

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

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Celebrating the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent  
A Service of Word & Sacrament

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March 29, 2020



**“Lazarus, come out!”**

**Welcome to Christ Hamilton:** worship is much different now that we cannot gather with one another in person and yet thank God for the technology that enables us to connect even if remotely to worship! Please print a copy of this bulletin so you might follow along with the video of our service: share in the responses, sing the hymns, and pray the prayers.

Know that we are praying for you, our community, nation and world as we wander the wilderness this virus has caused us to walk together. This forty day journey of Lent began with a reminder of Jesus being tempted for 40 days. We too will be tempted to think only of ourselves and our needs throughout our wandering, wondering, and walking through these next weeks and perhaps months together.

Just as Moses wandered with the Israelites as they sought the promised land – know that the staff at Christ Hamilton are walking with you as well. Call us and connect with us whenever you need. Visit us on our website: [christhamilton.org](http://christhamilton.org) and check out our Facebook page.

**Today's service:** *In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life.*

### ***Season of Lent***

Lent is a penitential season and as such we will have a much simpler service, utilizing the confession and kyrie each Sunday. Lent is a time for us to pause and take inventory of our lives and ask ourselves what we are doing personally as disciples of Jesus.

### **Prelude**

*Please stand.*

**Confession and 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.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Minister: 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: 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.

**All: Amen**

# O Master, Let Me Walk with You

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly  
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,  
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,  
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;  
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward  
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith  
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.  
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.  
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,  
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

## 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 OF THE DAY**

Minister: Let us pray. . . Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through 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.*

### **FIRST READING**

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

Reader: A reading from the 37<sup>th</sup> chapter of Ezekiel.

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

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

*Read responsively*

**PSALM**

**Psalm 130**

Reader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;

**All: O Lord, hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

Reader: If you were to keep watch over sins,

O Lord, who could stand?

**All: Yet with you is forgiveness,**

**in order that you may be feared.**

Reader: I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

**All: My soul waits for the Lord**

**more than those who keep watch for the morning,**

**more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

Reader: O Israel, wait for the Lord,  
for with the Lord there is steadfast love;  
with the Lord there is plenteous redemption.

**All: For the Lord shall redeem Israel from all their sins**

**SECOND READING**

**Romans 8:6-11**

Reader: A reading from Romans the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel**

## **John11:1-45**

Minister: The Holy Gospel according to John the 11<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

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

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, 6after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.”

After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”<sup>6</sup>Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home.

Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”

Jesus began to weep.

So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”

Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”

The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

**Sermon**

# What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

## 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 OF THE CHURCH

Assisting Minister: Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. . . . *the assistant minister will share:* **And we sing together.**



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole;



peace to all peo - ple, hope for each soul,



God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

Assisting Minister: According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

God, our peace and our strength, we pray for our nation and the world as we face new uncertainties around coronavirus. Protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts them at great risk.

Guide us as we consider how best to prepare and respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Give us courage to face these days not with fear but with compassion, concern, and acts of service, trusting that you abide with us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where impossibilities close every door and window, grant imagination and purpose. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Where spirits are daunted and weakened, grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams. All these things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**And we sing together.**

God of life, bind your faithful people into one body. Enliven the church with your Spirit and bless the work of those who work for its renewal. Accomplish your work of salvation in us and through us, for the sake of the world.

God of life, you love the world you have made and you grieve when creation suffers. Restore polluted lands and waterways. Heal areas of the world ravaged by storms, floods, wildfires, droughts, or other natural disasters. Bring all things to new life.

**And we sing together**

God of life, show redemption to all who watch and wait with eager expectation: those longing for wars to cease, those waiting for immigration paperwork to finalize, those seeking election, and those in dire need of humanitarian relief. Come quickly with your hope.

God of life, you weep with those who grieve. Unbind all who are held captive by anxiety, despair, or pain (*We pray especially for Gary, Joel, Norm, Bob, Kathryn, Pat and those we name before you now*) Fill us with compassion and empathy for those who struggle, and keep us faithful in prayer.

**And we sing together.**

God of life, we give thanks for opportunities for this congregation to collaborate with our community in caring for the needs of our neighbors.

We give thanks for those celebrating anniversaries this week, especially the anniversary of Ann and Dave.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **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,  
for ever and ever. Amen**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Minister: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All: And also with you.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

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

**All: Amen.**

# Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land



Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a



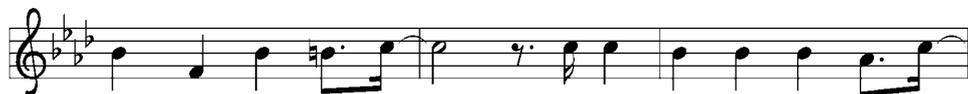
wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a



wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.



1 No one can do like Je - sus, not a  
2 When Je - sus was on earth, . . . . . the . .  
3 Yon - der comes my Sav - ior, him . .



mum-bling word he said; he went walk - ing down to Laz-  
flesh was ver - y weak; . . he took a towel and gird-  
whom I love so well; . . he has the palm of vic -



- a - rus' grave, and he raised him from the dead.  
ed him - self and he washed his dis - ci - ples' feet.  
- to - ry and the keys of death and hell.

*Refrain*

## Dismissal:

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

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## Worship Leaders

Minister	Rev. Steven C. Claycomb
Keyboard	Gail Haydt
Vocalists	Jeff & Tassy Gilbert
Reader/Announcements	John Field
Videographer	Ed Jones

**Please be advised:** All events, gatherings, activities and worship services will be cancelled until the coronavirus begins to abate. Stay up to date with any other Christ Hamilton information by checking our website, [www.chrighthamilton.org](http://www.chrighthamilton.org), or Facebook page.

**Sunday Bulletins:** Hard copies of the Sunday bulletin will be available in the yellow Tupperware container on the front porch of the Covenant House for anyone who wishes to have one.

**Grocery shopping ministry:** During this time we are going to try and start a grocery service for our elderly shut-ins and those who are afraid to leave their homes. This will involve picking up money from someone's home, buying the items on their grocery list and then leaving full bags of groceries, along with any change on front porches—this way contact is limited. If you are interested in being a volunteer in this ministry or utilizing it for your own benefit please contact the church office 570-992-4085.

**Please check out** Pastor Steve's bible study of the upcoming week's bible lessons, as well as our Friday night family movie selection on our website, [www.chrighthamilton.org](http://www.chrighthamilton.org).



**Please continue to keep all the people working on the front lines of this pandemic in your prayers.**



**A little chuckle for these scary times.**

