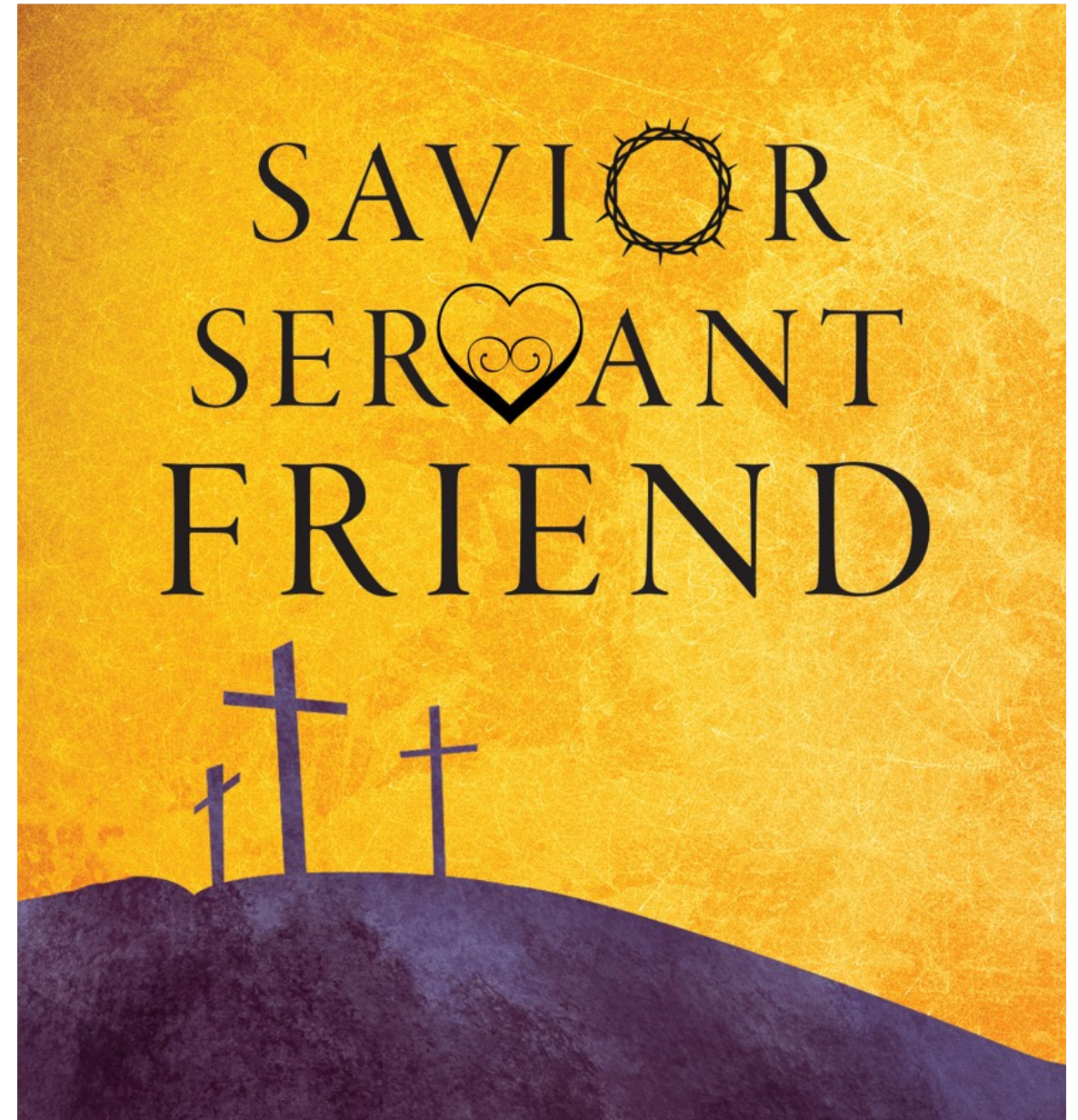


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THANK YOU to our Soup servers this evening and to everyone who helped to set up for and clean up from our Soup & Salad Supper. Join us every Wednesday evening at 6 PM from now through Palm Sunday for our Soup & Salad Supper. We will have Bible study after the supper and then Wednesday night service at 7:30 PM. Please remember to sign up for the suppers using the sheets on the hallway bulletin board.



Week 3—ENCOURAGER

CHESHIRE LUTHERAN CHURCH
660 WEST MAIN STREET
CHESHIRE, CT 06410

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2025
7:30 P.M.

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PRELUDE - “*Cast Your Burden Upon The Lord*” by Mendelssohn.

HYMN 750, ss. 1, 3, 7 - *we sing, standing*

INVOCATION & VERSICLES

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

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant us **To live in harmony with one another and in accord with Christ Jesus.**

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, **Any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit,**

Any affection and sympathy, **Complete my joy by being of one mind,**

Having the same love, **Being in full accord and of one mind.**

Therefore encourage one another **And build one another up, just as you are doing.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and the Holy Spirit; as it was in the

beginning is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GREETING, followed by PRAYER
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **Lord Jesus, life in this world leaves us disheartened and discouraged, lost and lonely. Come to the aid of Your people with Your friendship and love. Encourage us with Your Word and Your promises. Strengthen our faith to live for You alone. Grant us Your Holy Spirit so that we have the courage we need to face all that we encounter in this life. In Your name. Amen.**

(please be seated)

FIRST LESSON - Isaiah 41:8-13
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SECOND LESSON - 1 Thess. 5:5-11
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

page 173 - **VERSE FOR LENT** - *all standing*

GOSPEL - Matthew 8:5-13
Before, all say: Glory to you, O Lord!
After, all say: Praise to you, O Christ!

HYMN 728 - *we sing, seated*

SERMON

OFFERTORY – “*The Lamb Of God*” by Twila Paris; sung by the Parish Choir.

PRAYERS & LORD’S PRAYER - *all may kneel*

We are not worthy to enter into Your presence, our Savior, Servant, Friend. And still You encourage us to draw near to You in prayer. You promise that when we gather in Your name, You will be present among us. Jesus, hear us now as we lift our prayers and raise our petitions to you. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Fortify our wavering hearts and encourage us with Your unflinching love. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Encourage the leaders of this world to be about the work of peace and justice, fostering care for the sojourner, the lonely and the forgotten. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Build up the faith of those who are wandering in doubt, rescue those who are lost in sin and redeem all who are plagued by shame and guilt. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Strengthen the souls of those who are near the point of death or mourning the

loss of loved ones. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Embolden our faith so that we can be witnesses for You in this world and that many may come to know You and Your love. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Listen to our prayers of thanksgiving for all the gifts that You give to Your people. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Give hope and joy to Your Church so that we can faithfully live as the Body of Christ amongst our neighbors **Lord, hear our prayer and encourage us as only you can. In Your name. Amen.**

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to 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.**

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace. **Amen.**

HYMN 761 - *we sing, standing*

POSTLUDE - “*Evening Meditation*” by Schreiner.