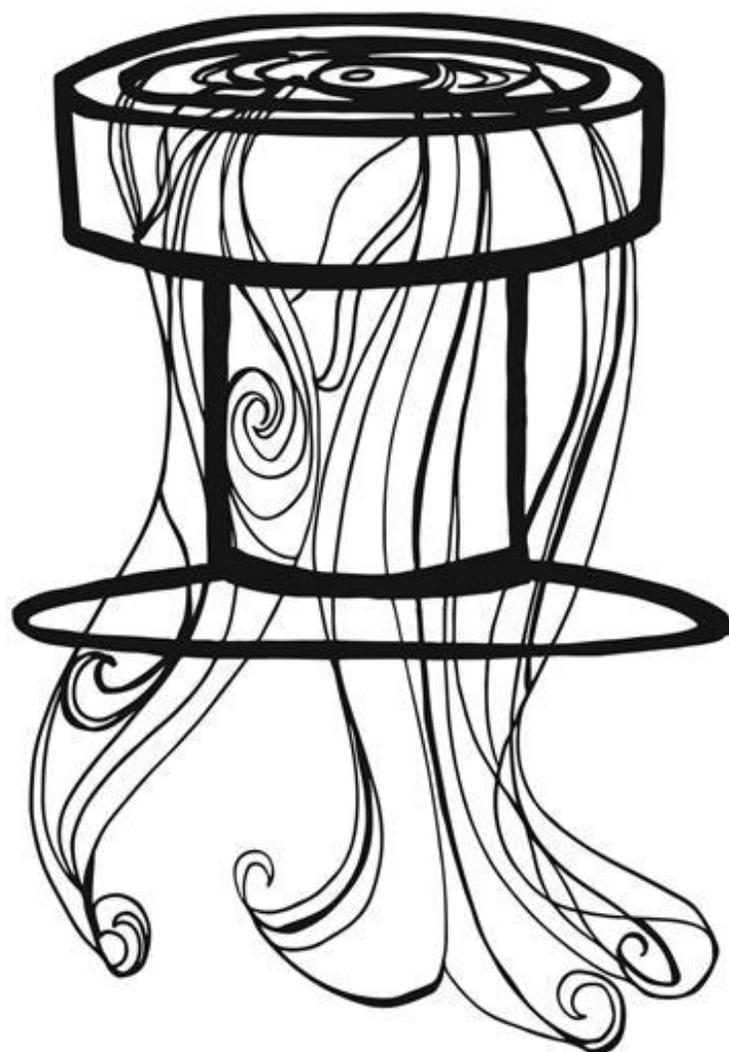


THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 08, 2026



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:

Dave Haldeman, Pat McQuate, Tim Harting, Stacey Emberger, Mike Leed, Ruth Hollinger, Barb Moyer, Fay Weitzel, Shannon Brown, Shirley Sweigart, Molly Brown, Carl Mohler Jr., Jay Weaver, Vivian Gehr, Tom Parrish Sr, Elaine Haldeman, Clair Miller, Skip Hutchinson, Jay Stoltzfus, Theda Raffauf, Mary Weidman, and Marty Leed & Family.

Artman Lutheran Home, Ambler: Sally Wealand

Ephrata Manor: Iris Weaver, Dorothy Hutchinson, Shirl Tobias and Pauline Sawyer

Gardens at Stevens: Pat & Nevin McQuate

Keystone Villa: Betty Firestine & Janet Hirneisen

Luther Acres Personal Care: Judy Meckley

Neffsville Rehab & Nursing: Pauline Martin

Phoebe Berks: Nick Rampolla

Mary Lou Crum, Marion Gideon, Darlene Dattras, George Wolf, Bonnie Weinhold, Gale Fassnacht, Candace Stoudt, Bob Harker, Merrill Fisher, Jimmy Vincent, Mary Stewart, Lisa Wing, Bob Farr, Cocalico Builders of Hope (finding a house for housing program), Lorna Buohl, Richard Sockriter, David Taimuty, Helen Blank, William Sockriter, Doug Cody, Ron Neidigh, Mary Morton, Brenda Sweigart, Nancy Bolotine, Karen Leonhard, Mary Sanger, Andy & Brenda Gabig, Brian Kerns, Bob Bos, Curtis Townsley, Robyn Redcay, Margaret Weller, Cynthia Peters and Priscilla (last name only).

Pray also for the grieving families of:

Cheryl Nixon, Bea Hassler, Mary Moore, Orvilla Oberholtzer, Lowell Haws, Mary Jane Goshert, Ed Sieber, Nancy Leh, Darrell Buchter, Jack Poole, Sharlene Miller, Joyce Pannebecker, Barb Mertz, Beverly Sweigart, Maggie Kiralfy, Dale Firestone, Yvonne Walters, Larry Rabold, Zach Caflin, Bob Weaver, Pastor Conrad Youse, Karen Krater, Vesta Reber, Jean Shober, Joyce Boyer, Joan Wentzel, Jeff Moyer, Anna Weinhold, and Kenton Shaffer.

† WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP †

*Please stand if you are able

Welcome / Announcements

Prelude: “*At the Cross*”

-Ellen Lorenz

†GATHERING†

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***GATHERING HYMN:# 325** “*I Want Jesus to Walk With me*”

***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.

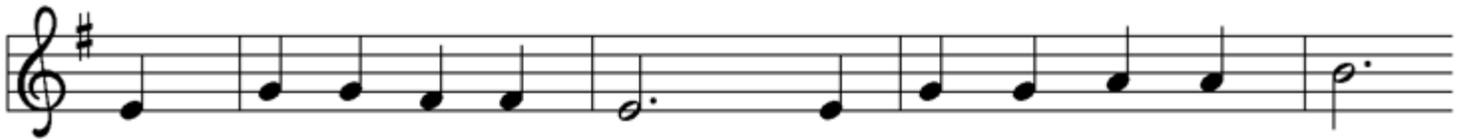
C: Amen

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 KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

LENTEN HYMN: #334 Sing Verse 1 then Lent 3 “Tree of Life”

† **GOD’S WORD** †

FIRST READING

ROMANS 5:1-11

Lay Reader (Pat Haller): A reading from Romans the 5th chapter.

L: Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus’ death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.

¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.

⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

¹ Come, let us sing | to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.

² **Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | Lord with psalms.**

³ For you, Lord, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.

⁴ **In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**

⁵ The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.

⁶ **Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | Lord our maker. R**

⁷ For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and
the sheep | of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would | hear God's voice!

⁸ **"Harden | not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah | in the desert.**

⁹ There your ancestors | tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had | seen my works.

¹⁰ **Forty years I loathed that gener- | ation, saying,
'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not | know
my ways.'**

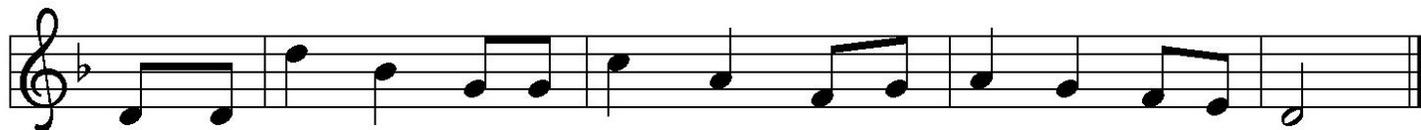
¹¹ Indeed I swore | in my anger,

'They shall never come | to my rest.'" **R**

*LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 24:36-48

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 24th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: *Jesus Appears to the Disciples*

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

⁴⁴ He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

⁴⁶ He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

MESSAGE: *“The Discipline (Rigors) of Grace”*

-Pastor Craven

CHOIR ANTHEM: *“Seed That in Earth is Dying”*

-Harald Herresthal arr. Ellingboe

***THE APOSTLE’S CREED**

C: 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: Reconciled by God’s mercy and sustained by God’s presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

P: O God, when suffering arises, preserve your church. Give to pastors, deacons, bishops, and all servants of your gospel the endurance that produces character and the hope that will never disappoint. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: When the waters run dry, sustain this earth. Send water to places languishing with drought (*especially*), and bring relief to places damaged by floods (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: When quarrels ensue, soften our hearts. Quell hostilities between nations and peoples, and reconcile all humans across the lines of race, class, nationality, moral conviction, religion, and all else that divides or oppresses. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: When your people thirst, satisfy their needs. Send water and food to all who need nourishment. Grant welcome to all who are excluded. Show your mercy to any in need (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: When we gather to worship, send us your Spirit. Renew our hearts through the joyful noise we make and bless the work of our church musicians and musical ensembles (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: O God, when death draws near, we rejoice in the promise of life with you. We remember all who have entered eternal rest, and we pray that you bring us the hope of sharing in your glory. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C: Amen

***THE PEACE**

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

C: And also with you.

***OFFERTORY HYMN #323** *“God Loved the World”*

God loved the world so that he gave his only
Son the lost to save, that all who would in
Him believe should ever lasting life receive.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

**C: God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone,
but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your
gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen**

† **WE CELEBRATE THE LORD’S SUPPER** †

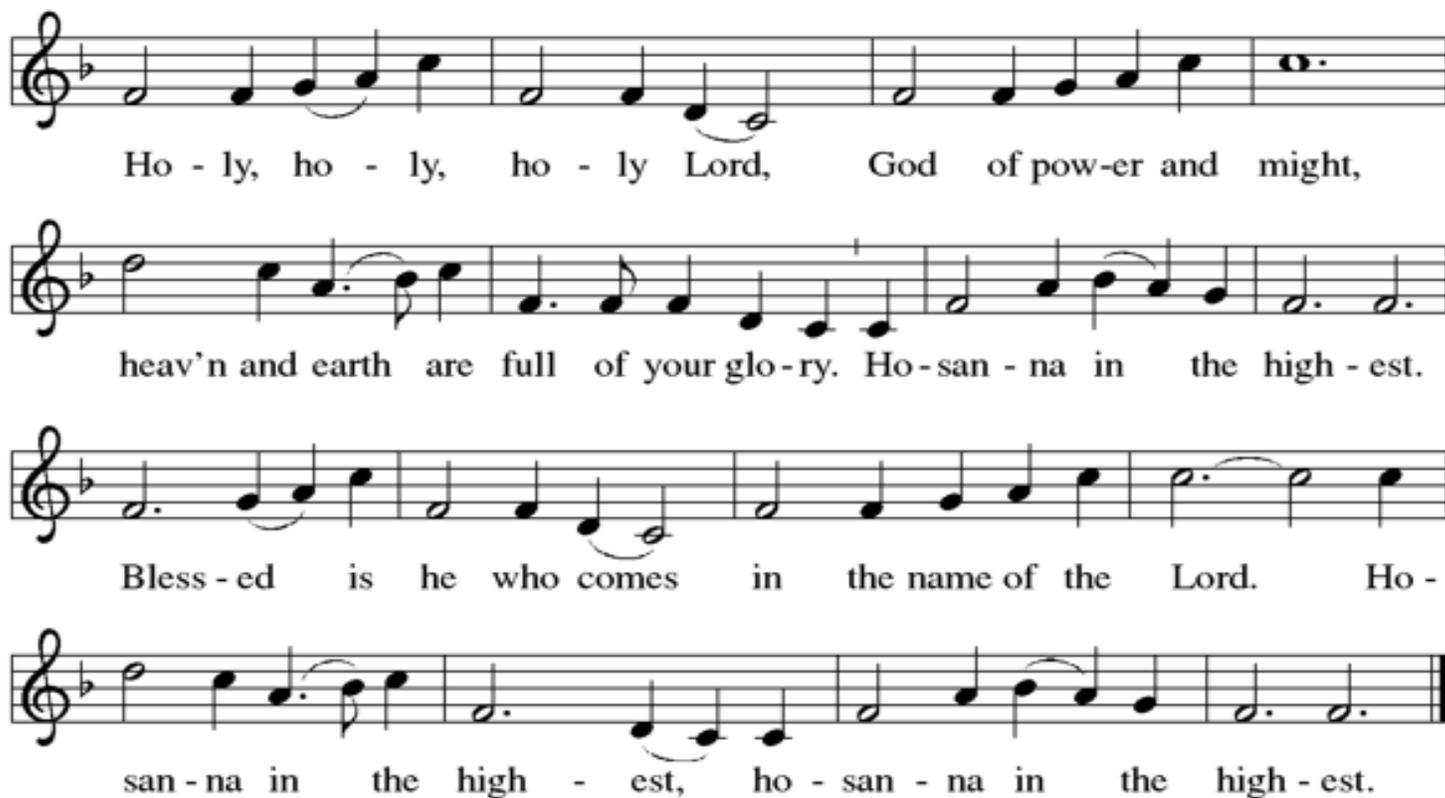
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 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-er 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, 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

C: 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

THE AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

All Baptized Christians are welcome for Communion. (If you would like baptized, see Pastor Tim.)

We ask parents to bring their non-communing children with them for a blessing. To receive the sacrament wine, take an empty cup from the tray. 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 #785: *"It Is Well with My Soul"*

Hymn #770: *"Give Me Jesus"*

Hymn #838: *"Beautiful Savior"*

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.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 #618: “Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer”**

DISMISSAL

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

C: Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE: “O Lamb of God, Pure, Spotless”**

-Nikolaus Decius

Participants in the Service:

Pastor: Timothy Craven

Church Secretary: Ashley Weinhold

Organist: Vickie Kissinger

Lay Reader: Pat Haller

Communion Assistant: Brittany Hartlove

Psalmist: Choir

Videographer: The Boys

Soundboard: Troy Adair

Ushers: Ben Gunzenhauser, Hayden Leonhard and
Alternate Kristi Leonhard

Weekly Receipts Report as of 03/05/26	
Attendance (Inside / Parking Lot)	67/1
Online Attendance	137
General Receipts	\$3,145.00

Please use our QR code to donate via PayPal.



The Altar Flowers and Bulletins are
dedicated to the Glory of God by
Mike & Pat Haller in
Memory of Nathan Haller



Easter Flowers for Our Easter Service

It is time to order flowers for our Easter Service on Sunday April 5th. This year, we are offering the following:

Daffodils – 6 ½ inch pot with 4-6 full size blooms for \$8.00

Tulips – 6 inch pot with 5 to 6 blooms of 1 color for \$8.00

White Lilies – 6 inch pot with 3-4 blooms for \$10.00



Order sheets are on the Narthex table.

On the order form please list to whom you would like your flowers made in memory or in honor of. Place your form along with payment in the envelope provided and place in the Special Flowers mailbox or give to Pat Haller at church. Please make checks payable to Mellingers Lutheran Church. Proceeds benefit Mellingers Needy Fund.

Last day to order flowers is Sunday March 29.
Please pick up flowers after the service on Sunday April 5.



EGG HUNT

This Year's Mellingers Egg Hunt will be held on
Palm Sunday, March 29th
DURING the Sunday School Hour

We will meet in the Nursery classroom and then proceed outside (weather permitting) or down to the Social Hall to begin the hunt!

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!
(There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday)





Sally Wealand is turning 80 on March 14th
 Send her a card to wish her a Happy Birthday.

Sally Wealand
 250 North Bethlehem Pike
 Ambler, PA 19002

2026 Cluster Lenten Services – “Making Change”

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Preacher</u>
Wednesday March 11, 7pm	St. Paul's, Adamstown	Pastor Sandy Gideon
Wednesday March 18, Noon	Muddy Creek, Denver	Pastor Stacy Chavis
Wednesday March 25, 7pm	Mellingers, Schoeneck	Pastor Tim Craven
Maundy Thursday, April 2	Mellingers / Center / St. Paul's – 7 pm Swamp – 7 pm Faith United – 7 pm	
Good Friday, April 3	Faith United Denver prayer walk 10:30 am Adamstown Cemetery – Noon Center Cemetery – 3 pm Mellingers / Center / St. Paul's – 7 pm Swamp – 7 pm Faith United – 7 pm	
Ascension Day Thursday, May 14, 7 pm	Swamp Lutheran, Reinholds	Pastor Scott Brubaker