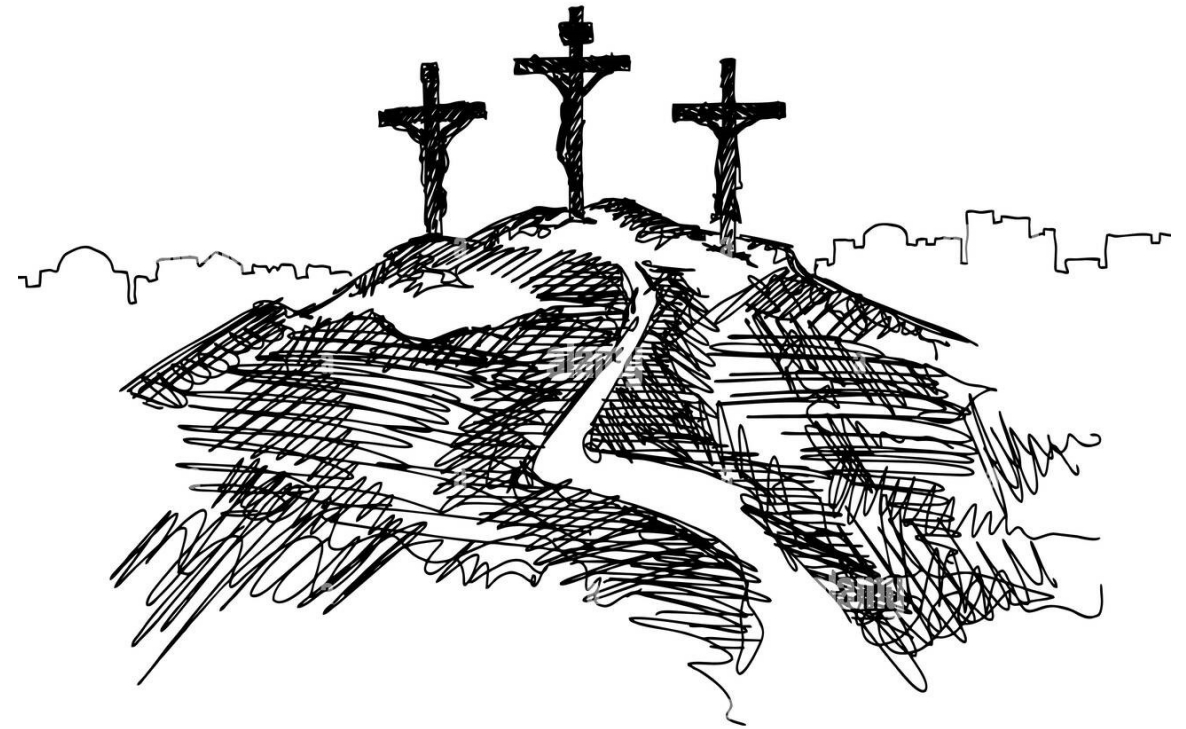


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**THANK YOU** to our Soup servers this evening and to everyone who helped to set up and clean up from our Soup & Salad Supper. Join us every Wednesday evening at 6 PM from now through Palm Sunday for our Soup & Salad Supper. We will have Bible study after the supper and then Wednesday night service at 7:30 PM. Please remember to sign up for the suppers using the sheets on the hallway bulletin board.



# GUIDED TO THE CROSS

Week 2: Guided to Love

CHESHIRE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
660 WEST MAIN STREET  
CHESHIRE, CT 06410

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2024  
7:30 P.M.

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**PRELUDE** - *“Leave all to God’s Direction”* tune Neumark; *setting by Saxton.*

**HYMN 611** - *we sing, standing*

**INVOCATION & VERSICLES**

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

The eye of the Lord is on those who fear  
Him, **on those who hope in His steadfast love,**

that He may deliver their soul from death  
**and keep them alive in famine.**

Our soul waits for the Lord; **He is our  
help and our shield.**

For our heart is glad in Him, **because we  
trust in His holy name.**

Let Your steadfast love be upon us, O  
Lord, **even as we hope in You.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and 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, in love You  
sent Your Son to be our Savior, to suffer  
and die on the cross for us. Through  
faith in Jesus, we now have forgiveness  
for our sins and the gift of eternal life.  
As we follow our Lord through this  
season of Lent, help us to walk in love  
as He did and to forgive others as we  
have been forgiven. Let the cross of  
our Lord always go before us to guide  
us in the way of love. Hear our prayer  
in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

*(please be seated)*

**FIRST LESSON** - Isaiah 63:7-9  
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be  
to God!**

**SECOND LESSON** - 1 Timothy 1:12-17  
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be  
to God!**

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

**GOSPEL** - John 19:23-27  
*Before, all shout: Glory to you, O Lord!*  
*After, all shout: Praise to you, O  
Christ!*

**HYMN 425**- *we sing, seated*

**SERMON**

**OFFERTORY**– *“My Song is Love Unknown”*  
by John Ireland; Bruce Emerick, *soloist.*

**PRAYERS & LORD’S PRAYER** - *all  
may kneel*

Heavenly Father, You loved the world in  
this way—You sent Your Son as the  
atoning sacrifice for the sins of the  
world. Throughout His earthly ministry,  
Jesus was guided by the cross that was  
set before Him. During this season of  
Lent, lead us in true repentance. Father  
of our Lord, **Set Jesus’ cross before us  
to guide us in the way of love.**

Heavenly Father, in obedience to Your  
will and out of love for us, Jesus laid  
down His life for us. He bore our sins in  
His body on the tree of the cross, suffering  
the penalty of death that we deserve  
for our sins. Help us by Your Spirit to  
look to Jesus alone for salvation. Father  
of our Lord, **Set Jesus’ cross before us  
to guide us in the way of love.**

Heavenly Father, there are people  
among us who must bear the heavy  
cross of suffering, grief or pain. We pray  
that, according to Your will, You would  
bring them help and healing. Lead us to  
serve them in love, and bring to them

the comfort and hope found in the promises  
of Your Word. Father of our Lord,  
**Set Jesus’ cross before us to guide us  
in the way of love.**

Heavenly Father, send Your Spirit to  
guide us and lead us to walk in love as  
Jesus walked. Help us to put the needs  
of others ahead of our own interests.  
Guide us in the study of Your holy Word  
so that we are prepared to defend the  
hope that we have in Jesus. Lead us to  
serve as His witnesses in the world so  
that, through the power of the Holy  
Spirit, others will come to know and  
worship Jesus as Lord. Father of our  
Lord, **Set Jesus’ cross before us to  
guide us in the way of love.**

Lord God, you have told us to be ready  
Heavenly Father, Your unfailing steadfast  
love, Your covenant love, never fails.  
It is the love that sent Jesus to be  
our Savior, to suffer, die and rise for us.  
It is the love that guides us now through  
this earthly life until we live forever in  
Your presence. Lead us to reflect Your  
love in the world so that others will see  
our good works and glorify You. Father  
of our Lord, **Set Jesus’ cross before us  
to guide us in the way of love.**

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and  
teach us to pray: **Our Father, who art  
in heaven....**

**BENEDICTION**

**HYMN 700** - *we sing, standing*

**POSTLUDE** - *“Andante”* from Sonata in  
C Minor by Rheinberger.