

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

The 3rd Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

To listen tune in to 87.9FM



**“Destroy this temple,
and in three days I will raise it up**

Welcome to Christ Hamilton! Worship is much different now. Thank you for joining with us in worship in whatever manner you can. If you are at home you can find a print copy of this service available on our website at www.chrighthamilton.org. Please print a copy of this bulletin so you might follow along with the video of our service if worshipping at home: 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. Call us and connect with us whenever you need. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Visit us on our website: chrighthamilton.org and check out our Facebook page.

Today's service: *The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.*

Altar flowers: instead of altar flowers during Lent a donation has been made to Hospice House. The donation has been made today by Kathleen and Jim Hinton in memory of Harry Motz Jr. and all their loved ones.

PRELUDE

Just As I Am

arr. F. Lopez

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

ORDER FOR 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.

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 you, and for his sake God forgives you all your 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

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

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

Vieme to, Panez Bože náš

Leader



Očie 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



Vi - 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. . . . Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

FIRST READING

EXODUS 20:1-17

Reader: A reading from the 20th chapter of Exodus.

¹God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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

Spoken responsively.

PSALM

Psalm 19

Reader: The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

**All: One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

Reader: Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

**All: Their sound has gone out into all lands,
and their message to the ends of the world,
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

Reader: It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**All: It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

Reader: The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

**All: The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

Reader: The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

**All: More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

Reader: By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

**All: Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

Reader: Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.

**All: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25

Reader: A reading from the 1st chapter of First Corinthians.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom

of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



☐ 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.

GOSPEL

John 2:13-22

Minister: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 2nd chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

¹⁸The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” ¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” ²⁰The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

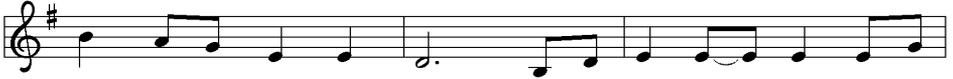
Minister: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

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: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering especially those in need of prayer that we lift to you now Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give Sabbath rest to all who labor. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to Christ Hamilton and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

If you have not done so and would like to leave an offering please do so at this time or as you exit the service in the bins provided.

Offering

Amazing Grace

arr. J. Raney

Offertory



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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.

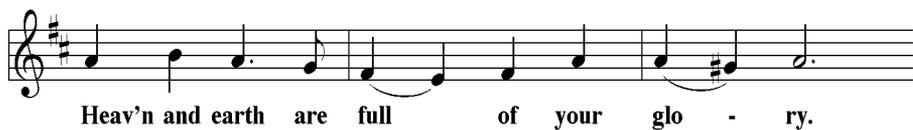
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

PREFACE

Minister: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast.

Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

Lord's Prayer

Minister: We share in the prayer Jesus taught 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**

Communion

*We invite all baptized Christians to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Ushers will bring the prepackaged wafer and grape juice to you. Please indicate how many will be taking communion to the usher and hold out the plate and the usher will place the containers on it. **Please open the packet – but do not take the wafer or juice until the pastor has indicated in order that we might commune together.***



☐ 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, grant us peace.

Precious Lord Take My Hand

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . . near,

The first system of the sheet music features a treble and bass staff in G minor (three flats). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are aligned with the notes, with three verses of text provided.

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,

The second system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics describe the singer's state of exhaustion and despair. The music includes some sustained chords in the final measure of the system.

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall,
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.

The third system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics describe the singer's plea for help and guidance through a storm and night. The music includes some sustained chords in the final measure of the system.

take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

The fourth system concludes the piece with a final chorus. The melody and bass line are repeated. The lyrics are repeated three times. The music includes a triplet in the bass line and sustained chords in the final measure of the system.

After all have returned to their places.

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: 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

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

All: Amen.

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
joy like seed and, all our days, to
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Dismissal:

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Jesus is the World to Me

arr. M. Kim

Worship Leaders

Minister Rev. Steven C. Claycomb

Keyboard Gail Haydt

Announcements Dan Courtright

Assistant Minister John Balas

Reader: Brian Powers

Cantor: John Balas

Please Remember in Prayer: Gary Kapostas, Sandy Haney, Henry McCool, Ruth Ann Helriegel, Gloria Shupp and Wilma Loyson.

In-Person Adult Sunday School has re-started! 10:30-11:30 following our morning service. We will meet in the nursery room of the Lighthouse and pick-up with chapters 5 & 6 in The Lord is My Shepherd book.

Numbers in Pa for help with Scheduling your Covid vaccination:

Pa Dept of Health—877-724-3258

Pa Link—800-753-8827

PACE participants—800-225-7223

Monroe County Office on Aging—570-420-3735

Join Us! Every Wednesday evening at 7pm for a Lenten service for the next five Wednesdays in lent. Services will be held in the Lighthouse, masks are required.

Community Meal! March 21st from 4:30-5:15pm. Please call the church order with your name and number of meals you will be needing.

Medical Equipment Needs? If you or someone you know are in need of a walker, cane, shower seat etc. please call the church office. We have many gently used items of this nature that can be utilized by those in need.

Spring means FLOWERS! We have two opportunities for spring:

1. **Donate flowers for Easter service.** If you would like to make a donation for an Easter flower please fill out the YELLOW slip in your bulletin and leave it in the offering bin.
2. **Donate altar flowers.** If you would like to donate altar flowers for a Sunday in April, May, June or July please fill out the GREEN slip with your chosen date and place it in the offering bin