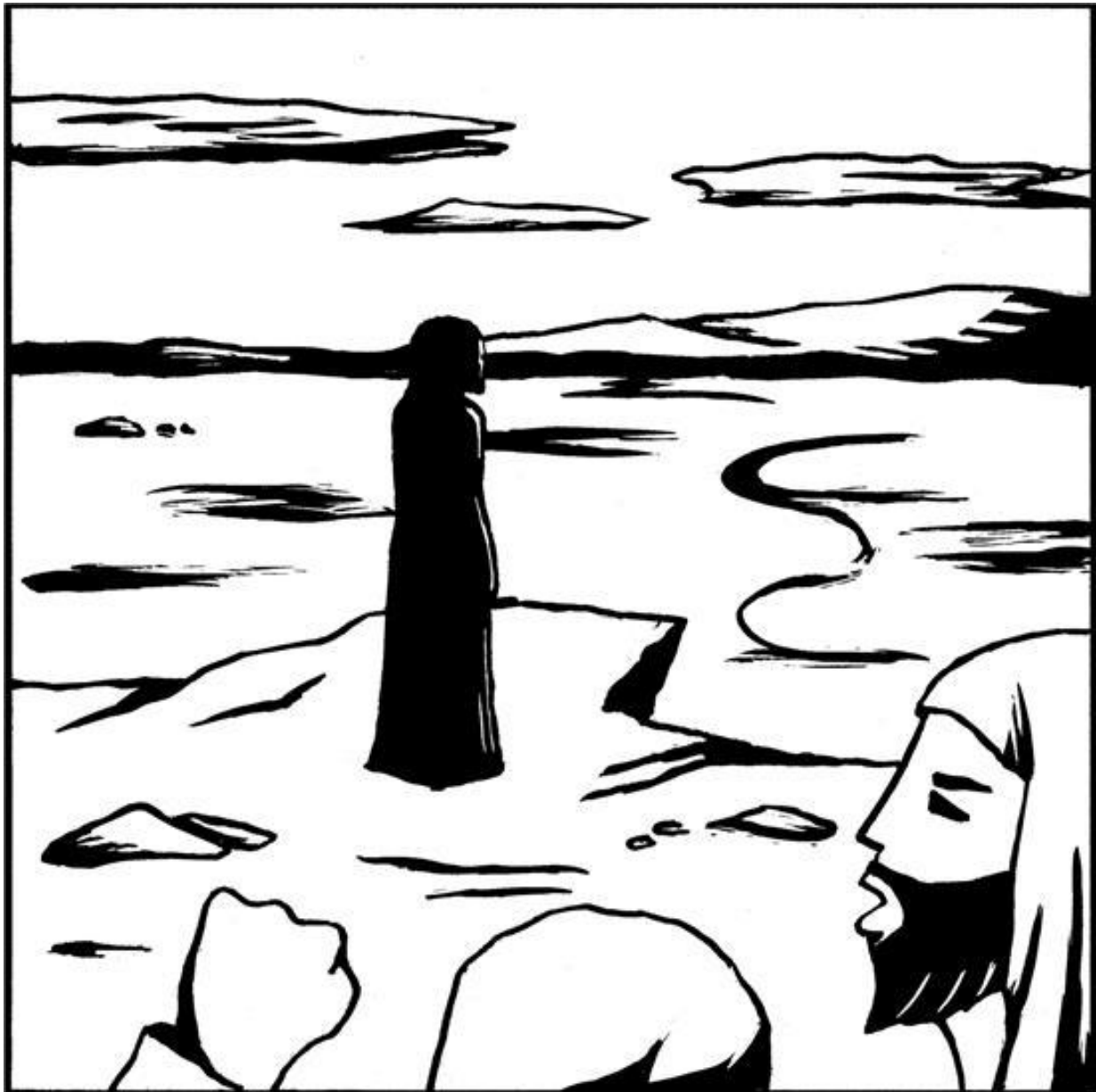


**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 2, 2025**



MELLINGERS LUTHERAN CHURCH
80 GOCKLEY ROAD
STEVENS, PA 17578
717 336-8800

Pastor's Contact Information

Rev. Timothy L. Craven

Home: (717) 738-3838

Mobile: (717) 468-9049

E-Mail: revtlc@ptd.net

Director of Music

Vickie Kissinger (717) 354-6575

E-Mail: vickiekissinger@gmail.com

Director of Christian Education

Diane Adair (717) 715-3124

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for the following people:

Pat McQuate, Dave Wilhide, Jeff Moyer, Kristi Leonhard, Dave Haldeman, Carl Mohler Jr., Mike Leed, Elaine Haldeman, Ed Wentzel, Shirley Sweigart, Skip Hutchinson, Jane Goshert (Home Hospice), Jay Stoltzfus (with family in Florida), Beverly Sweigart, Theda Raffauf, Mary Weidman, Sam Soto, Roy Latshaw, Amanda Benton, Marty Leed & Family, Fay Weitzel, Vivian Gehr, Jay Weaver, Barb Moyer, Betty Cordes and Judy Meckley.

Artman Lutheran Home, Ambler: Sally Wealand

Ephrata Manor: Dorothy Hutchinson, Vesta Reber, Shirl Tobias, Pauline Sawyer, Joan Wentzel, Ella Felker (Hospice Care) and Bob Weaver

Keystone Villa: Betty Firestine

Lancaster General Hospital: Doug Cody

Maple Farms: Janet Hirneisen

Neffsville Rehab & Nursing: Pauline Martin

Phoebe Berks: Nick Rampolla

Zerbe Home, Narvon: Clair Miller

Brenda Sweigart, Pastor Traci Glover, Nancy Good, Jason Harting, Nancy Bolotine, Pastor Dennis Trout, Pastor Dave Miller, Wes Soto, Pastor Mark Fischer, Bea Hassler, Mike Tangert, Paul Sweigart, Kelly Root, Mark Wojcicki, Dick Mountford, Jim Stewart, Andi Wealand Webber, Alyssa Schmeck, Vincent Fortunato, Karen Leonhard, John Duing, Sue Kreitz, Brian Auker, Janet Hirneisen, Dennis Betz, Dale Firestone, Mary Royer, Quentin Ellis, Mary Sanger, Larry Weachter, Andy & Brenda Gabig, Brian Fetter, Pastor Karen Larson, Brian Kerns, Mary Lou Crum, Althea Hillegas, Bob Bos, Curtis Townsley, Mary Morton, Robyn Redcay, Corrina Bender, Margaret Weller, Bud Bender, and Cynthia Peters.

Pray also for the grieving families of:

Brittany Merklinger, Chris Miller, Richard Keller, Susie Wentzel, Matt Thorn, Nicholas Bolotine, John Hutchinson, Reverend Judy McKee, Ethel Leed, Grace Wentz, Don Craven, Maribel Sanchez, Alex Becklin, Faye Pannebecker, Maggie Bollinger, Cindy Novak, Dot Demming, Harriet Stoltzfus, Mick Smyer, Shanan Shortuse, Ray Vargo, Lavern Gehman, Patricia Kieffer, Tom Craven, Bill Nodeen, Michelle Simpson, Sam Heiser, Hunter Bristow, Clair High, Tom Dittoe, Donald Hain and Clara Ingram.

† WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP †

*Please stand if you are able

Welcome / Announcements

Scout Report – Sheldon Brubaker Scout Master

Prelude: “*Holy Manna*”

- Douglas E. Wagner

†GATHERING†

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***GATHERING HYMN: #507 “O God of Light”**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(a brief silence is observed)

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

***GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE**



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



B 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

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

C: Amen

† GOD'S WORD †

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 1:4-10

Lay Reader (Scout): A reading from Jeremiah the 1st chapter.

God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word amid 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.

⁴Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,

5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
 and before you were born I consecrated you;
 I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

6 Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I
 am only a boy.” 7 But the Lord said to me,
 “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’;
 for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
 and you shall speak whatever I command you.

8 Do not be afraid of them,
 for I am with you to deliver you,
 says the Lord.”

9 Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and
 the Lord said to me,
 “Now I have put my words in your mouth.

10 See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
 to pluck up and to pull down,
 to destroy and to overthrow,
 to build and to plant.”

L: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALMODY

PSALM 71:1-6



From my mother's womb you have been my strength. (Ps. 71:6)

- 1 In you, O Lord, have I | taken refuge;
 let me never be | put to shame.
- 2 **In your righteousness, deliver me and | set me free;
 incline your ear to | me and save me.**
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to | keep me safe;
 you are my crag | and my stronghold.
- 4 **Deliver me, my God, from the hand | of the wicked,
 from the clutches of the evildoer and | the oppressor. R**

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

⁶ **I 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. R**

CHILDRENS SERMON

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Page 142



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 4:21-30

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 4th chapter.



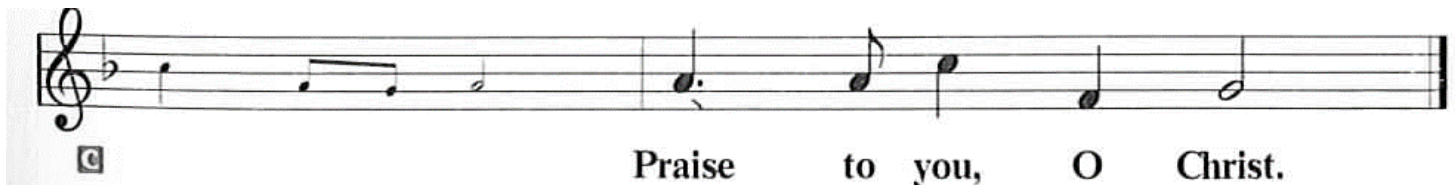
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

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.

²¹ Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!'

And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” ²⁴ And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE: *“Ground Hog Day”*

-Pastor Tim Craven

***THE APOSTLES CREED: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. * On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

† Prayers of Intercession †

P: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P: God of eternal wisdom, we pray for your church, which is being transformed by your word. Bless the church with your wisdom and guidance. Let us notice and take part in the new thing you are doing.

God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your creation sustains us and all living creatures. Grant us humility to acknowledge the ways we bring harm to the earth. Grant us courage to make effective change so that all lands and living things prosper.

God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Embolden leaders of nations, corporations, and all in authority, that they lovingly tend those in their charge. Help them to respond to all who cry out in need. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Provide for those whose hunger runs deep due to isolation, loneliness, or illness (*especially*). Send your Spirit so that all are filled with your presence and experience welcome from their communities.

God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the young people in our congregations. May their voices be celebrated. Give youth a place of honor and value among us. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We remember those who have gone before us. Let their faithful example continue to bear witness to us all. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
C: Amen

***THE PEACE**

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also with you.

***OFFERING HYMN: "Christ Be Our Light"**

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Merciful Father,
**C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us- our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

† WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER †

***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 our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has one measure. The lyrics are: '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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

***THE PREFACE:**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....
We praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

***THE SANCTUS**

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

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,', 'heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -', and 'san-na. 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.

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks and gave it for all to drink saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

***TRADITIONAL 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

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

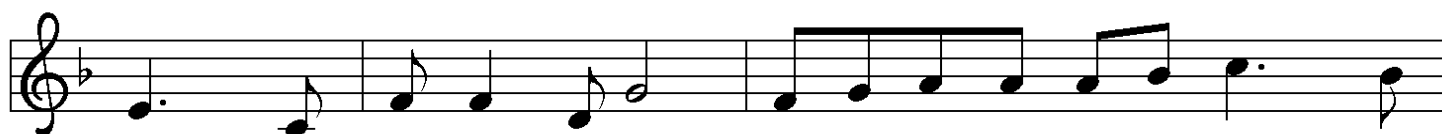
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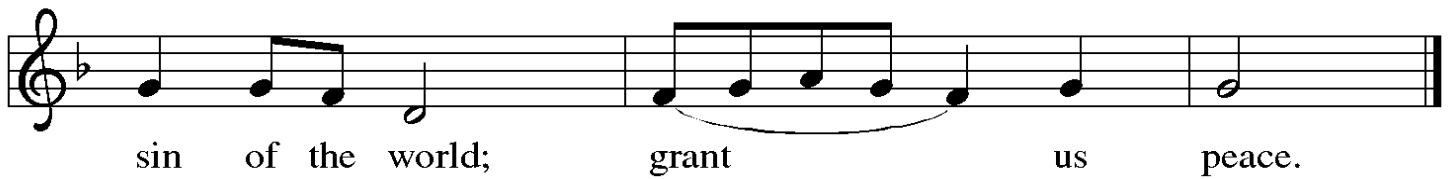
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



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



We Ask Parents to Bring Their Non-communing Children with Them. Pick Up an Empty Cup. A Grape Juice Option and Gluten Free Communion Wafers Provided. If You Cannot Come To the Chancel, Communion Will Be Taken To You. Please Notify An Usher. Those in the Parking Lot Partake of Communion at this time.

During Communion

Hymn #501: *“Come With Us, O Blessed Jesus”*

Hymn #502: *“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”*

Hymn #779: *“Amazing Grace”*

Hymn #616: *“Jesus Remember Me”*

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

***Post Communion Canticle: Hymn #210:** *“Blessed Be God”*

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation,
The spirit of mercy.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

† WE LEAVE TO SERVE †

***BENEDICTION AND BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen Amen Amen (sung responsively)

***SENDING HYMN #545:** *“Lord Dismiss Us With Your Blessing”*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord with joy.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *“Hornpipe”*

- Henry Purcell

Participants in the Service:

Pastor: Timothy Craven

Church Secretary: Ashley Weinhold

Organist: Vickie Kissinger

Lay Reader: Scout Member

Communion Assistant: Kimberley Craven

Psalmist: Choir

Videographer: Hayden Leonhard

Soundboard: Joe Brubaker

Ushers: Jill Showalter, Lowell Yost and alt Linda Weaver



The Altar Flowers and Bulletins are dedicated to the Glory of God by The Leonhard Family in honor of Caleb's 13th and Hayden'19th birthday.

Weekly Receipts Report as of 01/30/2025	
Attendance (Inside / Parking Lot)	72
Online Attendance	198
General Receipts	\$5,037.80

Please use our QR code to donate via PayPal.



Announcements

Weather Statement:

In case of bad weather on a Sunday, after 7:30 AM check the church phone answering machine 717-336-8800 or Mellingers Facebook page if we have Service.



The 2025 Bulletin / Flower chart is hanging at the entrance doors on the Gockley Road side.

Dedications will be worded as follows:
The Altar Flowers and Bulletins are dedicated to the Glory of God by _____ in Honor/Memory of.

The suggested amount for sponsorship is \$20.00

For the Goat Fund; please fill out your donation then put it in a “Goat” envelope or make sure you write “Goat Fund” on your donation if you are using another envelope.



The scouts will be hosting their Spaghetti Supper in our Social Hall on Saturday March 8th 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm Stop in to enjoy a nice dinner and support the boys.

The meal will include:

Spaghetti and meatballs, salad bar, a roll, beverages and a dessert.

Adults: \$15 Children 5-11: \$8 Children under 5: Free
Pre-sale tickets are available or get your tickets at the door.