

PRELUDE - *Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* tune Picardy; arr. Roberts

HYMN 825 - *we sing, standing*

OPENING DIALOG

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.**

Jesus said: If anyone would come after Me, **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.**

Christ was wounded for our transgressions. **He was bruised for our iniquities.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GREETING, followed by PRAYER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

(please be seated)

FIRST LESSON (bulletin back page)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 142 - *we read in unison*

SECOND LESSON (bulletin back page)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

page 173 - **VERSE for LENT** - *all standing*

GOSPEL (bulletin back page)

Before, all shout: Glory to you, O Lord!

After, all shout: Praise to you, O Christ!

HYMN 571 - *we sing as indicated, seated*

1 - all	2 - all
3 - men/boys	4 - women/girls
5 - all	6 - all

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED - *hymnal, back cover all standing*

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

During the gathering, we sing HYMN 550

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

all may kneel

Response: **Hear our prayer!**

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

HYMN 744 - *we sing, standing*

POSTLUDE - *"The Cross of Jesus"*
by Vulpius; arr. Bach

Last Sunday Here

Worshipping: 70 Offering: \$5,153

Easter Continental Breakfast - Please join us in between our 8:00 and 10:30 Easter worship, April 12, for breakfast and the opportunity for fellowship the time offers. Some of the items that will be available are: Coffee, Tea, Juices, Bagels, Toast, Fruit and Cereals. Please contribute a breakfast item to share. Some of the items you could bring include baked goods, fruit, fruit salad, cooked quiches and cooked egg casseroles. Please sign-up on the sheet located on the bulletin board and plan to join us. Help setting up and cleaning up is also needed. Should you have any questions, please call Karen Weiland at 203-250-1574.

13th Annual Women's Retreat - sign up and join us on Saturday, May 2, at the Guest House and Conference Center in Chester, CT. The book we will be reading this year is *"the next person you meet in heaven"* by Mitch Albom. Cost, including lunch, is \$46 payable to CLCW, and may be placed in the red box on the hallway counter by Sunday, April 12.

CLC History - Tim Weiland, our archivist, has made CLC scrapbooks available for

viewing. Look for them in our fellowship hall.

CLC's "Mass Email" gets sent to individuals who have asked to be on the list. These emails are sent when there are church closures due to weather, etc., and announcements of important or special events. These emails are sent infrequently and only when there is a need. If you would like to be included on this email list, please let the church office know.

Thrivent Members - A big thank you to all Thrivent members who have directed Choice Dollars throughout the year to CLC. Thrivent Financial and its members continue to strengthen and change lives. Also, remember that any remaining 2019 Choice Dollars available to members must be allocated by March 31, 2020 or they will expire. Please contact Alan Spose (203-623-1650) or Mark Manning (203-241-0858) with any questions.

A WORD ABOUT THE LESSONS

By His Word of the Gospel, Jesus Calls Us Out of the Darkness into His Marvelous Light - The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, yet in mercy He does not forsake them. He restrains His anger and keeps His peace, until He opens their ears and eyes to hear and see Him. *"For his righteousness' sake,"* He magnifies His Word and makes it glorious in the coming of Christ Jesus (Is. 42:21). Jesus turns *"the darkness before them into light"* (Is. 42:16) because He is *"the light of the world"* (John 9:5). The incarnate Son of God does the works of His Father and displays the divine glory in His own flesh *"while it is day,"* until that night *"when no one can work"* (John 9:4). By the washing of water with His Word, He opens the eyes of the blind and grants rest to the weary. Therefore, though *"at one time you were darkness,"* now *"you are light in the Lord"* (Eph. 5:8). By our Baptism into Christ, we live in the eternal day of His resurrection, wherein He shines upon us. As often as we fall back into the darkness of sin, He calls us by the Gospel to *"awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead"* (Eph. 5:14).