

## The First Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9

<sup>55</sup> If you are thirsty, come and drink water!  
If you don't have any money,  
    come, eat what you want!  
Drink wine and milk without paying a cent.  
<sup>2</sup> Why waste your money on what really isn't food?  
Why work hard for something that doesn't satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and you will enjoy the very best foods.

<sup>3</sup> Pay close attention! Come to me and live.  
I will promise you the eternal love and loyalty  
    that I promised David.  
<sup>4</sup> I made him the leader and ruler of the nations;  
    he was my witness to them.

<sup>5</sup> You will call out to nations you have never known.  
And they have never known you, but they will come running  
    because I am the LORD,  
the holy God of Israel, and I have honored you.

<sup>6</sup> Turn to the LORD! He can still be found.  
    Call out to God! He is near.  
<sup>7</sup> Give up your crooked ways and your evil thoughts.  
Return to the LORD our God. He will be merciful  
    and forgive your sins.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD says: "My thoughts and my ways  
    are not like yours."  
<sup>9</sup> Just as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
my thoughts and my ways  
    are higher than yours.

The Word of the Lord, **C: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 63 will be read responsively:**

63 You are my God. I worship you.  
    In my heart, I long for you,  
    as I would long for a stream  
    in a scorching desert.

<sup>2</sup> **I have seen your power  
and your glory  
in the place of worship.**

<sup>3</sup>Your love means more  
than life to me,  
and I praise you.

<sup>4</sup>**As long as I live,  
I will pray to you.**

<sup>5</sup>I will sing joyful praises  
and be filled with excitement  
like a guest at a banquet.

<sup>6</sup>**I think about you  
before I go to sleep,  
and my thoughts turn to you  
during the night.**

<sup>7</sup>You have helped me,  
and I sing happy songs  
in the shadow of your wings.

<sup>8</sup>**I stay close to you,  
and your powerful arm  
supports me.**

<sup>9</sup>All who want to kill me  
will end up in the ground.

<sup>10</sup>**Swords will run them through,  
and wild dogs will eat them.**

<sup>11</sup>Because of you, our God,  
the king will celebrate  
with your faithful followers,  
but liars will be silent.

## **The Second Reading**

## **1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

<sup>10</sup> Friends, I want to remind you that all of our ancestors walked under the cloud and went through the sea. <sup>2</sup> This was like being baptized and becoming followers of Moses.

<sup>3</sup> All of them also ate the same spiritual food <sup>4</sup> and drank the same spiritual drink, which flowed from the spiritual rock that followed them. That rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup> But most of them did not please God. So they died, and their bodies were scattered all over the desert.

<sup>6</sup> What happened to them is a warning to keep us from wanting to do the same evil things. <sup>7</sup> They worshiped idols, just as the Scriptures say, "The people sat down to eat and drink. Then they got up to dance around." So don't worship idols. <sup>8</sup> Some of those people did shameful things, and in a single day about twenty-three thousand of them died. Don't do shameful things as they did. <sup>9</sup> And don't try to test Christ, as some of them did and were later bitten by poisonous snakes. <sup>10</sup> Don't even grumble, as some of

them did and were killed by the destroying angel. <sup>11</sup> These things happened to them as a warning to us. All this was written in the Scriptures to teach us who live in these last days.

<sup>12</sup> Even if you think you can stand up to temptation, be careful not to fall. <sup>13</sup> You are tempted in the same way that everyone else is tempted. But God can be trusted not to let you be tempted too much, and he will show you how to escape from your temptations.

The Word of the Lord, **C: Thanks be God**

**The Holy Gospel**

**Luke 13:1-9**

Gospel Response **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> About this same time Jesus was told that Pilate had given orders for some people from Galilee to be killed while they were offering sacrifices. <sup>2</sup> Jesus replied:

Do you think that these people were worse sinners than everyone else in Galilee just because of what happened to them? <sup>3</sup> Not at all! But you can be sure that if you don't turn back to God, every one of you will also be killed. <sup>4</sup> What about those eighteen people who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them? Do you think they were worse than everyone else in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> Not at all! But you can be sure that if you don't turn back to God, every one of you will also die.

<sup>6</sup> Jesus then told them this story:

A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard. One day he went out to pick some figs, but he didn't find any. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the gardener, "For three years I have come looking for figs on this tree, and I haven't found any yet. Chop it down! Why should it take up space?"

<sup>8</sup> The gardener answered, "Master, leave it for another year. I'll dig around it and put some manure on it to make it grow. <sup>9</sup> Maybe it will have figs on it next year. If it doesn't, you can have it cut down."

Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2019

ASSISTING MINISTER: Emerson Peffer

LECTOR: Youth

USHERS & GREETERS: Ayla Alexander and Kennedy Peffer

ACOLYTE: Allison Alexander

BELL RINGER: David Williamson

TRAY HOLDERS: Isabella and Abigail Muthler

CRY ROOM: Located downstairs in the youth room. Also available are coloring books and crayons on the last pew in a green basket

### **CALENDAR**

TODAY                    10:00 Sunday School  
                              11:00 Confirmation

**MONDAY                10:00 April newsletter info due in office**

WEDNESDAY           6:15 Lenten Dinner and Service at Zion Lutheran



**NEW PRAYER REQUESTS:** Bob Sullivan, Jeff Harris son-in-law of Eileen Saunders recovering from a heart attack, Tom Wilson father of Mike Wilson now in Hospice Care.

**CONTINUED PRAYER:** Shonna Ash, Tom Brosenitsch, Cynthia sister of Bev Brosenitsch diagnosed with breast cancer, Karen Campell, Jenny, Bernie Fedorka, Adrienne Haegg, Lily Herklen, William Loveridge, Family of George Lyons, Patti Mulligan, Susan Vannewkirk.

[The complete prayer list is in the March newsletter.]

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING LAST SUNDAY: 30 - \$920.00

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Are Given to the Glory of God by Tim and Beverly Brosenitsch in honor of Beverly's sister, Cynthia Jones.

### **FOOD CUPBOARD – MARCH**

Jars or cans of Sloppy Joe mix.

### **YOUTH SUNDAY**

Thank you to our youth for leading us in worship today.

### **FISH FRY DINNERS AT THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**We will be joining Zion and English Lutheran in providing desserts for the April 5 Fish Fry Dinner. Due to the increase of dinners sold from 600 to 700 they are asking for 225 to 250 desserts from each congregation.** Desserts can be delivered to the American Legion on New Castle Street between 12:00 PM and 4:00 PM. No need to cut your dessert, volunteers will handle the portions. A sign up sheet is located in the narthex. We need everyone's participation in helping us to meet our desserts obligation.

### **MIDWEEK LENTEN TAIZE SERVICE**

Next Midweek Lenten service and dinner will be at Zion Lutheran starting with dinner at 6:15 followed by a 30 minute Taizé service from the *Seeds of Trust, Reflecting on the Bible in Silence and Song* and will be focusing on Hope. Our turn to host will be April 3 with a soup dinner at 6:15 and a discussion led by John Bulger at 7:00. **Thank you to everyone who helped last week with setting up, providing soup, and with the clean up afterwards. Especially thank you to Sydney McMurray for taking time out of her busy schedule to make grilled cheese sandwiches to have with our soup. We would love to see more members of St. Paul's in attendance, especially the night we host on April 3.**

### **EPIC PERFORMANCE**

"A Little Night Music" will be performed on Sunday, March 31, at 6:00. The St. Paul Choir, EPIC (Enthusiastic Performers in Christ), a group from Hope Lutheran, and other community members will unite for an evening of shared music. There is no charge, but a goodwill offering will be accepted after the concert. Anyone who wishes to perform can email Bobi-Jean Alexander at [bobisings@hotmail.com](mailto:bobisings@hotmail.com) by March 25.

### **"YOU ARE WORTH IT"**

St. Peter's Reformed Church is hosting a performance of "You Are Worth It", an original musical on the subject of anti-bullying written by Mary Ann Mangini and performed by members of The Fantastix Show Choir under Mary Ann's direction. The musical will be performed today at 6:30 pm in St. Peter's Sanctuary. There will be refreshments following the musical and a freewill offering will be accepted. All are invited to come.

### **ONE VOICE FOR CHRIST**

Schedule of performances:

**March 31**, 2:00 PM, Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2535 Fairmount Church Road, Sewickley, PA 15143

**April 7**, 7:00 PM, St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, 608 High Street, Freeport, PA 16229

**April 14**, 2:00 PM, Grace Anglican Church, 319 West Sycamore Street, Mt. Washington, PA 15211

**April 28**, 3:00 PM, Claysville Presbyterian Church, 134 Wayne Street, Claysville, PA 15323

More about this concert is in your March newsletter.

### **CHRIST IN OUR HOME**

Daily devotionals for April, May and June are now available on the bookshelf in the narthex and downstairs on the table by the office.

### **ZELIENOPLE-HARMONY COMMUNITY BAND CONCERT**

The Community Band will present its annual Spring concert on Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, at 2:00 PM. Trumpeter Wendell Banyay (Pastor Bev's brother) will perform a solo with the band, and the featured group will be a woodwind ensemble from the high school, under the direction of Sara Snyder. The concert will be held in the auditorium at Seneca Valley Intermediate High School, and admission is free, though donations are welcome!

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT**

We are still in need for someone to volunteer as our Sunday School Superintendent. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please see Linda Flora.

### **VISITORS**

If you are a visitor, please fill out one of the welcome cards in the pew racks. Also, please feel free to take home a monthly newsletter. We welcome all visitors and invite you to make our church your church.