



We will be using lilies to decorate the sanctuary during the Easter season this year. If you would like to place a lily in honor or memory of someone, please fill out the form below. The cost is \$9.00. The deadline is **March 21st**. You may place your check and order form in the offering plate or turn it in to the church office. Please do not make offering and lily order in the same check.

ORDER FORM

Donated _____
by _____

A lily is donated to the glory of God and in
HONOR of

To the glory of God and in
MEMORY of

_____ ***Number of lilies donated: @ \$9 each.***


Total Amount: _____

PHILADELPHIA LUTHERAN CHURCH “CHURCH OF BROTHERLY LOVE” FEBRUARY 17, 2021

52 Pinewood Road
Granite Falls, NC 28630
The Reverend Diane W. Cline

Ken Eidenmiller, Music Director

Judy Parker, Organist



Where your
treasure is,
there your heart
will be also

MATTHEW 6:21

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

GATHERING *(We gather in silence.)*

LAY READER: PSALM 51: 1-17 (SPOKEN)

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother’s womb.

⁶Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

¹³Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.

¹⁴Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

¹⁶For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.
You are not pleased with burnt offering.

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**(Denotes when congregation stands.)*
(Bold print denotes when congregation speaks.)

***BLESSING**

You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you ✠ that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Imposition of Ashes: (Silence is kept during this time.)

(Mark (ashes) “Truth on Your Forehead” as these words are spoken...)
Pastor: Remember that we are dust, and to dust we shall return.
(We kneel or sit...)

Pastor: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

Congregation: That we may show forth your glory in the world.

Pastor: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

Congregation: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Pastor: God of steadfast love, you gather your people
Into one body for the sake of the world.
Send us in the power of your Spirit,
That our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new
In Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord...

C: LORD'S PRAYER

*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.*

¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life,
creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kind-
ness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your
Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

***GOSPEL** **MATTHEW 6: 1-6; 16-21**
The Holy Gospel according to the sixth chapter of Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.
²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypo-
crites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by oth-
ers. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do
not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be
done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.
⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand
and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by
others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go
into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your
Father who sees in secret will reward you.
¹⁶“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfig-
ure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have
received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,
¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret;

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and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.
¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Praise to you, O Christ.
(The assembly is seated.)

SERMON/INVITATION TO LENT

**“TRUTH ON YOUR FOREHEAD”
THE REVEREND DIANE W. CLINE**

SERMON HYMN

“ABIDE WITH ME”
(VERSES 1, 3, AND 5)

#ELW 629

***Abide with me, fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.***

***I need thy presence ev’ry passing hour; what but thy grace can foil the tempter’s
pow’r? Who like thyself my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, oh,
abide with me.***

***Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes, shine through the gloom, point me to the
skies; heav’ns morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee; in life, in death, O Lord,
abide with me.***

LAY READER: PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lay Reader: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

(A brief silence.....we kneel or sit.)

O God, you call your church to be ministers of reconciliation throughout the world. Inspire your church in its proclamation of the gospel and guide its ministries to build up the body of Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God, you created the earth and all its inhabitants and you declared that it is good. Protect mountains and valleys, animals and plants, and direct us to be good stewards of all you have made. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God, you desire peace. Direct governments and leaders to work for the well-being of all people and raise up advocates to speak and serve on behalf of the downtrodden. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God, you are our hope in the midst of despair, our help in the midst of sorrow, and our consolation in the midst of affliction. Grant comfort to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit and support caregivers who attend to all in need. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God, you are love, and you call us to love one another. Accompany with your grace those journeying toward baptism and call us all to repentance as we prepare to celebrate Christ’s death and resurrection. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God, you are our life and our salvation. We give you thanks for the righteous who have died in faith. Inspire us by their example to proclaim your steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Pastor: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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