

Unfailing Light

Midweek Lenten Worship Service

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

7:00 pm



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

45 North Reading Avenue

Boyertown, Pennsylvania 19512

610.369.1024 | www.stjohnsboyertown.org

Unfailing Light – Lenten Worship, Conversations with Jesus

*The disciples urged Jesus strongly, saying,
“Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.”
So he went in to stay with them.*

The congregation may stand.

GATHERING

Assisting Minister



O ser - vants of God, let us sing our praise.

All



We bless your ho - ly name, O God.

Assisting Minister



From the ris - ing of the sun to its set - ting,

All



We bless your ho - ly name, O God.

Assisting Minister



You lift up the weak and hun - gry.

All



We bless your ho - ly name, O God.

Assisting Minister *All*



And your glo - ry shines a - bove the heav - ens We



ble ss your ho - ly name, O God.



1. Your can - o - py of vig - il lights, each
 (2. You) walk with us a - long the way, your
 (3. Re-) freshed by sab - bath rest this night, a -



star your hand has set in place, be - stows a bless - ing
 Word, a lamp to pil - grim feet; stay with us now at
 wak - en us to your sha - lom: the reign of Christ, un -



on the night, and all cre - a - tion sings your
 close of day, our un - known guest, our host and
 fail - ing Light, where peace and jus - tice are at



praise. You formed the moon and fired the sun, you
 feast. Grant those who share this eve - ning meal the
 home and saints need nei - ther moon nor sun to



quick - ened dust with ho - ly breath, and
 faith and vi - sion to be - lieve that
 sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly, O



bind - ing us to your dear Son, re -
 hearts might see what eyes con - ceal: by
 mer - ci - ful, im - mor - tal One, O



newed our life, de - stroyed our death. 2. You
 grace your pres - ence we re - ceive. 3. Re -
 bless - ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty.

The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray. Though we seek to walk in faithfulness, O God, the tempter's wild wilderness sets traps along our path. Strengthen your living word within us, that we may remain true to Christ, our way, our truth, our life. **Amen.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The congregation may be seated.

MESSAGE *'Temptation'*

Tom Engle

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Let Evening Fall



1. Let eve - ning fall on field and for - est, on
2. Let moun - tain now re - sound with chant - ing, and
3. Let those who la - bor in the day - light now
4. Let ev - 'ry heart that har - bors ha - tred re -
5. Let day - light fade and shad - ows length - en when
6. O Mak - er of cre - a - tion's choir, O



des - ert me - sa, can - yon deep; let
mead - ow ech - o an - ti - phon; let
bring their work - ing to an end; let
lease its hold, re - ceive your grace; let
those we love draw near to death; at -
Song of love sung out for all, O



coy - ote prowl and night hawk cir - cle while
dusk - y breez - es rus - tle as - pen while
oth - ers rise to keep the vig - il, the
ev - 'ry mouth that spoke in an - ger seek
tend our prayers, our weak faith strength - en as
Spir - it, breath of all our sing - ing, let



sol - emn owl her wise watch keeps.
lake and land join ev - en - song.
weak to guard, the sick to tend.
par - don's peace, then sing your praise.
you re - ceive their fi - nal breath.
praise a - rise, let eve - ning fall.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Refrain

All

Watch, O Lord, with all those a -
wake this night. Watch, O Lord, with all those who
weep. Give your an - gels and saints
charge o - ver all who sleep.

Verses

Assisting Minister

All

Assisting Minister

in your love, Lord.
in your love, Lord.
in your love, O Lord of all.

Text: Prayer by St. Augustine, adapt. Marty Haugen; © 2003, GIA Publications, Inc.
Music: AUGUSTINE; Marty Haugen, © 2003, GIA Publications, Inc.

GREETING OF PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of seven staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and melodic. The lyrics are arranged in two columns, with the first column starting on the second staff and the second column starting on the first staff. The lyrics are: "1. The eyes of all look to / 2. To all who hun - ger / you, O God, to give them life and food. You / you pro - vide the fruit of vine and field. From / o - pen wide your gra - cious hand and / these, your gifts, we set a - side a / grant them ev - 'ry good. With / por - tion for this meal, where / all cre - a - tion we pro - claim your / you draw near to those who cry, their / stead - fast love and glo - rious reign. We / heart's de - sire to sat - is - fy. We / bless your ho - ly name. / bless your ho - ly name." The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

All

1. The eyes of all look to
2. To all who hun - ger

you, O God, to give them life and food. You
you pro - vide the fruit of vine and field. From

o - pen wide your gra - cious hand and
these, your gifts, we set a - side a

grant them ev - 'ry good. With
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stead - fast love and glo - rious reign. We
heart's de - sire to sat - is - fy. We

bless your ho - ly name.
bless your ho - ly name.

Text: Susan Briehl, © 2004, Augsburg Fortress, Publishers
Music: Marty Haugen, © 2004, GIA Publications, Inc.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

We bless you, O God, gracious and merciful; you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger that all may know your care. Prepare us now to receive your mercy: Jesus Christ, the bread of life. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider *All*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Presider *All*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows a musical score for 'The Great Thanksgiving'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The first staff is divided into two measures by a vertical bar line. The first measure is labeled 'Presider' and the second 'All'. The lyrics are 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' The second staff is also divided into two measures, with 'Presider' and 'All' labels. The lyrics are 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff is a single line with the label 'Presider' and the lyrics 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff is a single line with the label 'All' and the lyrics 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

LENTEN PREFACE

It is indeed right and good everywhere and always to give you thanks and praise, Holy God, mighty and immortal, through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Who calls us to return to you and live, for you are gracious and merciful, slow to anger, full of love, and faithful to your promises.

And so with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord,
 God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the One who comes, who
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name,
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: Marty Haugen, © 2004, GIA Publications, Inc.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars, beneath the sea, within each cell with every breath.

All

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the waters, across the wilderness, by night and day, out of exile, into the future.

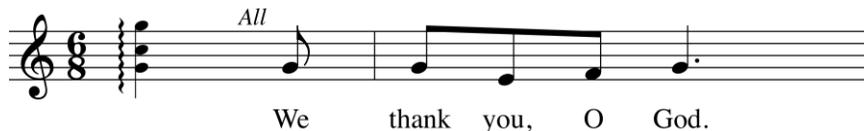


All

We bless you, O God.

The musical notation is a single staff in G-clef and 6/8 time. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 6/8 time signature. The first measure contains a whole chord of G2, B-flat2, and D3. The second measure contains a quarter note G3. The third measure contains a quarter note A3. The fourth measure contains a quarter note B-flat3. The fifth measure contains a quarter note C4. The sixth measure contains a quarter note D4 with a fermata. The piece ends with a double bar line.

We give you thanks for your Son: at the heart of human life, near to those who suffer, beside the sinner, among the poor, with us now.



All

We thank you, O God.

The musical notation is a single staff in G-clef and 6/8 time. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 6/8 time signature. The first measure contains a whole chord of G2, B-flat2, and D3. The second measure contains a quarter note G3. The third measure contains a quarter note A3. The fourth measure contains a quarter note B-flat3. The fifth measure contains a quarter note C4. The sixth measure contains a quarter note D4 with a fermata. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Let us pray as Jesus taught:

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

SENDING HYMN

All



Now Lord, you let your
ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful - filled. My
own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a
light to re - veal you to the na - tions, and the
glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Now Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

BLESSING

Holy God, Blessed Trinity, strengthen your faith, increase your hope, deepen your love, and give you peace this night and always. **Amen.**

SENDING

Go in peace. Rest in God. Rise to serve.

Thanks be to God.

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By Your Hand You Feed Your People: words© 2000 by GIA Publications, Inc.
Kyrie: music© 2001 by GIA Publications,
Watch, O Lord: words and music© 2003 by GIA Publications, Inc.
Let Evening Fall: words and music© 2002 by GIA Publications, Inc.



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Patricia Keith

SOUND

Melissa Eidle

USHERS

Bev & Joe Blake

VIDEO

Jason Eidle

2
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2
6

Lent
devotional

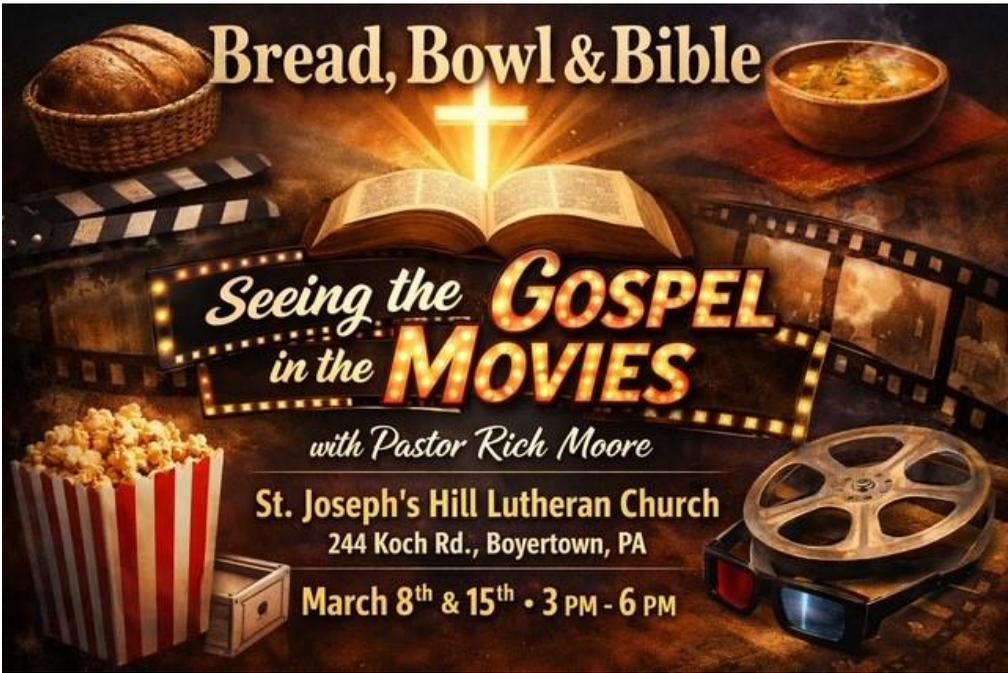
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
BOYERTOWN

THANK YOU
TO THE
34
VOLUNTEERS
THAT SUBMITTED
WRITINGS FOR OUR
LENT DEVOTIONAL.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

HANDBELL CHOIR

SUNDAY, MARCH 8 9:30 AM



FULLY ALIVE

THE STORY OF EASTER

PALM SUNDAY	MARCH 29 9:30 AM
MAUNDY THURSDAY	APRIL 2 7:00 PM
GOOD FRIDAY	APRIL 3 7:00 PM
EASTER	APRIL 5 9:30 AM

STJOHNSBOYERTOWN.ORG

PURPOSE STATEMENT

We believe God's purpose for the people of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to develop joy-filled children of God who love the Lord and share God's Word.

We do this by:

- Maintaining a trusting and welcoming environment.
- Praying daily.
- Reading scripture regularly.
- Sharing our faith through action-based service.
- Encouraging holy conversations.
- Feeding our faith with music.

With a focus on:

- Activities that build relationships.
- Worship that is relevant.
- Meeting the needs of the vulnerable in our community.

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