

CHESHIRE LUTHERAN CHURCH
660 WEST MAIN STREET
CHESHIRE, CT 06410

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023
7:30 P.M.

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PRELUDE - “Lamb of God, Our Savior”
By J. S. Bach

HYMN 610 - *we sing, standing*

INVOCATION & OPENING VERSICLES

In the name of the Father and of the + Son
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

O Lord, rebuke me not in your anger, **nor
discipline me in your wrath.**

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am lan-
guishing; **heal me, O Lord, for my bones
are troubled.**

My soul also is greatly troubled. **But you, O
Lord—how long?**

Turn, O Lord, deliver my life; **save me for
the sake of your steadfast love.**

For in death there is no remembrance of you;
in Sheol who will give you praise?

Depart from me, all you workers of evil, **for
the Lord has heard the sound of my weep-
ing.**

The Lord has heard my plea; **the Lord ac-
cepts my prayer.**

GREETING, followed by PRAYER

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

Let us pray. **Heavenly Father, as the fa-
ther in the parable of the Prodigal Son
shows grace by welcoming his lost son
home, even though he does not deserve it,
so You showed your grace to us when we
were lost and dead in sin. You sent your
only Son to seek and to save us, welcom-
ing us back to yourself and forgiving our
sins for Jesus’ sake. Empower us with
your Spirit to share the good news that
Jesus died to save all those still lost in the
darkness of sin and that you are eagerly
waiting to welcome them home. Hear our
prayer in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

(please be seated)

FIRST LESSON - Joel 2:1-2, 11-14

SECOND LESSON - Ephesians 2:1-10

Page 157- **VERSE FOR LENT**-*all standing*

GOSPEL - Luke 15:11-32

*Before all shout: **Glory to you, O Lord!***

*After, all shout: **Praise to you, O Christ!***

HYMN 609 vs 1, 2, 5, 6 - *we sing, seated*

SERMON

OFFERTORY

*“Were You There?” arr. By Rich Heffler
Soloist, Althea Madigan, English Horn*

PRAYERS & LORD’S PRAYER

all may kneel

Almighty God, we give you thanks and
praise for your amazing grace in our lives.
We were lost in sin and now have been
found. We were dead in sin and now we
are alive in Christ! Heavenly Father,
through Christ you have welcomed us
home and will one day welcome us into
your eternal presence. Gracious Lord,
Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you have redeemed us in
Christ. We pray that you would lead us by
your Spirit to be faithful in the study of
your holy Word. Keep us on the path of
righteousness so that we carry out the good
works that you have prepared for us. Gra-
cious Lord, **Have mercy on us and hear
our prayer.**

Almighty God, we pray for those who are
suffering with illness and loss and for
those who are struggling in matters of faith
because they feel lost and alone. Help us to
serve them in love and bring them the
comfort of the promises of your Word.
Gracious Lord, **Have mercy on us and
hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, so many people are lost
and suffering in poverty, hunger and need.
Lead us to opportunities to help them with
their earthly needs and bring to them the
eternal hope that is found only in Jesus.
Gracious Lord, **Have mercy on us and
hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, empower us with your
Spirit to be bold witnesses to those who
are still lost in the darkness of sin. Help us
to share with them the good news of Jesus’
death and resurrection. We pray, too, that
our words of witness will be supported
with our acts of love and service. We want
others to know that you are the heavenly
Father who waits to welcome them home.
Gracious Lord, **Have mercy on us and
hear our prayer.**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and
teach us to pray: **Our Father, who art in
heaven....**

BENEDICTION

HYMN 744 vs 1 - 4

POSTLUDE - “Andante Tranquillo”
By Mendelssohn

