

4th SUNDAY OF LENT
BULLETIN FOR March 22, 2020
Worship Service 10:45 am

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Join the worship service on Zoom. You can download the Zoom app for free.

Ebensburg Colver is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Virtual Joint Worship Service for Ebensburg and Colver Churches
Time: Mar 22, 2020 10:45 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/314247203>

Meeting ID: 314 247 203

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+1 253 215 8782 US
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Meeting ID: 314 247 203

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/adIAy1lhjj>

You can also find us on Facebook.

**TOLLING OF THE HOUR
PRELUDE
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

OPENING PRAYER *(in unison)*

Almighty God, protector of our lives,

Lord we are alive and are able to get together to worship you and glorify your name. We are not ashamed but boldly thank you for the means of connections you've provided in our era to worship you virtually. We glorify our name and give you adoration. Lord, accept our Worship as praise offerings, in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

Lord Christ, open our eyes

to see clearly the light of the world.

Holy Spirit, illumine our minds

to perceive God's glory shining among us.

Almighty God, prepare our hearts

To see, to trust, to worship the Messiah.

***HYMN # 434 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken**

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Joel 2:12-13

"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** *(in unison)*

**Wonder-working God,
Forgive us when preconceived notions
cloud our vision and blind us
to your activities in our lives.**

**We watch for signs of your glory
in the successful and strong,
in pious acts and answered prayers,
in favorable outcomes and dreams fulfilled.**

**But you make yourself known in unexpected ways,
in shepherd boys lifted to the throne
and outcasts returned to community;
in death-haunted valleys transformed by your presence,
and ordinary pools made extraordinary by your grace,
through water and mud, and a table prepared with sacrificial love.**

**We long for a salve that relieves our stubborn focus
on inconsequential questions,
and for water that heals our blindness
to revelations of your love.**

**Open our eyes
Illumine our minds,
And prepare our hearts,
To receive your amazing grace. Amen**
(Silent confession)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON:** *(responsively)* *Romans 5:8-9*

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation.

Friends believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, renewed and sent!

***GLORIA PATRI**

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(in unison)*

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal Word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

TIME WITH YOUNG CHRISTIANS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 23
SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: John 9:1-41

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON ***“God’s Unending Presence”***

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

HYMN** ***My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

REAFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH: THE APOSTLES CREED *(in unison)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell;
the third day He rose again from the dead;**

He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right

**hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life
everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

DEPARTING IN GOD'S GRACE

HYMN # 275 *Amazing Grace

***BLESSING AND CHANGE TO THE CONGREGATION**

Declaration of Faith, 10.5

We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom.
But hope plunges us into the struggle
for victories over evil that are possible now

in the world, the church, and our individual lives.
Hope gives us courage and energy
to contend against all opposition,
however invincible it may seem,
for the new world and the new humanity
that are surely coming.

Jesus is Lord!

He has been Lord from the beginning.

He will be Lord at the end.

Even now he is Lord.

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Prayer List—March 2020

Will & Margie Bailey	Mary Van Dove	Irene Makin
Evalyn Martin	June Mentch	Ethel Headrick
Nancy Verbosky	Jim Cameron	Nancy Bumford
Gerry Nedrow	Rich & Pauline Blough	Apay

Dale Bowman (Margie's brother)
Gary & Diane Wenterine (friends of the Headricks)
Carol Jean Drummond (friend of the Headricks)
Sarah & Alex Kirsch
Linda White
Janet from Altoona
Kay Hoffman & Ron Blough (family of the Bloughs)
Aggie Murphy Family
Frank Legdon Family

MARCH

BIRTHDAYS

10 – Jennifer Devinney
12 – Josh Crawford
13 – Judy Grenell
14 – Emma Davis
14 – Brian Hill
15 – Billy Smith
21 – Vanessa Yingling
22 – Brian Hill
25 – Brandon Baker
25 – Jane Ponchione
26 – Lochlan Hurst

ANNIVERSARIES

WAYS TO GIVE

CHANGE FOR FRAMES: We have a number of architectural drawings of the church. There is a piggy bank for change to pay for the framing of these drawings.

NEW HYMNALS: If you would like to sponsor a new hymnal, there are forms on the back table. A pew hymnal is \$20 each; a new large-print edition is \$30. In order to fill the pews we need about 40 more hymnals.

CLEANING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: There is a sign-up sheet in the back as well as a checklist for what gets cleaned.

VOLUNTEER GREETERS: There is a sign-up sheet in the back if you are willing to serve as a greeter.

FOCUS ON OUR FLOCK DONATION NEEDS: We are currently in need of some for men's items for the Shepherd Our Flock Project. Items can be placed in the box at the back of the church.

ELECTION DAY SOUP AND BAKE SALE: Election Day Soup & Bake Sale will be held at our church. Baked Goods will be appreciated.

HELP WANTED

With our greatest appreciation, we are saddened to have accepted the resignation of Greg Headrick as Treasurer as of March 31. If anyone is interested in serving the church as treasurer, please let Bonnie or another member of session know.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FREE HYMNALS: Old hymnals are available to anyone who would like one. They will be available until Election Day, the rest will be disposed off since we cannot find anyone who would like them.

FREE BOOKS AND MUSIC: There's free books and music downstairs if anyone would like to peruse them.

PRAYER LIST: The prayer list restarts at the beginning of each year. If there is someone that you would like to have remain on the prayer list, please let Belinda know.

WINTER PARKING is in effect. Parking on the church side of 7th Street is prohibited during the day. In the evening, the parking on the other side of 7th Street is prohibited.

PER CAPITA: The Presbytery has provided us with the per capita amount for 2020. Per capita for this year is **\$42.50** per member. This money is sent to the Presbytery where it is divided between the Presbytery, the Synod, and General Assembly for expenses and mission.

Sermon Notes:

Psalm 27

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation-whom shall I fear?

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

² When the wicked advance against me to devour^[a] me,
it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall.

³ Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear;
though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.

⁴ One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.

⁵ For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling;
he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock.

⁶ Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his
sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the
LORD.

⁷ Hear my voice when I call, LORD; be merciful to me and answer me.

⁸ My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, LORD, I will seek.

⁹ Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you
have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, God my Savior.

¹⁰ Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me.

¹¹ Teach me your way, LORD; lead me in a straight path because of my
oppressors.

¹² Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against
me, spouting malicious accusations.

¹³ I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the
living.

¹⁴ Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

Donations

Dear Church Family,

During this time of uncertainty with the COVID-19 virus, and the CDC recommendation that you limit all interactions to groups of 10 or less, the Board of Session has voted to discontinue holding in-person worship services. Reverend Owar is going to continue to live stream his services through FaceBook. He is also looking into other electronic software like Zoom or something similar that allows "video conferencing". Your health is most important! Please join us electronically through Facebook or Zoom if we are able to get this setup.

We encourage you to please continue to support the church through monetary donations. You are welcome to mail your donations. If you plan to mail your donation, please send your check to Colver Presbyterian Church, PO Box 540, Colver, PA 15927

As always, your health is most important to us all. We will keep the membership updated as decisions are made in relation to changes in worship services.