

"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent...so must the Son of Man be lifted up."

St. John 3:14

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 10, 2024

Service of Holy Communion – 10:00 a.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

8271 Whispering Pines Road Daphne, Alabama 36526 251-621-2968

E-mail: holytrinitydaphne.org
Website: www.holytrinitydaphne.org

Rev. Richard H. Mueller Pastor

Craig Bruce Parish Musician
Steve Horlebein Parish Administrator

"Come, Celebrate with Us"

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

WELCOME, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ! To assist the office staff in serving you, please sign the yellow Attendance & Communion Registration sheet included in the bulletin. We also ask first time worshippers to sign the guest book on the table near the doors. Following worship, everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments.

Please direct all pastoral care concerns to Pastor, Rich Mueller at 914-388-2240.



Gathering

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We face the font, remembering God's promise of forgiveness in baptism.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, \(\frac{1}{2}\) one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection

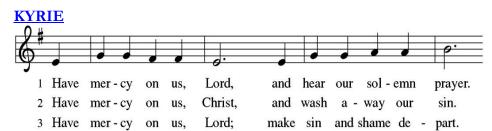
- P: Holy God,
- C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.
- P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.



GREETING

- *P:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God. and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.





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

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Word

FIRST READING

Numbers 21:4-9

Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

⁴From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALMYou deliver your people from their distress. (Ps. 107:19)

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the ¹ LORD is good, for God's mercy en- ¹ dures forever.

²Let the redeemed of the | LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand | of the foe,

³gathering them in ¹ from the lands;

from the east and from the west, from the north and | from the south.

¹⁷Some were fools and took re- | bellious paths; through their sins they | were afflicted.

¹⁸They loathed all man- | ner of food and drew near | to death's door.

¹⁹Then in their trouble they cried | to the LORD and you delivered them from | their distress. R

²⁰You sent forth your ¹ word and healed them and rescued them ¹ from the grave.

²¹Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your | steadfast love and your wonderful works | for all people.

²²Let them offer sacrifices ¹ of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with ¹ shouts of joy. **R**

SECOND READING

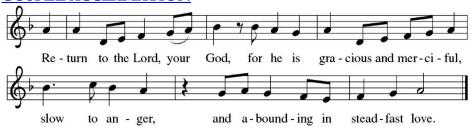
Ephesians 2:1-10

While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ¹so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— onthe result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹oFor we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:14-21

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. Glory to you, O Lord.

To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.

Jesus said: ¹⁴⁶ Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The Gospel of the Lord Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Linda Veren

SERMON

Rev. Richard Mueller



APOSTLE'S 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.

THE PRAYERS (Stand or kneel)

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, your love unites. Give vision to the global church and foster cooperation in mission. Increase inter-religious understanding and ecumenical dialog. Make your church a sanctuary for all fleeing persecution, disaster, and war (areas in crisis may be named). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, your love enlivens. Restore balance to the earth's fragile habitats. Preserve wilderness lands, rainforests, and wildlife. Cleanse oceans and rivers (*local water sources may be named*). Make us good stewards of the earth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Righteous God, your love liberates. We give thanks for those who courageously witness to your liberating love (*especially Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth, renewers of society, whom we commemorate today*). Free all people from the evils of racism, religious strife, and hatred. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Merciful God, your love heals. Care tenderly for all whose loved ones perished from pandemic disease in every nation. Strengthen health care workers, first responders, and caregivers. Relieve all who live with chronic illness and pain. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Incarnate God, your love enlightens. Open our hearts and minds to fresh understandings of our faith. Deepen our love for you and for one another. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Abiding God, your love saves. Those who died in the faith are made alive in Christ. We give thanks for your promise that we also will be raised to newness of life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen

PEACE

P: The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

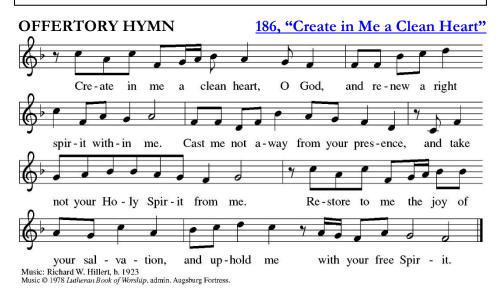
C: And also with you.

We greet one another with a gesture of peace.

P: Peace be with you. C: And also with you.

Meal

OFFERING An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Your offering can be left in the baskets provided near the entrance of the sanctuary.



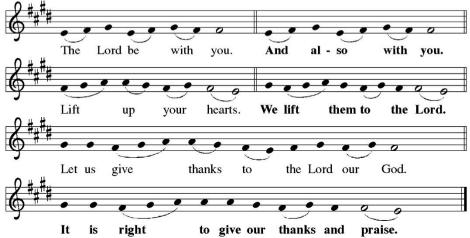
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness.

Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

C: Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise... Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding: ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



The minister continues with the Words of Institution

Continue with the Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

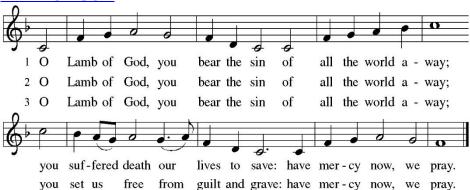
COMMUNION

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

Christ is truly present in this sacrament. We trust the Word, "The body and blood of Christ given and shed for you." By Christ's invitation, all baptized people of God are welcome to receive Christ's gift of love and mercy. Cups are available to receive wine from the Worship Assistant's pouring chalice. If grape juice is preferable, it is available in the tray the Acolyte carries.

Those not wishing to participate in Holy Communion may come forward and receive a blessing. Please notify the usher if you are unable to come forward, but wish to commune in your seat. Approach the altar from the center aisle and return to your seat by a side aisle.



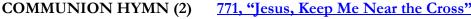


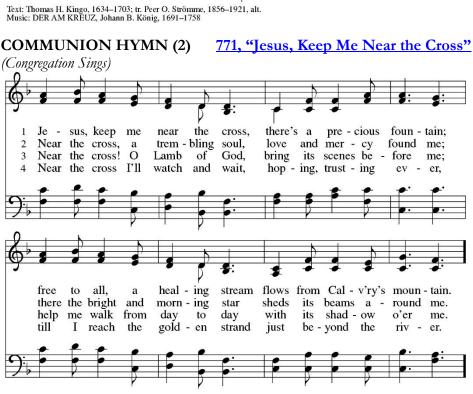
peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray. ter - nal **COMMUNION HYMN**

811, "On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

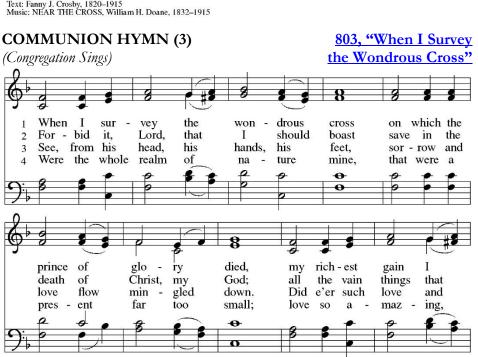














Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

BLESSING

The presiding minister may say a table blessing.

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

The assisting minister leads the prayer after communion.

A: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C: Amen.

Sending

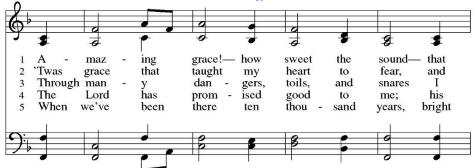
ANNOUNCEMENTS

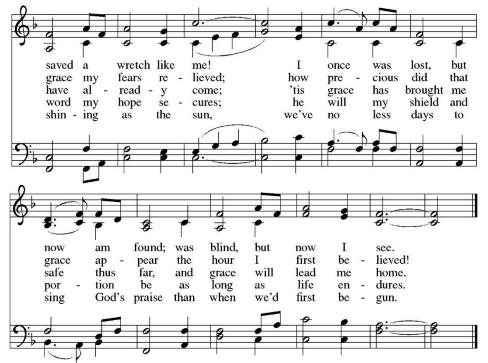
BLESSING

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN 779, "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"





Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921, alt.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share your bread.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Calendar for Lent "A HOLY LAMENT"

A Worship Series for Lent - 2024

Wednesday, March 13th – "Individual Lament" (Scripture – Psalm 13)

Wednesday, March 20th – "Communal Lament" (Scripture – Psalm 44:1-10, 13, 17-26)

These opportunities for meditation during our Lenten Journey this year will begin at **7:00 pm** in the Sanctuary. They will be **preceded** by our Soup, Sandwich and Study beginning at **5:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Plan now to be a part of this meaningful journey to the Cross and Empty Tomb of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

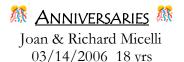
Announcements for Sunday, March 10, 2024

To KEEP IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS: Those worshipping for the first time at Holy Trinity. Cancer/Illness: Tammy Cain, Milissa Collins, David Durant, Jay Fassbender, Brittany Dyche Harvey, Elsie Lamb, Dot Peterson, Sheila Ross, David Scott and Charles Sharp; Those serving in military, firefighters & law enforcement including: Marc Alverson, Daryl Bogle, Colter Burkey, Adam Cormier, Steve Duke, Shawn Ethington, Brent Massey, Jordan Miller, Christopher Mueller, Titus Nissen, Rich Peacock and Dylan Winslow; Holy Trinity's Mission Partner: New Hope Lutheran Church – Sallis MS; ELCA Leaders: SE Synod Bishop Rev. Kevin Strickland, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Pastor Rich Mueller.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our stewardship last week: Attendance – 49 Offerings – \$4,354.00 <u>SCRIPTURE MARCH 17TH</u>: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33





Phoebe Circle Update: Due to several schedule conflicts, there will be no March meeting. We will meet **April 9**th (Tuesday evening) at Linda Veren's home: 123 Petz Ave in Fairhope. Please RSVP Linda at 256-468-3885 or tigerjagmom@gmail.com.

<u>SIGN-UP SHEETS!</u>

We have an abundance of Sign-up sheets in the Narthex for a variety of upcoming events including Easter Flowers, Breakfast and Egg Hunt. Also, Lunch Bunch and the Kiwanis Club Best of the Bay fund raiser. Sign up early, sign up often to indicate your desire to participate in these fellowship and service opportunities.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

10:00am Service of Holy Communion Today

Mon., Mar 11 4:30pm – 5:30pm Musical Beginnings: Piano Lessons in

Sanctuary & Classroom

5:30pm – 9:30pm Women's Volunteer Group of Baldwin County ((Gathering Place)

Tues., Mar 12 8:30am – 2:30pm Office Hours

> 9:30am WELCA: Sojourners Circle (Gathering Place) 3:00pm – 6:30pm Musical Beginnings: Voice Lessons in Sanctuary

5:30pm Church Council (Gathering Place)

Wed., Mar 13 8:30am – 2:30pm Office Hours

> 3:00pm – 5:00pm Musical Beginnings: (Piano, Drums & Violin) in Sanctury, Fellowship Hall & Classroom 1

4:00pm - 5:30pm Yoga Class (Gathering Place)

5:00pm – 5:30pm Musical Beginnings: Piano Lessons in Sanctuary

5:30pm Soup, Sandwich and Study

7:00pm Lenten Service

Thur., Mar 14 8:30am – 2:30pm Office Hours

4:30pm – 6:00pm Musical Beginnings: Music Lessons in

Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall

Fri., Mar 15 4:00pm – 4:30pm Musical Beginnings: Piano Lessons in Sanctuary

8:00am Yoga Class (Gathering Place) Sat., Mar 16

🌁 St. Patrick's Day 🍍 Sun., Mar 17

10:00am Service of Holy Communion

1:00pm - 5:00pm Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scout Pack Meetings

Snacks 4 Students

Our outreach project for the month of March is to continue replenishing snacks for students among Baldwin County Schools. Numerous school's pantries are totally depleted. If you would like to donate individually wrapped, single serving, healthy snacks, please place them on the table just outside our church office. At the end of the month, they will be distributed to another local schools in need. Thank you.

"THE GREAT AND HOLY WEEK" 2024

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION - Palm Sunday

Procession with Palms – Passion of our Lord according to St. Mark – Holy Communion

Sunday, March 24th, 2024 - 10:00 am



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Service of Holy Communion with the Washing of Feet and Stripping of the Altar

Thursday, March 28th, 2024 - 7:00 pm



Good Friday Liturgy

Passion of our Lord according to St. John Seven Last Words – Adoration of the Cross Friday, March 29th, 2024 – 7:00 pm



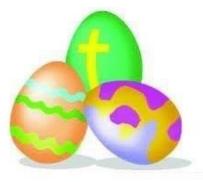
Easter Sunday Schedule Sunday, March 31st



Breakfast 8:00 am



Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 am



Easter Egg Hunt Following Worship

<u>Assisting in Worship</u>

Presiding Minister Rev. Richard Mueller

Musicians Craig Bruce: Keyboards

Steve Horlebein: Guitar

Assisting Minister Cyndi Howell

Acolyte Emily Cormier

Lector Sandy Vontroba

Cantor Debi Horlebein

Children's Sermon Linda Veren

Altar Guild Linda Gregg

Greeters Phyllis Buchholz

Usher Dave Howell

Tellers Dave Howell & Jeff Ramsland

Camera Operator Andy Veren

Hospitality Younkins



OPEN CAMERA & SCAN

PURPOSE STATEMENT

God's purpose for Holy Trinity is to grow faith that moves us beyond ourselves.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- 1. Faithfully living with Christ at the center.
- 2. Prayerfully listening with open hearts and minds.
- 3. Selflessly welcoming all without preconceptions.
- 4. Courageously bearing our neighbor's burdens
- 5. Relating to one another with respect and honesty
- 6. Boldly sharing our blessings with other.

MARCH 10, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



God is rich in mercy.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 3:14-21	God so loved the world
Monday	Numbers 21:4-9	The serpent of bronze
Tuesday	Ephesians 2:1-10	Faith is a gift from God
Wednesday	Romans 9:6-18	God's choice of Israel
Thursday	Isaiah 30:18-22	God's promise to Zion
Friday	Titus 3:1-8	Maintain good deeds
Catanadan	Darley 407-4 2 47 22	The allow the few delices and

Saturday Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Thanksgiving for deliverance

Sunday John 12:20-33 The hour has come

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:4-5 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of mercy, your love for us is more than we deserve but all that we need and want through Jesus Christ, your Son who came to give us eternal life. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, your kindness to us is everlasting; we thank you for your daily love for us that includes this gift of food. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the mercy of God be your everlasting joy.



MARCH 10, 2024

HYMN OF THE WEEK

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy





WEEKLY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When is a time you needed to ask for help with something because you could not do it alone?
- A relationship with God is a gift that only God can give us. How is this a challenge to our desire to control our own destiny?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Ephesians 2:1-10.

These verses are packed with powerful themes, some of which pose a challenge to make-it-on-your-own individualism and flawed self-confidence. Ephesians points out that 1) we were spiritually dead because of our brokenness, 2) our misguided passions for pleasure lead us away from God, 3) only God's mercy, grace, and love can intervene to renew our lives in Christ, and 4) God's intervention gives us a new and God-focused passion to do good works, not to earn anything but to simply live as we were created to be. Once we get beyond a sense of making it on our own in life—including making it spiritually with God—we are set free to experience lives that "God prepared beforehand to be our way of life" (v. 10). God's nature is love and mercy. In the language of Psalm 107:1, God is good and God's "steadfast love endures forever." Similarly, Ephesians 2:8 summarizes much of our biblical faith: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God."

Discuss: How does God's mercy and grace make a difference in your daily life?

Pray: Almighty and merciful God, we thank you for your love that never ceases to reach out to us with your saving grace through Jesus Christ. Amen.

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you show love and mercy to someone who is hurting?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



The cross is an ancient symbol of the Christian faith. It reminds us Jesus died that we may live with God forever and is a reminder of a way of life for Jesus' followers. Light four candles of the seven votive candles shaped like a cross being used for Lent. Sit in silence for a moment while looking at the cross.

Then pray: Merciful God, we thank you for your love for us that calls us out of darkness and into the light of Christ so that we may not perish but have eternal life. Amen. (John 3:16)





BEST OF THE RAY

March 21, 2024 • 6 - 8 PM DAPHNE CIVIC CENTER

FOOD • BEVERAGES

LIVE AUCTION

SPECIAL MUSICAL GUEST DISCO KISS

#KIDSNEEDKIWANIS

\$50 PER TICKET

AVAILABLE FROM ANY KIWANIS MEMBER, By Calling (850) 346-8567 Or via Ticketleap or code • TASTES FROM OVER 20 LOCAL RESTAURANTS

• COMPLIMENTARY BEER, WINE, SOFT DRINKS



Lunch Bunch

We will meet on Tuesday, March 19th @ Noon



10810 Hwy 31 Spanish Fort, AL 36527 (251) 930-1252

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex