

THE ORDER FOR OUR WORSHIP

PRELUDE - *“My Comfort by Day, My Song is the Night”* tune Davis; arr. Martin

HYMN 686

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, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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 130 - *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 430 vs 1, 2, 4, 7

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

“If You but Trust in God to Guide You”
tune We Nur Den Lieben Gott by Neumark

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **Hear our prayer!**

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

HYMN 935

POSTLUDE - *“The Hand of God”* by Sewell



NEWS AND NOTES

This Week Here

Wed -7:15PM - Bell Choir
- 8:00PM - Parish Choir

Please Note: It is our intent to continue with our annual Easter Breakfast and Women's Retreat. If we do need to cancel events that are scheduled after April 4, we will send an email to everyone who is included on our “mass email” list, included in Pastor's Sunday announcements, and will be noted on CLC's website.

Church Mail is still being picked up regularly. **Offerings** may be mailed to Cheshire Lutheran Church, P. O. Box 157, Cheshire, CT 06410.

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 email the church office (office@cheshirelutheran.org) letting us know if you will be attending and if you are

able to help setting up/cleaning up. 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'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.

A WORD ABOUT THE LESSONS

Jesus Christ Is the Resurrection and the Life - The illness and death of Lazarus happened *“that the Son of God may be glorified through it”* (John 11:4). Jesus' miracle of raising Lazarus prompted His arrest and crucifixion, whereby He would die *“for the nation”* and gather *“into one the children of God who are scattered abroad”* (John 11:51-52). As He called Lazarus from the tomb and commanded others to *“unbind him, and let him go”* (John 11:44), Jesus also calls us and releases us from the bondage of sin and death. We would not *“submit to God's law,”* nor could we *“please God”* (Rom. 8:7-8), but *“he condemned sin”* in His own flesh so *“that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us”* (Rom. 8:3-4). Now through the Gospel, *“the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells”* in us (Rom. 8:11). His Word breathes His Spirit into our mortal flesh, animating us with His own life. As His ministers preach according to His divine command, the Lord Jesus calls us from the grave into the good land that He gives us (Ezek. 37:12, 14).