

# *First Sunday in Lent*

*February 22, 2026*



*Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church*

1742 Dinkey Road  
Lehighon, PA 18235  
610-377-4242  
[www.dmlcashfield.com](http://www.dmlcashfield.com)  
Zoom ID: 586 370 219



# Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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*To all who are lonely and need fellowship; to all who are discouraged and need good news; to all who mourn and need comfort; to all who are tempted and need help; to all who are sinners and need forgiveness; to all who are complacent and need disturbing; to all who thirst for the water of life; to all who love Christ and would follow Christ, Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church opens its arms and bids you **welcome!***

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GATHERING

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt  
and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,  
and for disdainful the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin,  
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:  
Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,  
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:  
Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God,  
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead  
dwells in you,

pours God's love into your hearts,  
and gives you life and peace.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **GATHERING SONG *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* (ELW 632)**

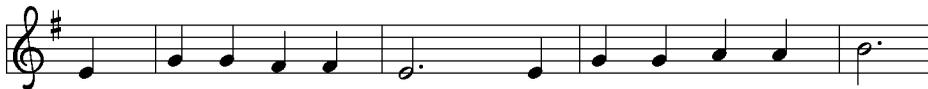
## **GREETING**

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

**Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from Genesis.

*Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.*

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

<sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

<sup>3:1</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the

garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’ ”<sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die,<sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”<sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate.<sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

*The reading may be concluded:*

The word of the Lord.

*The assembly responds:*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 32**

Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD. (*Ps. 32:10*)

<sup>1</sup> Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,  
and whose sin is | put away!

<sup>2</sup> **Happy are they to whom the LORD im- | putes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there | is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup> While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,  
because of my groaning | all day long.

<sup>4</sup> **For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer. R**

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt.

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.

<sup>6</sup> **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup> You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup> **“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;  
I will guide you | with my eye. R**

<sup>9</sup> Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you.”

<sup>10</sup> **Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup> Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD;  
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart. **R**

## **SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19**

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from Romans.

*Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.*

<sup>12</sup> Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned <sup>13</sup> for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup> Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup> And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup> If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup> For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

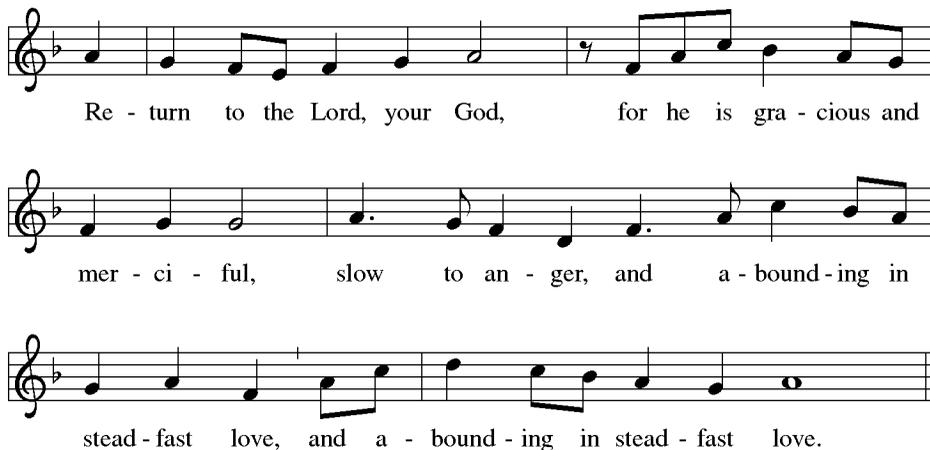
*The reading may be concluded:*

The word of the Lord.

*The assembly responds:*

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.*

<sup>1</sup> Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. <sup>2</sup> He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.”

<sup>4</sup> But he answered, “It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,  
‘He will command his angels concerning you,’  
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.’ ”

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me* (ELW 623)

## **APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Reconciled by God’s mercy and sustained by God’s presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*A brief silence.*

God of all grace, grant faith to your church. Give to all the baptized the will to resist temptation and to worship and serve you alone. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all creation, tend this earth. When human greed and disobedience threaten this planet and the life it contains, lead us by your Spirit into ways of reverence, awe, and gentleness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all nations, preserve us from trouble. Surround all living in places of violence with your steadfast love and give resilience to all who work for peace. Grant courage to those who challenge, especially around issues of racism and systemic oppression. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all healing, mend our wounds. Bring wholeness to all who are sick, give peace to all who groan in grief, and send companions to all who are lonely or isolated (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all people, provide for our community. For any among us who hunger for bread, bring nourishment. For any among us who hunger for truth, speak your life-giving word. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of all life, bring us to you. We thank you for your free and abounding grace, and for those who, by that same grace, now rest eternally in you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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.**

## OFFERING

### Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## OFFERING PRAYER

O God, maker of heaven and earth,  
your steadfast love embraces all creation.

You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth  
and bring forth its bounty.

Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love,  
through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:  
God, who calls all things into existence,  
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,  
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,  
✠ bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG** *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed* (ELW 337)

### DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Let the service begin.  
Go in peace. Believe the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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## ***DINKEY MEMORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS***

***February 22, 2026***

***The Altar Flowers*** are not sponsored today.

***The Bulletins*** are not sponsored today.

Flower and bulletin charts for **2026** are on the bulletin board above the stairs. You may either sign up on the charts or by calling the office at 610-377-4242. It is appreciated if you pay for your sponsorship by the end of the month that you have sponsored. **All weeks are open for the Memorial Bowl. It is very important for flower sponsors to return the cans and plastic gold bowls that they take the flowers home in. Thank you very much for your cooperation.**

### ***Office Hours:***

Thursday 8:00AM to 3:00PM, Friday 8:00AM to 1:00PM;  
(610)377-4242

### ***The Week Ahead:***

Today	9:00AM	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent Worship
	10:15AM	Sunday School
	12:30PM	Confirmation (D)
Wednesday	9:00AM	Morning Prayer
	7:00PM	Lenten Worship (St John's)
Thursday	9:30AM	Bible Study
Sunday	9:00AM	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent Worship
	10:15AM	Sunday School

### ***HAPPY BIRTHDAY! February 22 to February 29***

02/24 Schyler Cordova

02/24 Charles Hower

02/24 Chase Hower

02/25 Debra Bokan

02/25 Deborah Meckel

02/26 Nolan Passehl

02/27 Timm Berger

02/27 Ani Kratzer

02/27 Brittani Mertz

02/27 Earl Reabold

02/29 Adah Ceykovsky

02/29 Ariestella Genetti

**Giant Gift Cards:** If you would like to purchase any Giant Gift Cards please see Kathy Steigerwalt. We receive 5% from each gift card sold.

**Fundraising:** Dinkey is selling Streak free cloths; \$5 each. Please contact Jan in the office if interested.

**Cookbooks:** The Dinkey cookbooks have arrived and are ready for purchase, \$15 per cookbook. Please see Karen Schleicher.

**Pumpkin Roll & Filling:** There is a limited supply of pumpkin roll and quarts of filling left; first come/ first served . The cost is \$9 each. Please see Linda or Charlie Bierman.

**175th Anniversary:** Help is needed scanning photos and formatting them into a slideshow format for Dinkey's 175th Anniversary Celebration on [April 12](#), 2026. If you are able to help, please contact Pr. Tony at 610-377-4242 or [prdinklc@ptd.net](mailto:prdinklc@ptd.net)

**Spring Bazaar:** St John's will be having their spring bazaar on Friday, March 27,2026 from 5:00 to 7:30PM and Saturday, March 28, 2026 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM.

**Lehighon Cold Weather Station:** The LCWS is an important ministry for the homeless in the Lehighon area. When the temperature drops below 25 degrees overnight, the station is open to anyone in need to have a warm place to sleep overnight. Volunteers and donations are always needed.

**Candy Sale:** St John's is having a candy sale; Order by March 15, 2026; pick up will be March 27, 2026 and March 28, 2026. Make checks payable to St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Order form in the back of church.

### ***HOMEBOUND MEMBERS***

Darwin Berger  
Arlene Bisbing  
Sheila Flickinger  
Tess Hinger

Linda Markell  
Debbie Meckel  
Gordon Scherer  
Alice Scitney  
Debra Strohl

***MILITARY PERSONNEL FROM OR ASSOCIATED WITH DINKEY MEMORIAL***

Noah K. Kunkel PSC41 Box 6927 APO AE 09464  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Benjamin Cordova, 9300 Valencia St., Tucson, AZ 85747  
Brendan Schleicher 11611 Dyer Street, Apt 1026 El Paso, Texas 79934  
Private Seth Koch Sierra Vista, AZ

***SICK/HOSPITALIZED/SPECIAL NEEDS MEMBERS AND FRIENDS***

Faith Beck  
Family of Holly  
Bierman  
Sherri Bowman  
Robert Coccio  
Rick D  
Lauren Dugan  
Candy Everett  
Louise Everett

Frank Fisher  
Ann German  
Dick German  
Joseph Gorman  
Stephen Hoffman  
Barbara Niehoff Janco  
Doug Keller  
Sandy Keller  
Joe Kluk

Jim Koch  
Deb Lilly  
Emily Persinger  
Kenny Schleicher  
Tom Scott  
Georgine Shupp  
Carol Steigerwalt  
Kathy Steigerwalt  
Tanner Schleicher  
Patti Walck

*WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS*

<b><u>Ministers:</u></b>	The Congregation
<b><u>Pastor:</u></b>	Reverend Anthony Pagotto
<b><u>Musician:</u></b>	Bella Moyer
<b><u>Greeters:</u></b>	Everett
<b><u>Acolytes:</u></b>	Bryn Schleicher
<b><u>Lector:</u></b>	Erica Pagotto

Worship Participants for March 1, 2026:

<b><u>Greeters:</u></b>	Frey
<b><u>Acolytes:</u></b>	Colby Solt
	Mason Spitzer
<b><u>Lector:</u></b>	Brian Schell
<b><u>Communion Assistants:</u></b>	Erica Pagotto
	Lavona Schleicher

# 2026 Lent and Easter Schedule

## **Ash Wednesday**, February 18, 2026

2:00PM at Dinkey Memorial Lutheran Church

1742 Dinkey Road, Lehighton, PA 18235

7:00PM at St. Peter's Church

184 St. Peter's Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252



## **Midweek Lenten Worship** at 7:00PM on the following dates:

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at

St. John's Lutheran Church, 826 Mahoning Drive West, Lehighton

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at

Ben Salem UCC, 1965 Church Hill Road, Lehighton, PA 18235

Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at

Zion Stone Church, 45 Cemetery Road, New Ringgold, PA 17960

Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at

St. Peter's Church, 184 St. Peter's Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252

Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at

Dinkey Memorial Lutheran Church, 1825 Dinkey Road, Lehighton

## **Spring Bazaar** at St. John's LC, Mahoning

Friday, March 27, 2026, 5:00 – 7:30PM

Saturday, March 28, 2026, 9:00AM – 2:00PM

Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday at 11:00AM



## **Maundy Thursday**, April 2, 2026

7:00PM at Ben Salem UCC

## **Good Friday**, April 3, 2026

7:00PM at St. John's, Mahoning



## **Easter Sunday**, April 5, 2026

6:30AM Sunrise worship in Dinkey Memorial Cemetery

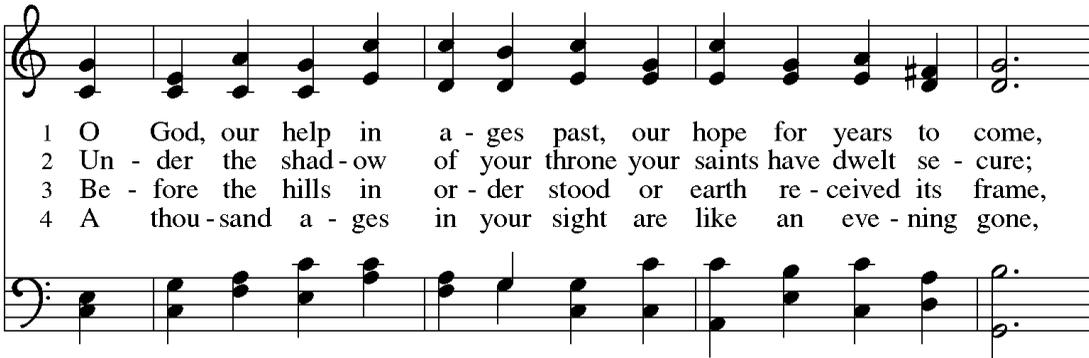
7:00AM Breakfast at Dinkey Memorial LC

9:00AM Worship at Dinkey Memorial LC

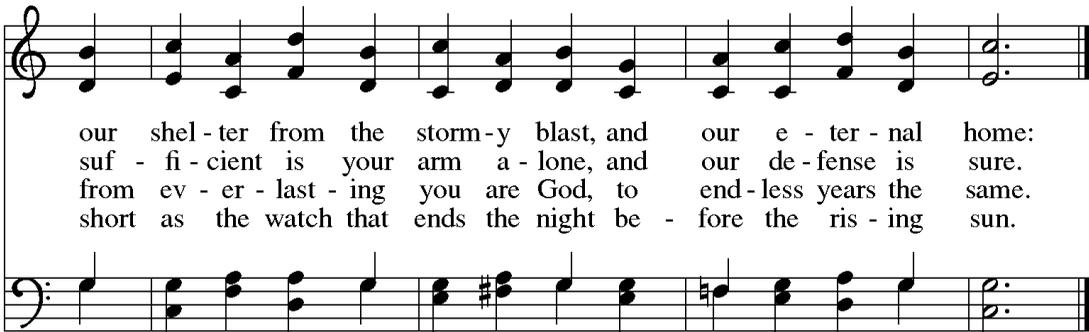
10:15AM Easter Egg Hunt in Dinkey Memorial Cemetery

11:00AM Worship at St. John's LC, Mahoning

# O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
we fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last  
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

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# Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;  
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-1778  
Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872

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# Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my sov-'reign die?  
2 Was it for sins that I had done he groaned up - on the tree?  
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and shut its glo - ries in  
4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while his dear cross ap - pears,  
5 But tears of grief can - not re - pay the debt of love I owe;



Would he de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?  
A - maz - ing pit - y, grace un-known, and love be - yond de - gree!  
when God, the might - y mak - er, died for his own crea - tures' sin.  
dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness, and melt my eyes to tears.  
here, Lord, I give my - self a - way: 'tis all that I can do.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824

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