us pray together with confidence in the words our Savior gave us.

All: 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

Communion



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

We invite all baptized Christians to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Those not communing are invited to come forward for a blessing. For those who would prefer not to have wine, pre-filled glasses of grape juice are available in the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the Pastor.

Please come forward by way of the center aisle, receive the bread from the pastor and move to the chalice. Return by way of the outside aisle as you return to your seat.

Minister: The body of Christ given for you.

Communion Assistant: The blood of Christ shed for you.

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

All: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. . . . We give you thanks, almighty
God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of
this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would
strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in
fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ
our Lord.

All: Amen.

BLESSING

Minister: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

All: Amen

God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # sb156693.

CCLI license and livestream copyright 2025 Annual License # 1739989.

One License and livestream copyright 2025 Annual License # A-740330

Worship Leaders

Minister:	Rev. Steven C. Claycomb
Assisting Minister:	Bonnie Claycomb
Reader:	Bonnie Claycomb
Organist:	Beth McElroy
Greeters:	Cathy Peechatka, Eileen Dorshimer, Bill Smyth
Choir Director	Tassy Gilbert
Accompanist	Gail Derrer
Announcements	Amanda Balas, Office Administrator
Videographer:	Steve Metzgar and Anson Cassidy
Coffee Hour:	Denise DeVivo
	3/23: Volunteer needed

Lenten Prayer Board: Please take a heart from our prayer board in the Narthex and pray for the petition on the heart this coming week. If you would like to add a prayer concern please email Amanda chulcsts@gmail.com.

LARGE PRINT bulletins are now available, please ask an usher if you would like one.

Prayer at the Rail - Stephen Ministers will be available for prayer in front of the stage after the service for any concerns.

Dinner Out Group – monthly we gather together to enjoy good food and fellowship at a local venue. All are welcome to join with us. Please give the office a call by noon before the meal so we can give the restaurant a heads up for seating arrangements. Upcoming dinners are: **March 21** (Friday) – 5:30 pm Sals Pizza in Wind Gap

April 16 (Wed) – 5:30 p.m. Mullally’s Clubhouse, Glenbrook Country Club

May 21 (Wed) – 5:30 pm – Sycamore Grill, Delaware Water Gap

June 21 (Fri) – 5:30 pm – Thai Thani (rt 611 - Stroudsburg)

Homebound List—If you know of someone who needs to be added to our homebound list please have them, or a family member call the office.

Bulletin Deadlines: The deadline for information being added to the bulletin is Wednesday noon. Bulletins are printed by 10 a.m. THURSDAY mornings. The office is CLOSED on Friday and Saturday.

Wednesday Lenten soup and Service please join us at 6:15 every Wednesday night in Lent for homemade soup and the Holden Evening Prayer service immediately following.

Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 19th at 11am. Empty eggs to fill are in the Lighthouse, please fill with stickers, washable tattoos and peanut free candy. Anyone who would like to help with this event can email Deb Lamson at ark2dir@ptd.net