

# CHRIST'S UNITED ✠ ST. JAMES ✠ FRIEDENS LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Ashland/Pitman/Hegins

Wednesday of Easter 3 ✠ Service of Prayer ✠ April 29, 2020

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greetings to you in the name of our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ.

If you have someone you'd like us to pray for, let us know. Send us an e-mail or call. Be aware we will only use first names out of concerns for privacy.

- Please call the Lutheran parsonage at **570-652-1951** or e-mail [pastorlaura@christsunited.org](mailto:pastorlaura@christsunited.org).
- Do not forget your offering. The Church struggles like all other organizations during this time. Your offering is about doing the work of Christ, who only works through human hands in a very real and suffering world.

*God bless you as we journey together in confident hope.*

## HYMN WOV#746 "DAY BY DAY"

**1** Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me, bringing comfort to my anxious soul. Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal. Love divine, beyond all mortal measure, brings to naught the burdens of my quest; Savior, lead me to the home I treasure, where at last I'll find eternal rest.

**2** Day by day, I know you will provide me strength to serve and wisdom to obey; I will seek your loving will to guide me o'er the paths I struggle day by day.

till in glory I behold your face.  
Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow  
I will trust in your enduring grace.

I will fear no evil of the morrow,  
**3** Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my burdens grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no matter what betide me, you will hold me ever in your hand. Savior, with your presence here to guide me, I will reach at last the promised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, b. 1936  
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## **GREETING**

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

**And also, with you.**

## **PSALM 9:9-10**

<sup>9</sup>The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed,  
a stronghold in times of trouble.

<sup>10</sup>And those who know your name put their trust in you,  
for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray...Eternal God, amid all the turmoil and changes of the world, your love is steadfast and your strength never fails. In this time of danger and trouble, be to us a sure guardian and rock of defense. Guide the leaders of our nation with your wisdom, comfort those in distress, and grant us courage and hope to face the future; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9**

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

## **MEDITATION**

The enduring faith of St. Catherine of Siena

*Pr. Mark Swanson*

**HYMN LBW#294 "MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS"**

1 My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
no merit of my own I claim,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood  
sustain me in the raging flood;  
when all supports are washed away,  
he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

*Refrain*

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face,  
I rest on his unchanging grace;  
in ev'ry high and stormy gale  
my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,  
oh, may I then in him be found,  
clothed in his righteousness alone,  
redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain*

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

**INTERCESSIONS IN TIME OF PANDEMIC**

**RESPONSE**

The Spir - it in - ter - cedes for us with  
sighs too deep for words to ex - press. Oh, oh.

For all direct patient caregivers in this dangerous time, including nurses, doctors and aides; give them strength for their service and strength to ask for help when they are in need. Lord, hear our prayer.

**All: The spirit intercedes for us...**

For all the sick, including: Angie, Anna, Deb, Donna, Terry, Richard, Deb, Dawn, Terry, Myla, Robby, Margariette, Jim, Earl, Renee, Garth, and those others we remember now aloud or quietly in our heart... Bring them to full health and restore them to those who love them. Lord, hear our prayer.

**All: The spirit intercedes for us...**

For all those isolated in their homes especially the elderly and those who are despairing; sustain them in joy and peace. Lord, hear our prayer.

**All: The spirit intercedes for us...**

For decision-makers at all levels including our Governor Tom and our County Commissioners George, Frank and Gary; send them your wisdom and good counsel to serve their communities. Lord, hear our prayer.

**All: The spirit intercedes for us...**

For all those who have died including Doris, Ted, Frank and Susan; and those who grieve their loss in isolation; comfort them in their sorrow. Lord, hear our prayer.

**All: The spirit intercedes for us...**

God, we trust that you are good and do good. Teach us to be your faithful people in this time of global crisis. Help us to follow in the footsteps of our faithful shepherd, Jesus, who laid down his life for the sake of love. Glorify his name as you equip us with everything needed for doing your will. Lord, hear our prayer.

**All: The spirit intercedes for us...Amen.**

#### **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 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**

#### **BENEDICTION**

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

#### **DISMISSAL**

Christ is risen, just as he promised.  
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**HYMN WOV#691 “SING WITH ALL THE SAINTS IN GLORY”**

1 Sing with all the saints in glory,  
sing the resurrection song!  
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story,  
to the former days belong.  
All around the clouds are breaking,  
soon the storms of time shall cease;  
in God's likeness we awaken,  
knowing everlasting peace.

2 Oh, what glory, far exceeding  
all that eye has yet perceived!  
Holiest hearts for ages pleading  
never that full joy conceived.  
God has promised, Christ prepares it,  
there on high our welcome waits.  
Ev'ry humble spirit shares it,  
Christ has passed the eternal gates.

3 Life eternal! heav'n rejoices:  
Jesus lives who once was dead.  
Shout with joy, O deathless voices!  
Child of God, lift up your head!  
Life eternal! Oh, what wonders  
crowd on faith; what joy unknown,  
when, amid earth's closing thunders,  
saints shall stand before the throne!

Text: William J. Irons, 1812-1883, alt.



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