



christ lutheran hellertown

You are welcome here.

Come join the journey.

*February 21, 2021*

*Worship Service  
First Sunday in Lent*

*10 a.m.*

**Silence is God's first language. Everything else is a poor translation.**

**Father Thomas Keating**

**Greeter**

**Carlee Gross**

**Prelude**

*"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" - J. S. Bach*

**Welcome**

No matter who you are or where you are on your journey,  
**you are welcome here!**

*We are gathered and ready and aware of God's presence*

*Chime*

Prayer of Confession

**Gathering**

*"Guide Me, Ever, Great Redeemer" –  
led by Deb Wysocki and Carolyn Raudenbush*

**WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

First Reading: **1 Peter 3:13-17**

Dave Kubisek

<sup>13</sup>Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.

**Reflections on my Journey of Faith**

**Anne Baum**

*"Let My Heart Be Good Soil" Brenda Tarulli*

## Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

*The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.*

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

<sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

<sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Help us God, as we seek to interpret what this means for our lives.

### Message

#### Message Song

"When We Are Tested" - from "All Creation Sings", a new Lutheran hymnal supplement - led by Kathie Jones

### Prayers

**Lenore Spohn**

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need. We begin with our own silent, personal prayers. *A brief silence.*

O God, through the life and example of Jesus, your realm has come near to us in every place and time. Give us and your church throughout the world a spirit of humility and repentance. We will trust always in your good news.

SILENCE

O God, you have made a covenant of mercy with every living creature. Protect all the earth's creatures from destruction from scourges such as disease, climate change, and chemical pollution. Empower the work of biologists, conservationists, and science educators, and help us to accept their knowledge and follow their advice.

SILENCE

O God, all your paths are of steadfast love and faithfulness. Direct the words and actions of leaders in our community, our country, and throughout the world, so that they maintain justice for every person.

SILENCE

O God, we give thanks that even in the wilderness, you are with us. Walk alongside migrants and refugees crossing dangerous lands. Tend to those whose lives feel desolate. We will support programs that give healing and strength to all who suffer in any way.

SILENCE

O God, in the covenant of baptism, you claim us as beloved children. Nurture us in our baptismal identity and teach us to live within it for the sake of others. Strengthen this congregation's ministries of care and concern. We pray especially for *Mary Ann & Esther, Geoff Baer, Neil McCardle, Diane Voron, Timmy Henn, Jr., Andrea & Jerry, Kyle, Ruth, Rudy, Hugh, Joanne, Sean, Kay, Cathy, Kristen, Larry, Debbie Riegel, Wendy, Tony & Karen, Gene Heft, Molly, Carol Mitchell, Joe Kupsky, Teri, Patti Ruth, Megan, Kathleen, Theresa Sherwin, Jane Atherholt, Donna Rader, Janet Mills, Dan, Emily, Wesley, Kevin, Lauren, Linda, Leo, Mel, Linda, Kristen, Tim M., Claudia, Louise Wagner, Pat & Al Apple, Anne Z, Lois Hazel and Janet Z. and for Sal Boscia who is in hospice care and, all those who suffer from the COVID-19 virus and those who mourn for those who have succumbed to it, and we pray silently for loved ones we name in our hearts).*

SILENCE

O God, we praise you for all those who have died trusting in your faithfulness. Bring us with them to the fullness of life in you.

SILENCE

**We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

**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 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.**

**Closing Hymn**

*"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"* - led by Kathie Jones and  
Jeanette Boos

**Benediction**

*"Share Faith"* - led by Steve Wysocki

**Dismissal:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Coffee Hour**