

**Welcome to worship at
New Hanover Lutheran Church**

**Ash Wednesday
March 2, 2022**



**The Rev. Scott Staub, pastor
Patricia Nyce, director of music ministry**

We love our neighbors with healing and feeding them!

**May your worship experience strengthen you
with God's love and grace.**

Welcome

Prelude

Jesus Paid It All

Mark Hayes

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Call to Worship

“Even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart.”

(Joel 2:12)

Roll up your sleeves.

Let down your guard.

Come in from the storm.

Make yourself at home.

Pull up to the table.

Release the tension in your jaw. Take a deep breath.

Return to God with all your heart.

May it be so.

Call to Confession

Lent can sometimes get a negative reputation. It’s viewed as the season in our faith when we give things up, we prepare for the worst. However, I cannot help but imagine that God wants more for us than just six weeks of discipline or six weeks without chocolate. I cannot help but imagine that God wants a life for us so expansive that faith, joy, and hope flow over the edges. So let us confess, not because we have to suffer our way through Lent, but because the truth moves us one step closer to that expansive faith. Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession and Words of Forgiveness

Holy God, we confess: we don’t return to you fully. We share with you the pieces of our lives that are convenient. We put on different hats in different rooms. We forget that we are called, invited, and loved with all that we are—including our mess, our beauty, our faith, and our doubt. Forgive us, and give us hearts that long to return.

Friends, God sees you. God hears you. God loves you. You are forgiven and claimed with all that you are. Rest in that good news.

Thanks be to God, amen.

Imposition of Ashes

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

(Please come forward to receive ashes on you hand or forehead.)

Gathering Hymn

Just As I Am

ELW #592

First Reading

On My Way

You said return to me so here I am skin and bones held together with memories and a little bit of duct tape. I am bringing the worst of me, consider yourself warned— the furrowed brow, the achy back, the slew of judgments, a pocket full of assumptions, the track of negativity that runs laps in my head. I am bringing it all because you said return to me, edits not required, so return I will. And not all of it will be bad. Some of it will be lovely. I will bring a wagon full of nostalgia, a melody that won't let me go, a million stories that start with the words, "Oh it was beautiful!" I will bring a mended heart, a glass half-full, two lungs, out of breath from dancing too long, and dreams that taste like honey. I will bring my whole messy human self because I know, I just *know*, deep in my bones, that you are already running to meet me. There are no cuts on this team. You said you'd take it all, so here I come. Me and all my humanity. We are on my way.

Gospel Reading Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The holy gospel according to 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 hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. 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 disfigure 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; 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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Anthem

Create in Me

Michael Burkhardt

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Affirmation of Faith

We believe in an expansive love that healed the sick, welcomed the children, and saw this world as it could be.

We believe that that expansive love runs over the edges of our lives, smoothing our rough places, and pulling us home.

We call that expansive love Yaweh and Mother God, Jesus and Divine Creator.

Thanks be to God for a Love like that. Amen.

Invitation to the Table

Jesus has always been one to invite.

He said, **“Drop your nets and follow me.”**

He said, **“Let the little children come.”**

He said, **“Stand up from your mat, you are healed.”**

Jesus has always been one to invite, and that has not changed.

So friends, you are invited to this Table. Each and every one of us—with our doubts, our fears, our scars, our joy, our dreams, our hopes, our questions—we are invited to God’s table.

And here we will be met. Here we will be fed. Here we are given a taste of an expansive life that is full to the brim with love, overflowing with joy.

So come. Not because you must, but because you can. Come. You are invited. This Table is for you.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God who knows us, we are amazed by you. Your love never runs out, your hope never runs dry, your joy never gives up. We wish that we could be more like you in that way.

In a world that loves scarcity, your abundance is shocking. In a world that knows fear, your joy is compelling. In a world that knows anxiety, your peace is captivating. We long for these things.

So today we ask you—be with us on the hamster wheel. Be with us when compassion fatigue rears her head. Be with us when stress makes it hard to breathe. Be with us when self-doubt pushes in close.

Be with us when exhaustion becomes constant or when loneliness becomes our primary language.

Be with us, and show us the way to the life you long for us.

Show us a life of expansive faith.

Show us a life of overflowing joy.

Show us a life of absorbing beauty.

Show us a life of engrossing purpose.

Show us a life that is as honest, and rich, and meaningful as the one Jesus led.

And until that expansive and holy day, we will continue to gather at this Table. Until that day we will continue to look for you in our midst. So pour out a double portion of yourself onto this bread and cup so that we might catch a glimpse of your goodness.

God, we are amazed by you. Your love never runs out, so bring that never-ending love here. Together we pray:

**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.**

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The body of Christ, given for you. Take and eat.

Amen. (*Eat the bread.*)

The blood of Christ, shed for you. Take and drink.

Amen. (*Drink the cup.*)

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Announcements

Sending Hymn

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days ELW #319

Choral Benediction

Sending

Go in peace, and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Go get'em.

Postlude

Solemn March

Feliz Mendessohn

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Announcements

Sound and video assistants needed for worship broadcast and live stream video. Training will be provided. For more information or to sign up, contact Pastor Scott at pastor@newhanoverlutheran.org or (610) 326-1335 ext. 1.

Today

Serving Today Noon Head Usher: Jim Gross; Usher: Jeff Wise;
7:00 Head Usher: Vicki Mutter; Usher: Steve Weidner
Sunday Head Usher: Steve Weidner; Ushers: Faye Weidner and
Elfriede Ilik; Children’s Sermon: Lindsey Waltermeyer

Full to the Brim - An Expansive Lent

Full to the Brim doesn’t ignore or deny sin and suffering. It doesn’t absolve accountability for wrongdoing. Instead it contextualizes our faith. If love is our beginning, how can we live our lives led by love’s promises? It reminds us to live fully—as we pursue justice and hope, or express grief and gratitude. And so, this Lent, let us trust—fully—that we belong to God. Let us increase our capacity to receive and give grace. Let us discover the expansive life God dreams for us. Come join us for a truly expansive experience as we dig deeper into our faith and dream.

- Sunday Worship at 9 AM
- Wednesday Lenten Dinners from 6 – 6:45 PM with Worship Devotions following from 6:45 – 7:15 PM

“Now to the God who can do so many *awe-inspiring things, immeasurable things*, things greater than we ever could ask or imagine through the power at work in us.... --” Eph 3:20

Upcoming Events

Save the date! “***How the Pretzel Survived Prohibition, and Other Twisted Tales***” This is a special Seniors Ministry Program and Luncheon on Thursday, March 24th, noon - 2 PM. “Today’s pretzels are a beloved snack throughout North America. This wasn’t always the case, however. Pretzels were most commonly

associated with saloons, and when Prohibition became the law of the land, pretzel bakers had to scramble to keep their businesses afloat. This illustrated lecture will explore the long and storied history of pretzels, and of course, how the pretzel survived Prohibition.”

Our guest speaker will be Candace Perry, Curator of Collections, Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center. Lunch will be provided for a free-will donation. We just need your reservation to help with meal planning. A sign-up sheet is on the Seniors Ministry table in the Welcome Center. Reservations may be called into the office or emailed to Deacon Carol at carol.detweiler@newhanoverlutheran.org. **Tentative deadline to sign up is Thursday, March 17th**. Watch for additional details and invite a friend to come along!

Spaghetti Dinner, Saturday, March 26th, 4:00 – 7:00 PM It’s time for the annual **all-you-can-eat** Spaghetti Dinner. That’s right, enjoy all the spaghetti with homemade meatballs, homemade sauce, homemade Italian bread, salad and beverage you want. But, be sure to save room for ice cream and Pizzelle for dessert. **BYOB** The Spaghetti Dinner is a fundraising event to help maintain the picnic grove and support youth activities. The cost is: adults - \$13.00, seniors (65 and older) - \$10.00, children (7-12) - \$6.00 and children (6 & younger) – free. Buon appetito.

Prayer Warriors Wanted Pray, pray, and pray some more! You are invited to come pray with us! Yes, we have a prayer chain, but we are adding another prayer ministry. All are welcome to gather together each Monday at 1:15 PM in the sanctuary to pray. We’ll have a brief devotion and pray together. We’ll give thanks and then lift up in prayers our neighbors both near and far. See Donna Kehs or Marsha Staub if you have any questions.

Volunteers are needed to help with VBS 2022 Contact Nikki ASAP in the church office or at nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org for more information about how you can help with this program.

Food Ministry

More than 70,000 meals have been delivered! NHELCL's Loaves & Fishes Food Ministry is changing lives. And, you can be a part of the team. 1) You can donate food. Drop off your donation on Wednesdays between 1 – 2 PM and Sundays between 9 – 10 AM. Items most needed include: hamburger, chicken (thighs and breast meat), pasta (ziti, elbows, bowties), cheese (mozzarella, cheddar, parmesan), potatoes, fresh fruit (apples, oranges, bananas) and eggs. 2) Donate money through Thrivent Gift Cards, place monetary donation in the offering plate or mail to the church. 3) Deliver meals. Sign up at <https://www.newhanoverlutheran.org/loaves-fishes-food-ministry/>.

We need help! NHELCL Loaves & Fishes is feeding the homeless and those in need every month on the second Tuesday. If you can put a piece of food onto a plate, or serve a plate, or greet someone, or help sing a hymn or two, we could use your help. Meals are served at 5:30 PM at Emmanuel Lutheran Church located in Pottstown. You can sign up to help at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0f48adaf28a5f58-nhelc>.

Faith Formation

“Thursdays At Ten” Feeling a little worn-out, anxious, stressed with all that is impacting your daily life? Just need to take a break and rest from all of it? Then join us for **“And I Will Give You Rest”** where we will take time for ourselves, to be present to the Spirit, and learn how to relax through mindfulness exercises, meditation and other creative ways to just “be still.” And to better hear God’s voice amidst the noise of the world. You’ll find us in room 33 from 10-11:30 AM on Thursdays. Questions? Just contact Deacon Carol!

Need a prayer lifted up? The **NHELCL Prayer Chain Ministry** is here for you. If you need a prayer, know someone else who could use one, or just want someone to pray about peace and healing for our communities, nation and world, we will lift those prayers up! All information will be kept confidential. To request a prayer, contact Deacon Carol at carol.detweiler@newhanoverlutheran.org or call the church office (610-326-1335), leave her a voice mail

and she will pass it on to the prayer group. Also, you can contact Deacon Carol to update circumstances or have a name removed from the Prayer Chain. Your prayers will be “delivered”!

“Seniors Serving Others” A Seniors Ministry program where seniors become “God’s Hands” There are a couple of service projects coming up for which we can use some help, including finishing up sun catchers to be hung in skilled care units of nursing homes and making new Chrismons for our Christmas trees. There are other projects being lined up as well. Details will be out soon! Keep an eye on our bulletin announcements for updates on this and other Seniors ministries.

Remember in your prayers

Requests

Toni Rath, Katy Mahon-Miller, Matt Hall, Luann Hanley, Scot Smale, Carol Estes, William Trotter, Kathy Kane, Phil Underkoffler, Maxwell Girard, Pat Fryer, Carol Buchholtz Yost, Enoc Zapien, Jean Renninger, Barbara Morris, Kathy Campos, Pr. Susan Lynch, Richard Norris, Pr. Kork Moyer, Betty Lou Shadle, Julia Hauck, Tony Mancini, Raul Castro, Amy LeVan, Jeffrey Kunsch, Mary Ellen Jonczyk, Hannah Phillips, Braydon Kline, Edwin Sugita, Wilma Lahr, Robert Tadley, Jim Price, Melissa, Bernadette Phillips, Mary Lou, Doug Weaver, Joan Wagner, Jaden Mahlbauer, Robert Ganovsky, MaryAlice Mack, Dorothy Bingaman, Emily Ocelus, Gates family, Eric and Wendy Hess, Sue Care, Josh Young, Herman Richard, Deb Matthews, Marceline, Brendan Avvento, Anne Eshleman, Daniel Johnson, Gwen Grant, Chris Fatzinger, Hank Droneberg, Pena family, Kim Frain, Ken Jacob, Jen Perez, June Urbassik, Frank D., Pam Helfrich, Barb and Tom Faust, Andy Van Dyke, Janet, Tom Swanson, Tricia Hoak family, Carly, Marilyn Varnum, Jerry Dotterer, Feryl Stein, Laurie Scoggins, Pam Abbott, Holli Muffler, Louise Karns

Peace for the violence in our area and nationally

Grieving

For the family and friends of Linda Harpel and Catherine Underwood

Long-term

Garrett Coyne, Heather James, Rachel Walter, Sarah Bowman, Keeley Staples, Logan Conley, Shannon, John, Dominic Strock, Sally Kohl, Tina Farrell

Shut-in

Penny Frymoyer

Military

Shawn Dietz, Michael McHugh, Kevin Dugan, Jason Bernhard, Craig Geiser, Patrick Mathias, Steven Kane, William Zearfoss, Will Wilson V, Milton Jack Repa, Megan Fricker, Kyle Woods

New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 3 PM

Call for an appointment.

(610) 326-1335

Contact Information

Pastor, The Rev. Scott Staub

pastor@newhanoverlutheran.org

Director of Children, Family & Youth Ministry, Nikki Young

nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org

Church Office Manager, Susan Gutshall

susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org

Director of Music Ministry, Patricia Nyce

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Food Ministry Director

Cfatzinger@chris-cooks.com

Director of Senior Faith Formation, Deacon Carol N. Detweiler

carol.detweiler@newhanoverlutheran.org

Bell Choir Director, Barbara Eisenhart

eisenbarb@aol.com

Bookkeeper, Joan Comtois

nhelcbookkeeper@comcast.net

Cemetery

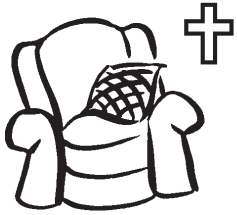
Bill Bauer, rwbauer7@gmail.com

Norm Hunsberger, namron29@comcast.net

Send

A place of prayer

Jesus taught us to find a place to pray quietly. Color in the cross by each picture that shows a place where you can pray.



Have an older person in your family help you make a prayer corner in your home.



Dear Jesus, I'm glad I can pray in quiet and noisy places. You always hear my prayers. Amen



4. Pray

This week

Find time to talk to God every day.

Kids Celebrate

Ash Wednesday



gather

Welcome to worship. Today is Ash Wednesday, the first day of the church season called Lent. Lent lasts 40 days (not counting Sundays). What changes do you see in your worship space?

Can you find shoes for a journey at the top of this page? Draw your shoes inside this footprint.



Some people call Lent a journey or a trip. The end of the trip is Easter! Follow the footprints to find out what four things people do on their 40-day Lenten journey.



1. Listen to stories about Jesus

Hear & Celebrate

Jesus, our teacher

Matthew 6:1-6

Jesus was a teacher. He taught people how to follow God's word. One of Jesus' teachings was to give to people in need. What can you give? _____



Five things you can give are hidden in the picture on this page.

Circle a cereal box, a coin, a pair of shoes, a can of food, and a shirt.



2. Give

The cross

On Ash Wednesday people may receive a cross of ashes on their foreheads. The ashes remind us that we are sorry for the bad things we do. The cross reminds us of our baptism and of Jesus, who died for us.

Every day during Lent, make the sign of the cross to remind you that you are a baptized child of God.

God be in my head.
(Touch forehead)

God be in my heart.
(Touch chest)

God be on my left.
(Touch left shoulder)

God be on my right.
(Touch right shoulder)



3. Worship

Just As I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a con - flict,
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
man - y_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,



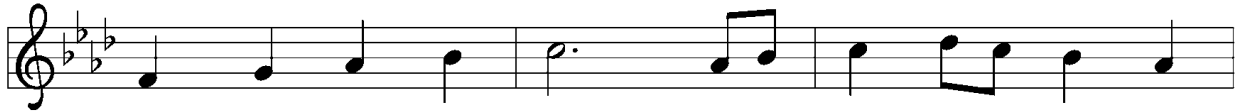
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

“Just As I Am, without One Plea” Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871. Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868. Text and music are in public domain.

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

“O Lord, throughout These Forty Days” Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838-898; para. Gilbert E. Doan, Jr., b. 1930. Music: CONSOLATION, A Davisson, Kentucky Harmony, 1816. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted and Streamed under OneLicense.net #A-701229.

BENEDICTION

R. Leland Wesner, Jr.

For the Choir of Immanuel United Church of Christ,
Shillington, Pa., and their Director, J. Richard Smoker

Gently

Soprano *p* The Lord bless you and keep you. The

Alto *p* The Lord bless you and keep you. The

Tenor *p* The Lord bless you and keep you. The

Bass *p*

4

S Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to *mf*

A Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to *mf*

T Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to *mf*

B Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to *mf*

7

S shine up - on you *mp* and grant you peace; And *p* grant you

A shine up - on you *mp* and grant you peace; And *p* grant you

T shine up - on you *mp* and grant you peace; And *p* grant you

B *mp* *p*

11

S peace. *pp* A men.

A peace. *pp* A men.

T peace. *pp* A men.

B *pp*