

**Elderton Presbyterian Church  
Fifth Sunday in Lent  
March 17, 2024**

Rev. Dr. Angel De La Cruz  
Church Phone – 724-354-3117  
Cell Phone – 724-699-5675  
Church Website – eldertonpc.org

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Prelude

**ACOLYTE – Cooper Grantz**

Welcome and Announcements

**GATHERING**

Choral Introit

\*Call to Worship: (**responsively**)

O God, open thou, my lips.

**And my mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

**Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

\*Prayer of Invocation

\*Hymn No. 92                      “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”                      ST. CHRISTOPHER

\***Unison** Prayer of Confession:

**O God of forgiveness, we pray for new life as we confess our old ways. We hear of your promise amid our own sense of self-doubt. Hope is proclaimed, yet we seek guarantees. Christ calls us to obedience, but we set conditions. When called on to follow, we ask to what end. We applaud commitment, but we treasure our comfort. Forgive our reluctance to walk in newness of life.**

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri – page 579 – blue hymnal

**THE WORD**

Anthem                      “The Power of the Cross”

ALLEN

Joys, Concerns and God Sightings  
Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

\*Praise Hymnal No. 113                      “Oh, How He Loves You and Me”

KAISER

Scripture Reading                      2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Sermon                      “Reconciliation”                      Dr. Angel De La Cruz

**OUR RESPONSE TO GOD**

\*Sermon on the Mount (**responsively**)

Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are those who mourn,  
**for they shall be comforted.**

Blessed are the meek,  
**for they shall inherit the earth.**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
**for they shall be satisfied.**

Blessed are the merciful,  
**for they shall obtain mercy.**

Blessed are the pure in heart,  
**for they shall see God.**

Blessed are the peacemakers,  
**for they shall be called sons of God.**

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,  
**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Introduction of New Members

Questions to the Member Candidates

To the Congregation:

Leader: Brothers and Sisters, we now receive these new members into Christ’s church. I charge you to nurture and love and to assist them to be Christ’s faithful disciples.

**People: With joy and thanksgiving, we now welcome you into Christ’s church, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you and follow Christ.**

Presentation of Our Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology – page 592 - blue hymnal

\*Prayer

### **SENDING**

\*Hymn No. 78            “Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”

MARTYRDOM

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response: “In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified”

In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified, In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

\*Postlude

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(\*) Congregation Standing

**A warm welcome to all those visiting with us today. We pray you are blessed and encouraged as we worship together. So that we may get to know you better, please fill out the welcome card found in the pew racks and place in the offering plate.**

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**PRAYER CHAIN REQUEST CONTACT** – Linda Prugh – 724-464-8861

**GREETERS TODAY** – Cheryl Hankey and Jeff Schrecengost

**GREETERS NEXT WEEK** – Shawnee Hohl and Bonnie Gratzmiller

**ACOLYTE NEXT WEEK** – Aaron Quinn

**VISITATION TEAMS FOR MARCH -**

Elders: John and Dee Craig

Deacons: Tyler Keith and Amber Pinkerton

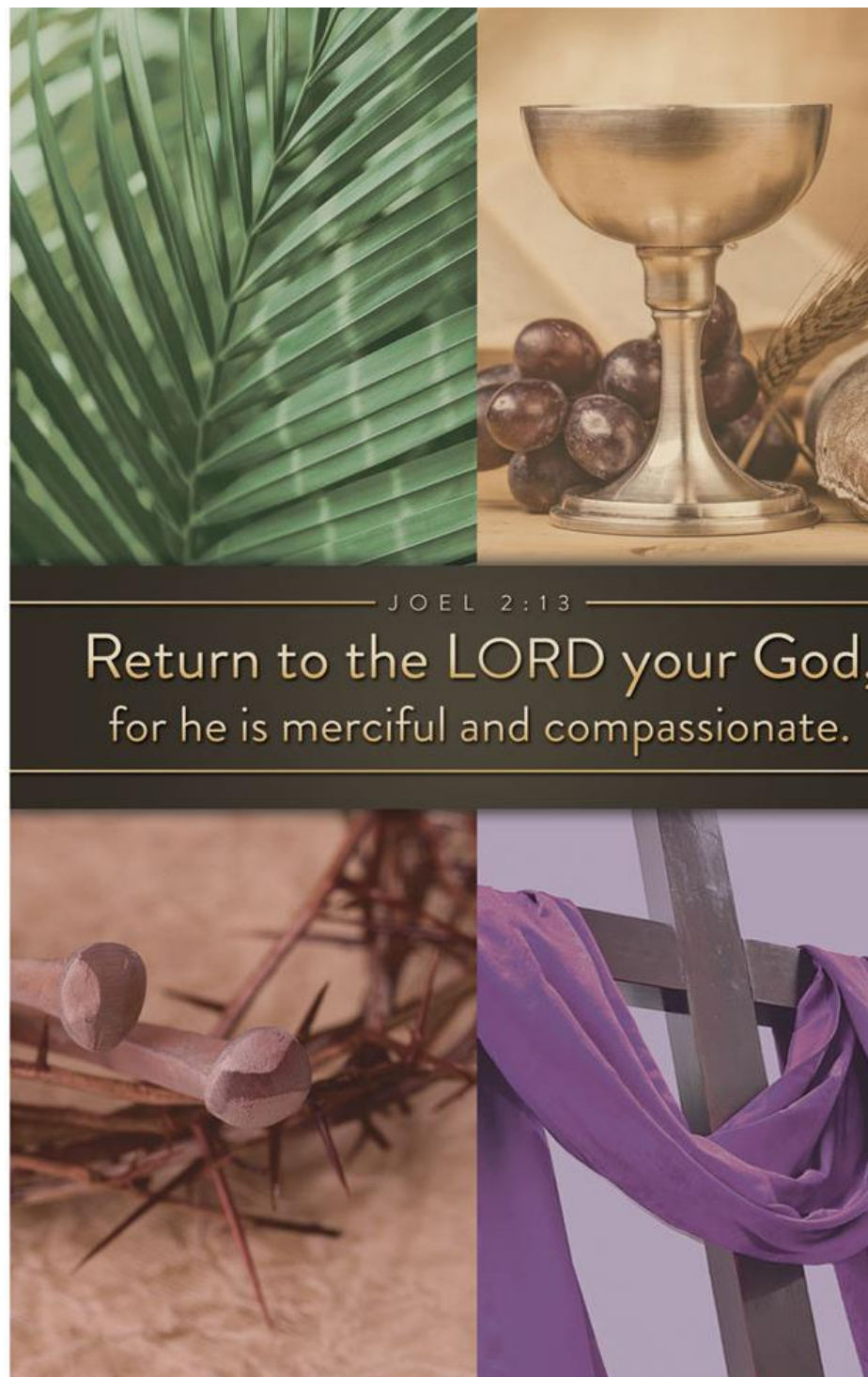
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The Christian Education committee is collecting donations for our children's Easter Egg Hunt, if you would like give a monetary donation or candy donation, please give to Susan Schrecengost.

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Elderton Presbyterian Church will host Vacation Bible School June 3-7, 9:00 am- 12:00 pm. Emily Spencer and Barbara Johns will direct the program. We need volunteers to help make this a success. If you are interested in helping, please contact Susan Schrecengost or Emily Spencer.

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

With joy and thanksgiving,  
we welcome to our church family this morning

by reaffirmation of faith:

Doug and Jodi Klingensmith  
Jim and Robin Shaffer

by affirmation of faith:

Chandler Blose  
Alyssa Duplinsky  
Dylan Shankle  
Cory and Melissa Grantz  
Chad and Shawna Taylor

## In Our Prayers

Sheila Brumbaugh asks for prayers for her brother-in-law on his mother's passing.

Linda Prugh Prayers for her 4-month-old niece, Hattie, she has pneumonia and prayers for Larry, his asthma is bad.

Nancy Schrecengost asks for prayers for her daughter-in-law, Bethanne, she is in the hospital.

Sue Quinn asks for continued prayers for her friend, Deb as she finished her cancer treatment.

Aaron Quinn asks for prayers for a friend, Carol who is not feeling well.

Charlene De La Cruz asks for travel mercies; she is going to Florida this week.

Cassie Clowser asks for prayers for her grandson, Blaine he is struggling with his sleep. Continued prayers for premature baby Hudson, he is up to 6 pounds, if he can learn to be fed, he will come home soon.

## Our Joys

Nate Johns has a joy that the WSHS boys' basketball team made it to state playoffs for the first time in school history.

Jennifer Johns has a joy for the support everyone gives the kids in the congregation by attending their school functions.

Chet Schall has a joy for his sister Bernie and the help she gives Chet and Brenda.

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## TODAY

We will collect change for the Hunger Offering. As you leave the sanctuary, please place your change in the buckets found at the front and back of the sanctuary or the front vestibule.

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## COMING UP

**March 24 – Palm Sunday** – The Confirmation Class will join the church during worship service. Palms will be distributed as you leave the sanctuary.

**March 27 – 7:00 PM** - Maundy Thursday Service – Communion will be served.

**March 29** – Good Friday – The church office will be closed.

**March 31– 8:00 AM** - Easter morning breakfast in Fellowship Hall, please bring a covered dish.

**March 31- 9:30 AM** – Easter Egg Hunt for Sunday School children, weather permitting, we will be outside. Donations for candy are needed, please give monetary or candy donations to Susan.

**March 31 – 10:30 AM** - Easter worship service

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