

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

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Pastor: Rev. James Hammond 610-437-1960; jjtrev1@verizon.net

Blue Church Cemetery – 484-201-5048; e-mail: bluechurchcemetery@gmail.com

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany ✠ February 3, 2019
SCOUT SUNDAY/'SOUPER' BOWL SUNDAY

PRELUDE – "PRELUDE" – KEITH CHRISTOPHER
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

Amen.

Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

Mighty and loving God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope and love. Amen.

Hear the voice of Jesus: "The Spirit of the LORD is upon me to proclaim release to the captives." In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the LORD is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #661 I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

GREETING

The boundless grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Ⓐ Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



Ⓐ Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD. **Amen.**

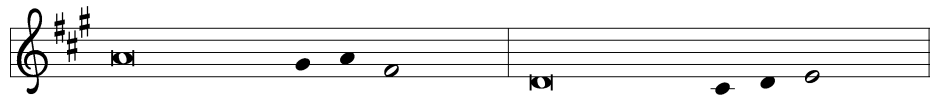
FIRST LESSON

JEREMIAH 1:4-10

PSALM 71:1-6

Sung responsively

Tone 3



In you, O LORD, have I | taken refuge;
let me never be | put to shame.

2In your righteousness, deliver me and | set me free;
incline your ear to | me and save me.

3Be my strong rock, a castle to | keep me safe;
you are my crag | and my stronghold.

4Deliver me, my God, from the hand | of the wicked,
from the clutches of the evildoer and | the oppressor.

5For you are my hope, | O Lord GOD,
my confidence since | I was young.

6I have been sustained by you ever since I was born;
from my mother's womb you have | been my strength;
my praise shall be al- | ways of you.

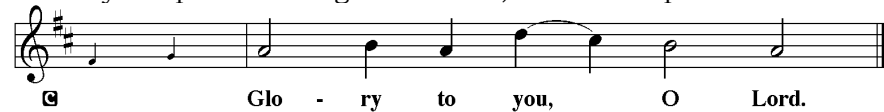
SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13

VERSE



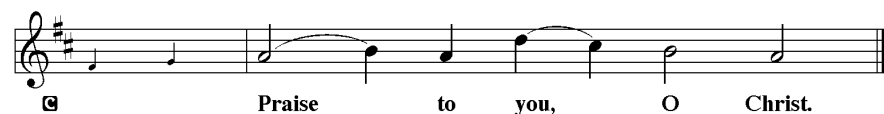
The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 4th Chapter.



HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 4:21-30

P: The Gospel of the LORD.



SERMON

HYMN #676

LORD, SPEAK TO US THAT WE MAY SPEAK

APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

THE PRAYERS

Response: "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you always.

And also with you.

**OFFERING – "YOU ARE MY STRENGTH" – REUBEN MORGAN
PERFORMED BY JOHN BARONE & GREG STORAT**

Offering is gathered for the poor and those with needs in our community and world.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE #884

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...God of all creation,
**all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You
bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish
us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your
gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

♩ The Lord be with you. ♪ And al - so with you.

♩ Lift up your hearts. ♪ We lift them to the Lord.

♩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

♩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

♩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The pastor offers the prayer. The congregation joins in praying the LORD's Prayer.

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**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Come to the table. Feast on God's abundant life for you.

LAMB OF GOD

♩ 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.

HOLY COMMUNION - #644 *ALTHOUGH I SPEAK WITH ANGEL'S TONGUE*

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER

Let us pray...We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN #796 - *HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is your light. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE- "PRAISE AND GLORY" – RUTH SCHRAM

✠ ✠ ✠

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WELCOME TO ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

We especially welcome those who are visiting. We invite you to sign our guest register in the narthex. Blank envelopes in the pews are for visitors. *"God's purpose for St. Paul's Lutheran Blue" Church is to spread the Good News of Christ's love for all people in the Southern Lehigh community and beyond.* –Blue Church Mission Statement, adopted 2012

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY: *The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.*

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

JEREMIAH 1:4-10: God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word in the midst of the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to make God known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13: Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

LUKE 4:21-30: People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: LORD, give me strength to speak your truth. (*Jeremiah 1:9*)

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: O LORD, bring to maturity the gifts you have planted in us. Water us with the rain of your Spirit so that faith, hope, and love may flourish in us. Amen.

PLEASE NOTE: - For those people wishing to take Holy Communion without wine, there are four cups in the center of the Communion tray with grape juice.

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR.....Sick/Recovering: Ron Fried, Joel Hammond, Linda Kulp, Mary Levy, Christine Robins, Carol Stoudt Irm

Other Concerns: The family and friends of Carrie Amey
Note: This is a short-term list, for those who are in "acute care" situations—hospitalized or in recovery, dying, facing the recent death of a loved one, or presently facing a severe life crisis. The names of those for whom we pray will be kept on the list for one month. If you wish to have them placed back on the list please contact the church office.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP

CELEBRANT	The Rev. James Hammond
ORGANIST	Dr. Jennifer Dodd
GREETERS	SCOUTS
ASSISTING MINISTER	Ron Fried
LECTOR	SCOUTS
CANTOR	Gwen Gibiser
USHERS	Maggie Fried/SCOUTS
CHURCHTIME NURSERY	Lauren Oleskowitz
ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY	Irene Frederick
CHURCH COUNCIL REP	Roger Knappenberger

CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD

TODAY:	<u>9:00 AM</u> Choir Rehearsal. <u>9:30 AM</u> Christian Education. <u>10:30 AM</u> Worship.
WED.:	<u>9 AM</u> Quilting.
SAT.:	<u>3 PM – 6 PM</u> "ROCK THE CROCK" FUN EVENT WITH ENTERTAINMENT AT BLUE CHURCH.
NEXT SUN.:	<u>9 AM</u> Choir Rehearsal. <u>9:30 AM</u> Christian Education. <u>10:30 AM</u> WORSHIP.

6 PM CATECHISM.

COMING EVENTS - mark your calendar!

FEB. 11TH - 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting.

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS...by Irene Frederick.

BULLETINS...by Joyce Christman in memory of Family and Friends.

COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Bill and Kathy Exner

THE COAT DRIVE IS UNDER WAY. Don't throw out your old coats. Blue Church is collecting gently used coats to help those who can use them. You can bring in coats for drop off in the bin in the narthex.

The Sheets to sponsor Altar Flowers, Bulletins, the Sanctuary Candle, and the monthly Communion Wine for 2019 are on the bulletin boards in the Narthex. Please make sure to sign the appropriate chart.

TODAY IS "SOUPER" BOWL SUNDAY. Please help by donating non-perishable food items (you can put them in the box located in the narthex), or by donating cash which will be collected after worship on that day.

'ROCK THE CROCK' EVENT AT BLUE CHURCH, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH FROM 3 PM - 6 PM. We are in need of crock pots with your favorite slow cooker meal (or side dish) for St. Paul's 'Rock the Crock & Bake Sale. **Sign up sheets are on the bulletin boards in the narthex.** This will be a fellowship event with live music entertainment from Greg Storat & the Last Train Home band. Money from the Bake Sale will support efforts of the Music Ministry at Blue Church. Please have all crocks or side dishes at Blue Church and "ready to rock" by 3:00 pm Saturday, February 9th.

Stewardship Snippet

Feb. 3, 2019 (4th Sunday after the Epiphany)

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 – Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

This passage provides a good roadmap of how to be good stewards of our loving relationships. Read this over again, memorize it, print it out. Live it!

HAPPENING THIS WEEK....

FEBRUARY 5 – THE MARTYRS OF JAPAN, DIED 1597

In the sixteenth century, Jesuit missionaries, followed by Franciscans, introduced the Christian faith in Japan. But a promising beginning to those missions—perhaps as many as 300,000 Christians by the end of the sixteenth century—met complications from competition between the missionary groups, political difficulty between Spain and Portugal, and factions within the government of Japan. Christianity was suppressed. By 1630, Christianity was driven underground.

Today we commemorate the first martyrs of Japan, twenty-six missionaries and converts who were killed by crucifixion. Two hundred and fifty years later, when Christian missionaries returned to Japan, they found a community of Japanese Christians that had survived underground.
