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ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
118 State Street ♦ Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
March 18, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *In the Hour of Trial* Franklin Ritter
GATHERING HYMN
Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life ELW 816
HYMN OF THE DAY
God Loved the World ELW 323
CHOIR ANTHEM *Tree of Life* K. Lee Scott
COMMUNION HYMN
Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross ELW 335
SONG AFTER COMMUNION
We Give Thee But Thine Own VERSE 5
SENDING HYMN *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* ELW 759
POSTLUDE *Chorale Postlude* Roger C. Wilson

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister The Reverend Larry Hawkins
Director of Music Daniel W. Deitzel III
Assisting Minister Guy Kehler
Eucharistic Minister Angela Tanczos
Cantor Elizabeth Benion
Acolyte Isaac Hawkins
Lector Maria Archer
Greeters Lloyd and Shirley Kramer
Ushers Lisa Kratzer and Dan Tosheff
Altar Guild Guy Kehler and Lindsay Mills
Offering Counters Maria Archer, Ed and Cheryl Smith



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP

Steadfast God, you reach out to us in mercy even when we rebel against your holy call and prefer to walk in disobedience rather than in the way of your divine truth. Soften our hearts with the warmth of your love, that we may know your Son alive within us, redeeming us and raising us up into your eternal presence. Amen.

Almighty and eternal God, you are the source of all that is good and the adversary of all that is evil. We come to you humbly but confidently. Let the light of love from your cross continue to shine in our world so that all who look to you in faith may live, no longer under judgment, but in grateful allegiance to you. Amen.

WORSHIP NOTES

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith, for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

Persons with impairments - St. Michael offers to those with any type of hearing difficulty a small, remote personal speaker which provides the user an amplified, high quality audio of the entire service. We invite our guests who may have the need for such an accommodation to ask an usher for a personal speaker. (They are available upon entering the Nave.) We welcome any comments concerning St. Michael's efforts to accommodate persons with impairments or disabilities.

As part of our stewardship of the earth God has created for us, we are using our worship bulletins for a complete season of the church year. Please remove the worship service section and place it in the basket provided in the narthex. You may take this cover and the readings insert. Thank you for helping to conserve our natural resources and allowing the cost of paper to be redirected to other areas of ministry.

An enlarged copy of the bulletin is available. Please see an usher if you would like to use one.

with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

PROPER VERSE

God so loved the world that he gave his | only Son,*
so that everyone who believes in him should not perish, but have e- |
ternal life. (John 3:16)

GOSPEL

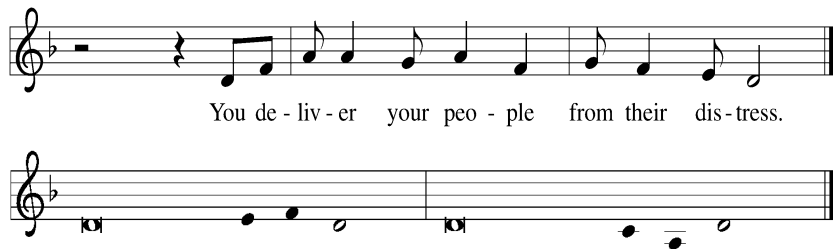
JOHN 3:14–21

¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The refrain is sung by the choir, repeated by the assembly. The psalm is sung antiphonally by the cantor and assembly, beginning with the cantor. The assembly sings the refrain where marked.



- ¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,
for God's mercy endures forever.
- ²**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**
- ³gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- ¹⁷**Some were fools and took rebellious paths;
through their sins they were afflicted.**
- ¹⁸They loathed all manner of food
and drew near to death's door.
- ¹⁹**Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD
and you delivered them from their distress. R**
- ²⁰You sent forth your word and healed them
and rescued them from the grave.
- ²¹**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.**
- ²²Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy. R

SECOND READING

EPHESIANS 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — ⁶and raised us up

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

- The Humperdinck-L-Ettes
- Helping Hands Ministry
- Candy Making
- Financial Resources Committee Meeting
- Candy Making
- Capitol Area Neighbors
- Candy Making
- Helping Hands Ministry
- Lenten Meal
- Evening Prayer
- Choir Rehearsal
- Pastor Hawkins' Day Off
- Bowling at ABC East
- Helping Hands Ministry

- Today at 1:00 p.m.
- Today at 4:00 p.m.
- Monday at 10:00 a.m.
- Monday at 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday
- Next Sunday at 1:00 p.m.
- Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m.

By water and the Spirit we are baptized into the body of Christ and made members of his church. We remember and rejoice with Floyd Eberly who celebrates his baptismal anniversary on March 21.

Readings for the *Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 25*, are:

- Jeremiah 31:31-34
- Psalm 51:1-12
- Hebrews 5:5-10
- John 12:20-33

During Lent, the "Alleluias" have been put aside – absent from our hymns and liturgy until we rejoice in Easter life. Our congregation's Alleluia banner has been removed from the nave and is in safe keeping in the homes of our members and friends. This week we thank Ken Miller for his devotional care of the "Alleluia."

Join the MTS Committee next Sunday, March 25th, for bowling at ABC East (Eisenhower Blvd). Bowling begins at 1:00 and includes three games with shoes for \$10.00/person. A snack bar and lounge are available so nobody has to cook or bring snacks. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. The afternoon is sure to be fun as well as entertaining. For questions please see Cheryl Smith or Susan Wesley.

The 2012 Lenten food collection benefits Loaves of Love, a ministry that serves those in the Harrisburg area who are infected with the HIV/AIDS virus. The favorite among the clients is PINEAPPLE for Easter Dinner. Our goal is 125, 20 oz. cans of either crushed, sliced, or chunk pineapple to be brought to Fellowship Hall by Palm Sunday. Please be generous this Easter. For any questions please see any member of MTS.

If you have not done so, consider volunteering a few hours to help Helping Hands Ministries on a Sunday or Wednesday afternoon from 4:00-6:00 p.m. There is a sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. See Mike Ennis or Lindsay Mills with any questions about this congregational ministry.

Helping Hands Ministries has posted a "wish list" on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Please consider donating some of these items to help feed the hungry.

Order forms for St. Michael's Easter Eggs are available on the tables in the narthex as well as on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Deadline for orders is next Sunday, March 25.

Debra Cline contributes to the altar flower fund to the Glory of God and in memory of Michael Cline. This gift allows us to have altar flowers when there is no sponsor.

Bulletins are sponsored to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Don Zutlas by Lloyd and Shirley Kramer.

Fellowship hour is sponsored to the Glory of God and in honor of his birthday by Clair Gunnet, Jr.

We remember the following members and friends of St. Michael in prayer this week: Ray Border (Scarlett's grandfather) Pat Ennis Groeninger (Mike Ennis' sister), Pat Harm and Diana Pate.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 18, 2012

FIRST READING

NUMBERS 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.