



Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021 @ 10:00 am

Church of The Cross

475 West Higgins Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

(847) 885-1199

WELCOME ALL

WORDS OF WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Pastor Julie

The scandal of the gospel turns conventional wisdom on its head.

Love as liberation - all the way to the end.

This claim left the Creator of all life criminalized and crucified.

A loser in the game of power and profit.

The cross declared God a failure. An embarrassment. A disgrace.

The empire flexed its muscles and declared victory.

But love did not recoil nor retreat! Love persisted. Love multiplied.

Still today, love rises before evil.

This is the power of God, the foolishness of our faith.

OPENING HYMN “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation” *GTG #394 alt tune143; Blue #417*

**Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion’s help forever, and our confidence alone.**

**To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
come, with all your lovingkindness; hear your people as they pray,
and your fullest benediction shed within these walls today.**

**Here bestow on all your servants what they seek from you to gain;
what they gain from you, forever with the blessed to retain;
and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.**

**Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory while unending ages run!**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION^{1/2}

Stu T.

Spirit of Christ, every day, we feel the pressure to conform to the wisdom of the world. From birth, our value is defined by logics of power. We learn to relate through competition and comparison. You know intimately the struggles we face, internally and externally, to overcome these stories. O Christ, you, who chased the money changers from the temple, chase the greed from our lives and our hearts. As you overturned the tables, Lord Jesus, overturn the systems in our world which contribute to cycles of poverty and oppression. Forgive us, O God, of the ways we contribute to the world’s brokenness. Forgive us, O God, and wash us in your mercy. Forgive us, O God, and free us to try again. And with your grace, lead us.

OUR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

BOLD TEXT is read by the congregation.

**Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: you are holy, Lord**

SHARE GOD’S LOVE

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

“Jesus Loves Me”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Stu T.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 2:13-22

Rev. Julie Peterson

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Cleaning House

Rev. Julie Peterson

OFFER HOPE ...IN JESUS’ NAME

PASSING THE PEACE

“Dona Nobis Pacem”

*(Grant us Peace)**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH³

Stu T.

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

CHORAL OFFERING

“Abide”

arr. by Chris Owenby

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Stu T.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Take Thou, Our Minds, Dear Lord” (vs1,4)

GTG #707; Blue #392

**Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray;
give us the mind of Christ each passing day;
teach us to know the truth that sets us free;
grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.**

**Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will;
through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill.
We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all;
we hear and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Rev. Julie Peterson

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING³

May the God of holy words be with you.

May the Meditation of our hearts be with you.

People of God, open yourselves to the One who is your rock.

God fills us with foolishness, so we may be wise.

Children of God, sing songs of thanksgiving with all creation.

Our voices are lifted to the One who makes all things.

You spoke those words of creation, God of faithfulness, and set the sun to run its daily course, filled the seas with imaginative creatures, planted fruits and vegetables in the earth. All that is good and generous was intended for your children shaped in your image, but we bore false witness against you, honoring sin and death more than you. The prophets came to warn against our foolishness, but we did not find their words acceptable, and continued to covet everything which did not belong to us. So you sent your Child to us, so we might find strength in his weakness, we might find glory through his humiliation. With those who have great faith, with those who have very little, we sing our thanksgivings to you:

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of mountaintops.

The heavens join all creation to tell of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who is foolish for our sake.

Hosanna in the highest!

Day to day, you are Holy, our God, and Jesus Christ declares your wisdom to us. The Word of your mouth, he came, to tell us of your work of grace and hope. The Meditation of your heart, he came, to quiet our frantic spirits so we might rest in you. Your foolishness, he was wise enough to take our sins to the cross. Your weakness, he was strong enough to endure death for us, until you brought him out of the grave. As we remember his zeal for your heart, as we remember his passion for us, we would speak of that mystery we know as faith:

Christ died, the rock which broke sin's power;

Christ was raised, death conquered by our redeemer;

Christ will return, desiring us more than anything in all creation.

Here at this Table, God of love, we set aside our power to feast on the weakness found in the broken bread; we let go of our wisdom, to drink from the cup of your foolish grace. Your Spirit blesses these gifts, as well as us, so when we have feasted, we will look at the world with its injustices, oppressions, wars, and fears, saying, 'take these things out of here! Stop making God's creation a house of horrors!' And when the sun has finished its course, when the moon and stars shine no more, we will be given the words from your mouth so we can sing from the deeps of our hearts to you, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

COMMUNING TOGETHER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sacred Presence, we have been fed. We have shared the living bread. We have been ingrafted to the vine. We have tasted heaven's new wine. We have been blessed. Jesus has called us as guests just as you Holy One, call us by name and tell us we are your treasures. You, Sacred Presence, have planted your seed of grace in our hearts through the sharing of these gifts of break and cup. Thus we go, as your treasured beloveds, in the peace of our Lord, holding sacred your gift of love. We go to love the world and bring hope in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"In the Cross of Christ"

GTG #213: Blue#84

**In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.**

**When the woes of life o'er take me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.**

**When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.**

**Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.**

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

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Welcome All
Share God's Love
Offer Hope
... all in Jesus' name

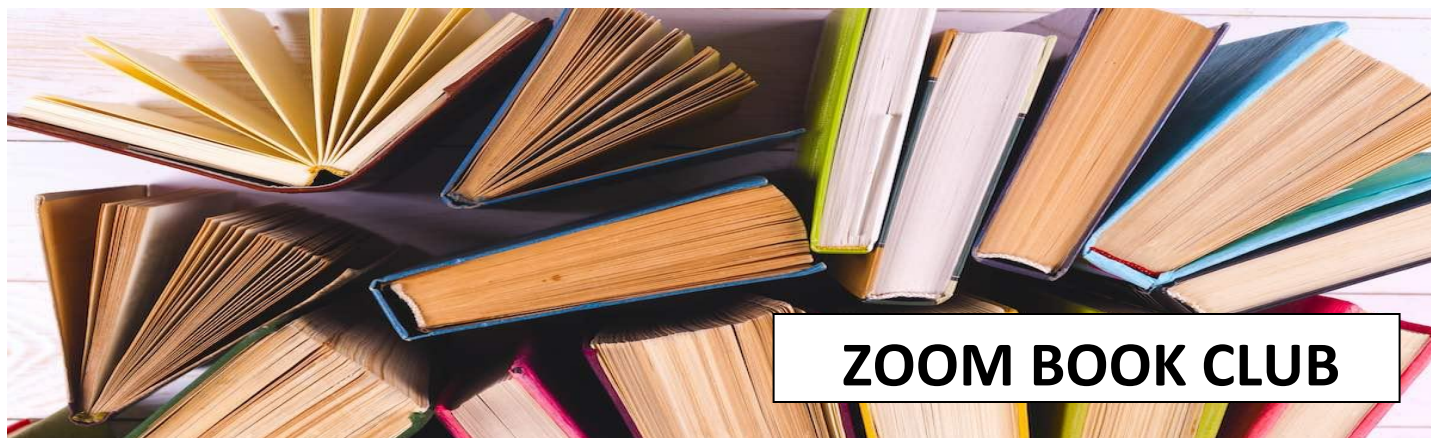


Prayer REQUESTS

Avonne (Laura's mother)
Joyce A (friend of George R)
Linda A (sister of Judy M)
Steve A (father-in-law of Glenna's daughter)
Connie & Ed (friends of Karen)
Dee B (former member)
Kevin B (Joe L's co-worker/friend)
Mildred B
Mary Ann B
Sushma B
Andree C
Chuck C (Laura D's brother)
Patrick C (Stu/Marie's son-in-law)
Renee C (Laura's sister-in-law)
Jim C (Mary Ann's son-in-law)
Tom C (Ann M's brother-in-law)
Sabina C (Adelaide's sister-in-law)
Betty D (Marie R's cousin)
Linda D (Jim/ Sue's relative)
Betty F (Chris L's mother)
Donna F (Jim/Sue's aunt)
Karen F
Lori F (George R's OES friend)
Gabi (Mother of Sue/Joe's son-in-law)
Adelaide G
Bruce & Linda G (friends of Stu/Marie)
Nick G (Stu/Marie's grandson)
Rita H (Jim/Ann's relative)
James & Sandra (friends of John/Cheryl)

Jessica (Charlie/Nancy's niece)
José K (Adelaide's friend)
Marge K (George R's OES friend)
Steve (Jane's brother)
Bob L (husband of Judie T's friend)
Jim/Sheryl L (Ken/Pat's son-in-law/daughter)
Phyllis L
McKenzie (daughter of Michelle V's friend)
Judy M
Klee M (Fritz/Fay's son)
Kofi M (Adelaide's family friend)
Lisa M (Karen's daughter)
Steve M
Lois McP
Dick McW (Ann M's brother)
Susan Q (Ann S's boss)
Maria R (Laura D's friend)
Jessie R (Julie/Jeff's niece)
Ann & Geoff S
Geri S (Adelaide's neighbor)
Martin S (Sue/Jim's friend)
Marnie S (Glenna M's friend)
Larry V (Jim V's father)
Those who are caregivers
Those devastated by terrorism
Our world and all affected by COVID-19
Those who grieve

- **Family of Nick Demarco**
(student family of Cathy W)



ZOOM BOOK CLUB

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Our current book is **"The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend"**
by Katarina Bivald

If you want to be included, please email Judie at judietrue@gmail.com and she will send you a Zoom invitation.



ZOOM LUNCH WITH PASTOR JULIE

Join us via Zoom every Wednesday at 12 noon for bible study.

We discuss scripture passages for our upcoming worship service.

Contact Pastor Julie for the Zoom access information to join the Zoom session.

March 10	John 3:14-21; Ephesians 2:1-10
March 17	John 12:20-33; Hebrews 5:5-10
March 24	Mark 11:1-11; Philippians 2:5-11



ZOOM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**Men's Bible Study will meet on March 10th.
Meetings start at 7 pm.**

Our current study is on the book **ISAIAH Trusting God in Troubled Times**
by Howard Peskett.

We meet via Zoom. We encourage new attendees, so if interested, please contact
Ken G. or Stu R. for access details.



ZOOM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The group meets via Zoom on Sundays at 11:45 am.

We will begin our Lenten Study on February 21st.

The Lenten Study Book is Making Sense of the Cross by David J Lose.

EVERYONE is invited to join the study!

**Let Pastor Julie know you are interested,
and the Zoom info will be sent directly to you.**



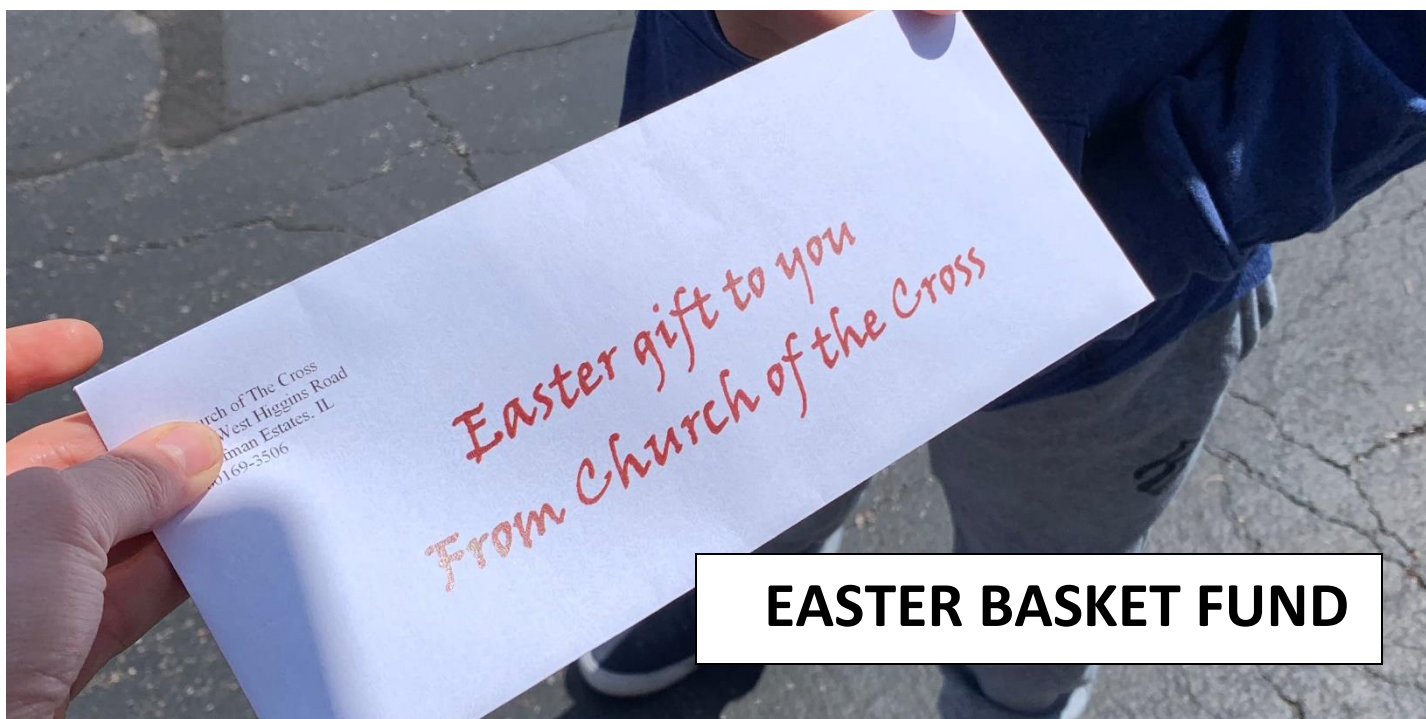
EASTER FLOWER SALE

Easter Lilies, Tulips, and Hyacinths are available for \$15 each.

The order form is on our website.

Please mail checks or leave checks in the church mailbox.

Online payments can be made under Deacons with "Easter Flowers" in Notes.



EASTER BASKET FUND

We are collecting donations for Aldi's Gift Cards. These Gift Cards will be handed out to families of Lakeview Elementary School. It is our hope to provide as many Aldi's Gift Cards to as many families as possible.



SOCKS & TOILETRIES DRIVE

We are collecting New Socks and Standard Size Toiletries.

These items are needed for the families of Lakeview Elementary School who live in the Steeple Hill Apartment Complex. Please drop off in the Narthex.

Financial donations will also be appreciated for purchase of Small children socks; Medium children socks; Large children socks; Adult socks; Shampoo; Conditioner; Soap; Toothbrushes; Toothpaste; Dental floss; Deodorant; Combs; Brushes; Kleenex; Paper towels; & Toilet paper.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS:

Monetary donations allow us to purchase goods based on the needs of our clients at wholesale prices and is the easiest way to meet the growing demand at this time.

Checks can be mailed to the Township (Attn: Food Pantry) and should be made out to the Township of Schaumburg with Food Pantry in the memo section. Donations can also be made online through our website schaumburgtownship.org. Please remember to signify the donation should be made to the Food Pantry.

FOOD DONATIONS:

- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Pasta and Pasta Sauce
- Soup
- Oatmeal and Cereal
- Canned Meats (tuna fish, chicken, ham, Spam)
- Canned Fruit (peaches, pears, mandarin oranges)
- Canned Pasta Meals
- Beef Stew, Chili, Pork n Beans
- Canned or Boxed Potatoes
- Canned or Dry Beans
- Tomato Products
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Hamburger Helper
- Pasta Roni
- Rice A Roni
- Toilet Paper and Paper Towels



**DROP OFF AT 1 ILLINOIS BLVD HOFFMAN ESTATES
Mondays to Fridays from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm**