"The power of love ... and the hope it brings" ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH "Oasis of Joy" USA

Sunday, March 4, 2018

Welcome to our "humble temple" ... and "humble" it is! Strong coffee, good folks, average preachin'!!

We hope you find a measure of peace and joy, worshipping with us today. We sure do enjoy having kids in church. When they get a bit noisy and restless ... we ask you PLEASE TO RESPECT the sanctity of our worship experience, and the comfort of your neighbor. We have a fine nursery for kids age 5 and under. Our highly paid, ridiculously Lutheran, and moderately festive staff is always anxious to care for your kids. Please accompany your son/daughter to the nursery and introduce yourself to the attendants. A fine blend of "Lenten coffee" awaits you in Charter Hall ---- great having you here.

A special welcome to our friends Gerry and Denise Dignan ... we are honored to share this day with you!

welcome ... announcements? kinds words? goodness to share?

OPENING PRAYER

As we worship here this morning ... in the quiet humility and goodness of this place ... there is a "whole world" going on outside the boundaries of our simple doors:

*people waking up on the other side of the world.

*men and women in the middle of their night shift.

*some kids snuggling safely in their beds ... others with no place to sleep at all.

*Lord, I hear the words: "We are in this together."

"Whatever you do to the least of these, my children ... you are doing it unto me."

Lord, open my heart. Open my eyes. Light a fire deep inside my soul.

That I may give ... and love ... and not just "say it" --- but DO IT!!

May my prayers come alive in the way I walk, in the stuff I do, and the spirit with which I live each day. Amen.

opening song "Eagles' wings" 787

the liturgy ... page 98 "This is the feast" 101

readings for the day
*1st lesson "Lovingkindness" *2nd lesson
please rise for the gospel ... "alleluia" ... page 102

"Will my younger friends come forward?" kids' time

**playing right field, it's easy you know. You can be awkward, you can be slow ... that's why I'm here in right field, just watching the dandelions grow.

**Here in right field, it's important you know. You gotta know how to catch, you gotta know how to throw. That's why I'm here in right field ---- JUST WATCHING THE DANDELIONS GROW.

song "Teach me, Lord, to wait" 90 (spirit)

meditation

the creed ... page 105

offering and offertory
"holy, holy" page 108
choir anthem: "God so loved the world" 11:00

prayer and sharing the Lord's Supper "Lamb of God" page 108 "Precious Lord" "You'll never walk alone"

closing song ... "Here I am, Lord" 574 benediction and 3-fold "amen"

The eternal light shines brightly this morning ...

from Joe and Nancy Crowther, in honor of their granddaughter Ruby Jean's 7th birthday.

Monday: *Confirmation class, 7:15 – 8:30
Tuesday: *Stitch and Sew, 6:30
Wednesday: *Bible study, 7:00 "miracles of Jesus"
Thursday: *Lenten Supper, 6:30
*Lenten worship, with Lord's Supper, 7:30
Friday: Gerry's evening of Irish Music and Joy ...
see Gerry for details – it's a great night!!

YOUTH GROUP ... PRIVATE MOVIE SHOWING ... Sunday, March 18 ... please rsvp today

EASTER FLOWERS ----- we surely enjoy them for Easter Sunday.... tulips, lilies, hyacinth. Forms and payment envelopes are in the narthex.

WHAT A SPAGHETTI DINNER fun, refreshing ... we make some money (\$20,000) thanks for all you share and did for us. This helps us do "good stuff" ... and keep our doors open!!

THE LOVE BUCKET TODAY is for Kris and Jeremy ... and their kids. Kris grew up here has had a couple heart surgeries ... they live in Indiana ... they are humble and kind ... would never ask for anything ... the kind of folks we like to help.