

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church
Pastor Lee Welker
February 4, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Epiphany**

**Gathered
Fed
Sent**

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church
Neighborhood Connection**

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Welcome to worship today. Our prayer is that we may meet our holy God in song, word, activity and prayer.

Introduction

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthen the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

*[Congregation's responses are printed in **BOLD** type.]*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERED

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

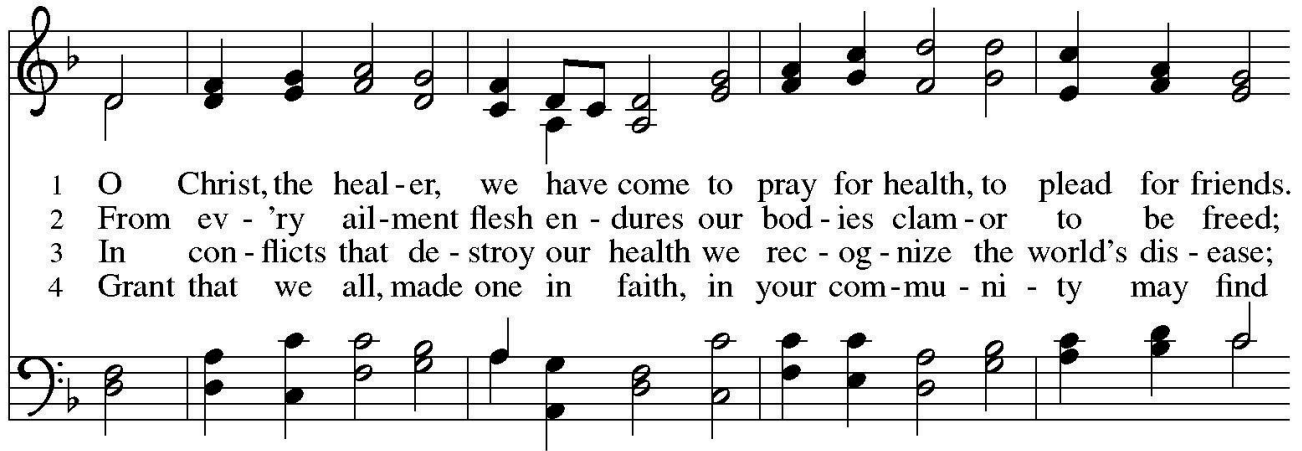
God, our rock and refuge,

we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

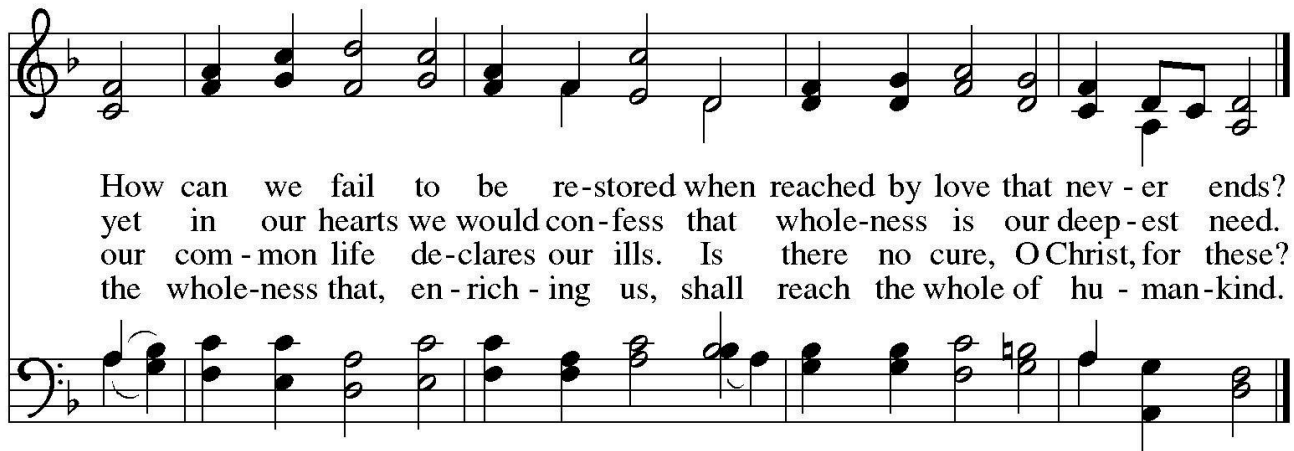
The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

Amen.

Come



1 O Christ, the heal-er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
2 From ev - 'ry ail-ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;
3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find



How can we fail to be re-stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
yet in our hearts we would con - fess that whole-ness is our deep - est need.
our com - mon life de - clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
the whole-ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man-kind.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Everlasting God,
you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM READING Psalm 147:1-11, 20c (read responsively)

Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.

He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

Great is our LORD, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

The LORD lifts up the downtrodden; he casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre.
He covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills.

He gives to the animals their food, and to the young ravens when they cry.
His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;

but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. Praise the LORD!

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand, as you are able



GOSPEL Mark 1:29-39

The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 1st chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

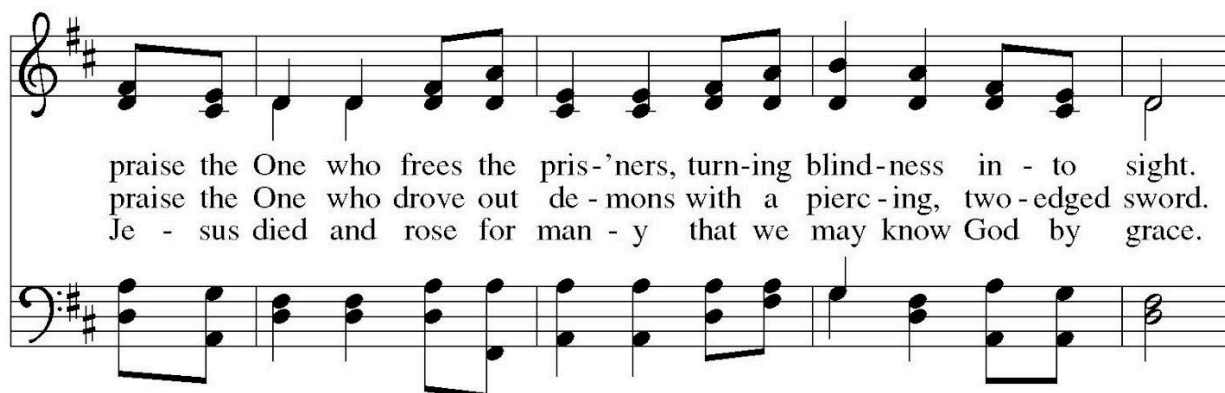
The gospel our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON



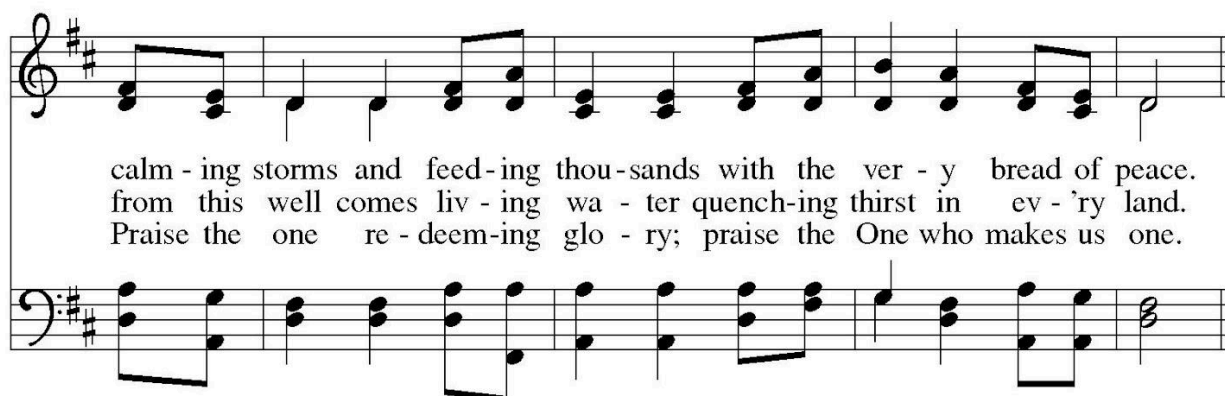
1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

APOSTLES' CREED

Together let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each prayer petition ends, *God of grace,*
Our response, **receive our prayer.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

You may share the peace of Christ with one another

OFFERING

MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, Holy One,
**for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven
to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow
your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

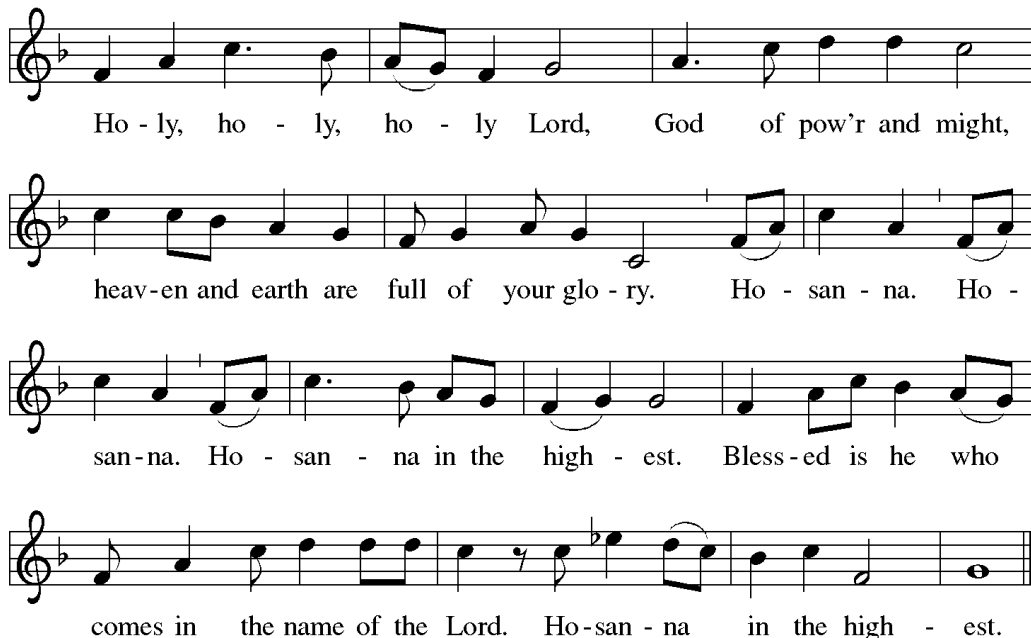
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,.....

.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:.....

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

.....Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins

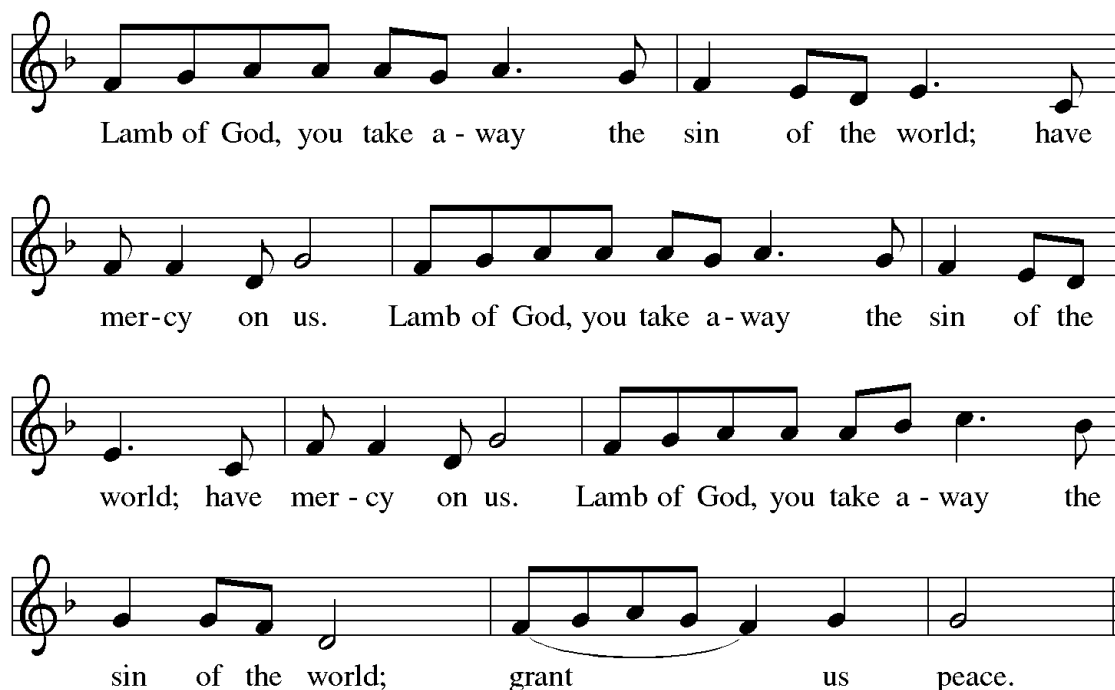
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Assisting Minister will be communed first so that those on Zoom can partake in the communion before the congregation:

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.



POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus the Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Giver of every gift,

Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

Amen.

SENT

BENEDICTION

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ☩ bless you and remain with you always.

Amen.

1 Oh, wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
 2 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 3 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
 4 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,
 5 O mea - sure - less might, in - ef - fa - ble love,

Oh, grate - ful - ly sing God's pow - er and love;
 Al - might - y, your pow'r has found - ed of old;
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
 while an - gels de - light to hymn you a - bove,

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,
 the hum - bler cre - a - tion, though fee - ble their lays,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
 and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our mak - er, de - fend - er, re - deem - er, and friend.
 with true ad - o - ra - tion shall sing to your praise.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Music portions of the Liturgy, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Setting 3,
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Texts for February 11: 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6;
Mark 9:2-9

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The attendance at last weeks' service was about 23 and 3 on Zoom and
YouTube.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday February 14 – Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm

**The 2024 Lenten season is upon us! The Irvington Association of
Minister Churches** will continue the tradition of gathering on Wednesday's
at 6pm during Lent for a Soup Supper & Worship service. Please join us!

February 21st at Gethsemane Lutheran Church

February 28th at Downey Avenue Christian Church

March 6th at Irvington Presbyterian Church

March 13th at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

March 20th at Irvington United Methodist Church

The ICAN Food Pantry is at Downey Avenue Christian Church, 111 S.
Downey Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46219. They appreciate all of the food and
toiletry donations that are provided to them through Gethsemane Lutheran
Church. Their website is www.icanfoodpantry.com. They have an Amazon
wish list on their webpage where you can select items on their list, order and
pay for them, and they will be mailed directly to Downey Avenue Christian
Church. They also are asking for these new or gently used items: Pots,
pan, two-slice toasters, and can openers. Thank you for any and all
donations.

ICAN - Irvington Community Advocacy Network – Office located at
Irvington United Methodist Church, 30 N. Audubon, Indianapolis, IN 46219
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Phone: 317-322-9645

Email: ICANCenterIrvington@gmail.com

Program Director: Brianna Owens

Potential Assistance and Referral Services for: *Food Pantries, *Clothing Closet, *Employment and Resumes, *Applications for Assistance, *Continuing Education, *Transportation Assistance

If the office is closed and you are in need of immediate assistance, please call 211 or go to findhelp.org.