THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

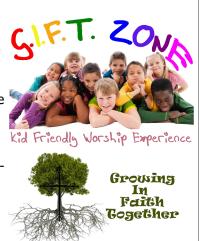
April 15, 2018 - 10:45 AM



The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Lord's day. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures: the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

G.I.F.T. Zone Opportunity For Parents & Young Children

We introduce our kid-friendly worship experience, located in the left-hand transept area of the main sanctuary. For families who wish to take advantage of the G.I.F.T. Zone, there is child-friendly worship furniture plus adult chairs for parents. Feel free to sit in the special area throughout the service with your child - or come to the area with your child following the Children's Message. During this middle section of the service, Deacon Lexanne Graves will be in the area to guide parents and children through activities to help our youngest worshipers follow the readings, sermon, hymn, creed, and prayers. This is an awesome way to keep children engaged in worship with the whole congregation - and learn the liturgy until they are able to worship in the pews for the entire service. We offer the G.I.F.T. Zone so that parents may share the worship experience with their children in a meaningful, stress-free way. At the 10:45 service, our nursery is also available for ages 0 - 3 (for those yet unable to benefit from the G.I.F.T. Zone activities.)



Living Springs Lutheran Church

4224 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223 www.livingspringscolumbia.org

GATHERING MUSIC

We pause for reflection to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Baptismal Anniversaries: Ted Buchanan (4/15), Bill Franck (4/15), Retha Murray (4/15), Ken Flynn (4/19), Sophia Skipper (4/19)

(Individuals meet the Pastor at the font for a special blessing in recognition of their anniversary.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK - HOUSTON YOUTH GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor: Just as God's work of creation never ends, so the gifts received in baptism are

renewed every day. Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.

Pastor: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: for water to bathe in, water to

drink, for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder, for water that gives life

to our planet.

People: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

Pastor: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place: for water from our tap,

for rain and snow, for lakes and ponds.

People: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place.

Pastor: We give you thanks for your salvation through water: for delivering Noah and his

family through the floodwaters, for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom, for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought, for guiding your people across the Jordan into a new land, for quenching the

Samaritan woman's thirst with living water.

People: We give you thanks for your salvation through water.

Pastor: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized, and for all who gather here; for

godparents and baptismal sponsors, for children and grandchildren, for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to whom we are

bound.

People: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.

Pastor: We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit: for our entry into

Jesus' death through these waters, for our new birth into a life of freedom and service, for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.

People: We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the

Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your

children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns

with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

We are seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Eric Fink

Children, youth, and young at heart are invited to gather on the steps for a special message. Toddlers may be accompanied by parents. All may bring forward coins or dollars for the Lenten bucket collection (Harvest Hope Food Bank). Following the message, young children and parent(s) are invited to the G.I.F.T. Zone for special activities that help young ones participate in worship through the middle portion of the service. As the children gather, we sing:

Allelu, allelu, alleluia!

Praise ye the Lord! Praise ye the Lord!

Allelu, allelu, allelu, alleluia!

Praise ye the Lord! Alleluia! Praise ye the Lord! Alleluia! Praise ye the Lord! Alleluia!

Praise ye the Lord!

FIRST READING

Lector: A reading from Acts.

[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. "And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out." (Acts 3:12-19)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 4

Lector: Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;

you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

People: "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;

how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"

Lector: Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;

the LORD will hear me when I call.

People: Tremble, then, and do not sin;

speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

Lector: Offer the appointed sacrifices,

and put your trust in the LORD.

People: Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"

Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

Lector: You have put gladness in my heart,

more than when grain and wine abound.

People: In peace, I will lie down and sleep;

for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.

SECOND READING

Lector: A reading from 1 John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is

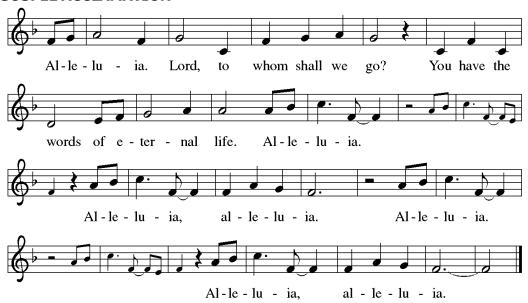
righteous, just as he is righteous. (1 John 3:1-7)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Pastor:

Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things." (Luke 24:36b-48)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.



"There is a Redeemer"



NICENE CREED

People: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Assist: Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the

witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need.

+ A brief silence +

Assist: Holy God, we pray for the church and its many expressions. Strengthen the

National Youth Gathering planning team. Prepare the hearts and minds of the

youth and adults who will experience your love this summer. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: Creating God, you gave us dominion over every living creature. Grant us wisdom

to use our power to develop sustainable farming and housing practices. Slow down

our rush to consume. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: Merciful God, walk with all who must leave their homes to move to safety. Protect

them on their journey. Greet them with hospitality. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: Compassionate God, you heal us. For all who have not been granted the healing

they desire and for all who cannot access the care they need, send social workers, doctors, parish nurses, and other caregivers. Today we pray especially for: *Tara Bartholomew; Stephanie Joyner; Bunie Talbert; Douglas Laskey; George Donovan, Sr.; Bobby Mincey & family; Betty/Earl Criddle; and those we name before you*

now, either silently or aloud.... Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: God our provider, you call us to give generously. Bless the finance, stewardship,

and discipleship teams of this congregation. Make us joyful givers of the time,

talents, and treasures you have first given us. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: God of our ancestors, in you we have our beginning and our end. We remember

all the faithful departed. Enfold in a shield of peace all those who mourn. Hold

them in your love. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them by the power of the

Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

PEACE IS SHARED

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

We greet one another, with the words that the risen Jesus spoke to his disciples: "Peace be with you."

THANKSGIVING MOMENT

OFFERINGS ARE GIVEN MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

We stand as able

OFFERTORY RESPONSE "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assist: Let us pray.

People: Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

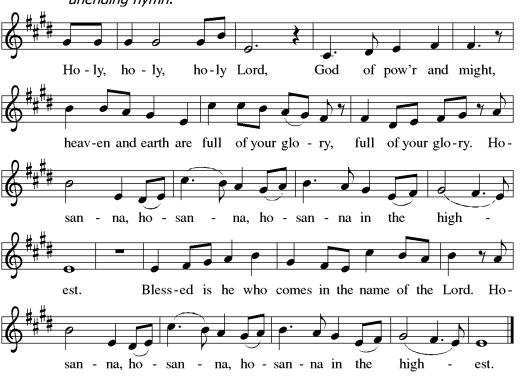
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **People:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...we praise Your name and join their

unending hymn:





EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor:

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations. 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, 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. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pastor: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these

gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

People: Come, Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of

Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice,

peace, and love.

People: Come, Holy Spirit.

Pastor: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures,

with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now

and forever.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

People: 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

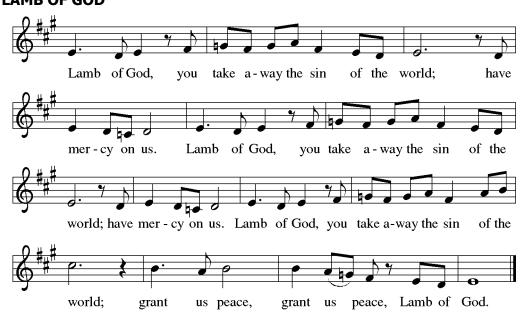
ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

People: Thanks be to God.

We are seated LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

This meal is the Lord's Supper of grace and is open to ALL Christians of any background or denomination. As Lutheran Christians, we believe in **Christ's true presence** in, with, and under the elements. We invite you to have your name tag visible so that the ministers may include **your name** as they offer you the elements. Communion at Living Springs is by **intinction** (bread is dipped into the wine or grape juice). In response to the words, "Body of Christ, given for you. Blood of Christ, shed for you," each worshipper may respond with, "**Amen."** If you require a **gluten free wafer**, please let your worship assistant know so they can accommodate you. Each chalice contains two compartments: wine is located in the larger compartment, while **alcohol-free grape juice** is located in the smaller compartment for those who require it. After receiving the elements, you are welcome to remain kneeling at the rail for meditation and prayer (others may simply fill in the open spaces). **Children** who have not received communion instruction are invited to come forward for a special blessing. Simply fold your hands to indicate you would like to receive the blessing.



"Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone" DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Verse 1: Amazing Grace, How sweet the sound,

that saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see. (to Verse 2)

Verse 2: T'was grace that taught my heart to fear,

and grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed. (to Chorus)





Verse 3: The Lord has promised good to me

his Word my hope secures.

He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. (to Chorus, 2x)

Verse 4: When we've been there 10,000 years,

bright shining as the Sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise, then when we first begun. (to Chorus, 2x)

...unending love, amazing grace.

...unending love, amazing grace.

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We stand after all have received communion

EUCHARISTIC BLESSING & PRAYER

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

People: Amen

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to Assist:

> conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your

glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

People: **Amen**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty

God, Father,

→ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

People: Amen.

SENDING HYMN "Alleluia! Christ is Arisen" Stz. 1 Choir, Stz. 2-4 All ELW #375

(While we sing, we turn and face the processional cross as it is carried out the center aisle.)

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Assist: Do Justice! Love Kindness! Walk Humbly with God!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

People: Thanks be to God.



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER:

Phantom Pains

After an amputation a majority of patients experience phantom pains. The arm is not there, yet he feels it cramping. The hand is gone, yet she feels it throbbing. The foot has been removed, yet he feels it twitching.

Today we meet the disciples, gathered together on the third day after the crucifixion, afraid they are experiencing nothing more than the phantom pains of grief. They had become one body, then on that gruesome day a part of their body was severed from the rest. On this day, Christ returns, but they think they know better. He is just a figment of their imaginations, a phantom pain of the way things used to be, a ghost.

We live in a world full of phantoms. City centers that once were thriving are lonely ghost towns. Forests and plains have been churned up and cut down and turned into housing developments. At our own Easter gatherings, members of the community who once were present are now missing.

In a phantom world we come to expect nothing but disembodied hope and fleeting memory. But God is not a phantom. We are witnesses to an Easter God who raised Jesus from the dead, who dressed Christ in flesh, and who is at work today. This Easter God is restoring places where creation has been cut off from creation, resurrecting our hollowed out, hazy, ghost town world and dressing the earth and all her creatures in flesh and bone, in life once again.

We are people who "look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come" (Nicene Creed). We have become accustomed to those phantom pains, but behold! This is no trick of the imagination. That which was severed from us has been restored. Alleluia!



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THANK YOU FOR SERVING TODAY!

ASSISTING MINISTER

Jan Berger

LECTOR

Anna Graves

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Jeanette Bloss Steve Bloss

USHERS

Tiffany Ginn

INSIDE GREETER

Trish Davidson

ACOLYTE

Karlene Stuart

CRUCIFER

Steve Bloss

TORCHBEARERS

Cynthia Edney Leslie Bloss

NAME TAGS

Gay Walter

FLOWERS

Tammy Mancuso

MUGGER

Karen Kranz

REFRESHMENTS

Karen Kranz

ALTAR GUILD

Kathy Brennan Sue Loveless

COUNTERS

Mike Grimmer Scott Graves Marshall Hurlbert

COUNCIL DISCIPLE

Jan Berger



Easter Seasonal Emphasis

Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised, he is not here! Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell Mark 16:6-7a

LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Ministers: People of Living Springs

Ministry Staff.

Rev. Eric Fink, Senior Pastor......pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org George Donovan, Jr., Dir. of Music & Worshipgeorge@livingspringscolumbia.org Deac. Lexanne Graves, Min. of Faith & Life (Children & Families)lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org Christopher Girardeau, Min. of Faith & Life (Sr. Youth & Young Adults)..christopher@livingspringscolumbia.org Tammy Mancuso, Preschool Director......tmancuso@lslcps.org Lisa Petty, Administrative Assistantlisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org Sherry Forsgren, Bookkeepersherry@livingspringscolumbia.org

Mark & Laura Cunningham, Food Ministrylaurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org Prayer Ministryprayer@livingspringscolumbia.org

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP THIS DAY!

We greet all who worship in the name of the Risen Savior!

May the Spirit speak to your heart the message of God's redeeming love for everyone, through the grace shown to the world in Jesus.

We gather as a community of disciples. Our center is Jesus Christ, and we are here to know and share the blessing of his forgiving, healing hand. If you have any questions about our congregation, please call 736-0661, drop by our office (M - F 8:30-4:30) or visit our website at www.livingspringscolumbia.org.

WELCOME GUESTS! – We are especially blessed by your presence today and look forward to worshipping with you again. Please take time to fill out the blue slip in your bulletin and/or sign the welcome book in the narthex. New members are always welcome into our congregation. To learn more about becoming part of Christ's family of faith here at Living Springs, please contact the office (736-0661) or Pastor Eric (917-2749).

BULLETIN BLUE SLIPS - may be completed and placed in the offering plate for prayer requests, guest information, address/phone updates, and a record of communing. Members, please complete at least one blue slip during 2018 to ensure we have a record of your communing.

SEASONAL NAME TAG – In order to show hospitality, we ask everyone to stop by the table under the portico and complete a name tag with our seasonal scripture verse. The tags allow everyone to use names as we share the Peace - and allow communion ministers to speak your name (*please make sure your name is visible when you come to the altar rail*).

RESTROOMS — are located in the Administration Building on both levels. Greeters/ushers will be happy to show you the way. Main level restrooms are equipped with diaper changing stations. For your child's safety, please accompany them when they leave the Sanctuary to use the restrooms.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS - are now available, please see an usher or greeter.

HEARING ASSISTANCE – The ushers have headsets which will amplify the sound for you. Please return to an usher or leave in the pew at the conclusion of the service.

GLUTEN-FREE WAFERS & ALCOHOL-FREE GRAPE JUICE— are available during communion, for those who desire either.

G.I.F.T. ZONE - is a special area in our worship space for parents and young children who wish to worship together with more child-friendly furniture and special resources to utilize during worship.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS – are distributed during the children's sermon.

NURSERY — is available for infants-3 years old during the 10:45 Worship Service; located downstairs in the preschool in the Education Building. Greeters/Ushers will be happy to assist you.

CHILD SAFETY — is very important to us, so we ask at least 1 adult to accompany your child if he/she leaves the Sanctuary during worship. Please do not allow children to play on the playground without parental supervision. During the week, church doors are kept locked to maintain security for our Preschool. Please ring the intercom by the office doors to check in.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP TIME – is held each week following the 8:15 service and prior to the 10:45 service, inside the education building.

OUR PRAYER MINISTRY – As a community of disciples, we pray for one another and others - not just in times of illness, but also for praise, thanksgiving, and forgiveness. If you have a prayer request, simply fill out the bulletin blue sheet and place in the offering plate (or call/email the office). Please indicate if your request is for public or private prayer.