

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026

Divine Service, Setting Three – LSB 184

8:00 & 10:30*am, 5:00 pm

*livestreamed on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

AS WE GATHER

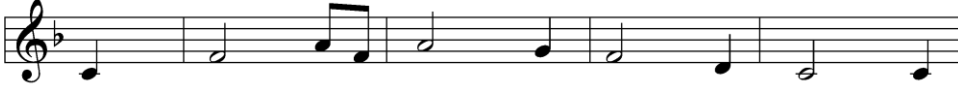
The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, but He does not forsake them. Instead, He promises to turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground (Isaiah 42:16). The Lord does not give up on His servant, Israel, but sends another Servant who is the light of the world (John 9:5). Jesus' light comes to us in His Word, His water, and His Supper. These are His means for opening our eyes to see and to live as children of light (Ephesians 5:8). Baptized into Christ, we look forward to the day when these words will come pass: "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you" (Ephesians 5:14).

[Rev. Eric J. Edwards](#) † [Rev. Liwei Sui](#) † [Dr. Priscilla Gabriel](#), Director of Parish Music
2200 S. High Street, Bloomington, IN † 812-332-1668 † office@faithbtown.org

✠ ✠ ✠ GATHERING ✠ ✠ ✠

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC – *When Peace like a River* and *Amazing Grace* from
American Folk Hymn Suite (Charles Callahan)

HYMN OF INVOCATION – LSB 744 – **Amazing Grace**



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, Was blind but now I see!
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

✠ ✠ ✠ WORD ✠ ✠ ✠

INTROIT – Psalm 27:4-6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15

Leader: My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.



- C** One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:*
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his | temple.

Leader: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble;*
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high up - | on a rock.

- C** And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with | shouts of joy;*
I will sing and make melody | to the LORD.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

KYRIE – Lord, Have Mercy



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.
P Let us pray... one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

FIRST LESSON – Isaiah 42:14-21

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace;
I have kept still and restrained myself;
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
I will gasp and pant.
¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills,
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn the rivers into islands,
and dry up the pools.
¹⁶And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know,
in paths that they have not known
I will guide them.
I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.
These are the things I do,
and I do not forsake them.
¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
who trust in carved idols,
who say to metal images,
“You are our gods.”
¹⁸Hear, you deaf,
and look, you blind, that you may see!
¹⁹Who is blind but my servant,
or deaf as my messenger whom I send?
Who is blind as my dedicated one,
or blind as the servant of the Lord?
²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them;
his ears are open, but he does not hear.
²¹The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness’ sake,
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL – Sung by congregation. – *Hebrews 12:2*



**O come, let us fix our eyes on | Jesus,*
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,*
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.**

EPISTLE – Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE – *Joel 2:13b*

C Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

HOLY GOSPEL – *John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. . . .

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” . . .

³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

8:00 am – NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

10:30 am & 5:00 pm – APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY – LSB 849 – Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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SERMON – *The Servant of the Lord for Us* – John 9: 1-7, 13-17, 34-39

OFFERING – *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* from *American Folk Hymn Suite*
(Charles Callahan)

OFFERTORY – *Psalms 51:10-12*



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

A Let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

A ...one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

10:30 am & 5:00 pm – Continue with the **Lord's Prayer** (*page 10*)
and conclude with the **Benediction and Hymn to Depart** (*page 14*).

✠ ✠ ✠ SACRAMENT ✠ ✠ ✠

8:00 am – LSB 194

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them up unto the Lord.
P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
C It is meet and right so to do.
P It is truly meet, right, and salutary...evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS – LSB 195 – Holy, Holy, Holy – *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

For Guests and Visitors Desiring the Sacrament

As a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, we confess, in accord with the Scriptures, that **in this sacred meal Jesus Himself is truly present to forgive our sin and strengthen our faith.**

Participation in this meal indicates that you **believe, have been baptized, and have been taught** according to our Lord's command **and are in doctrinal agreement** with this confession.

- **If you are visiting from outside the Lutheran Church or are new to the faith,** we welcome you to come to the altar with arms crossed to receive a blessing.
- **If you desire to receive instruction for the Lord's Supper,** please speak with one of our pastors.

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

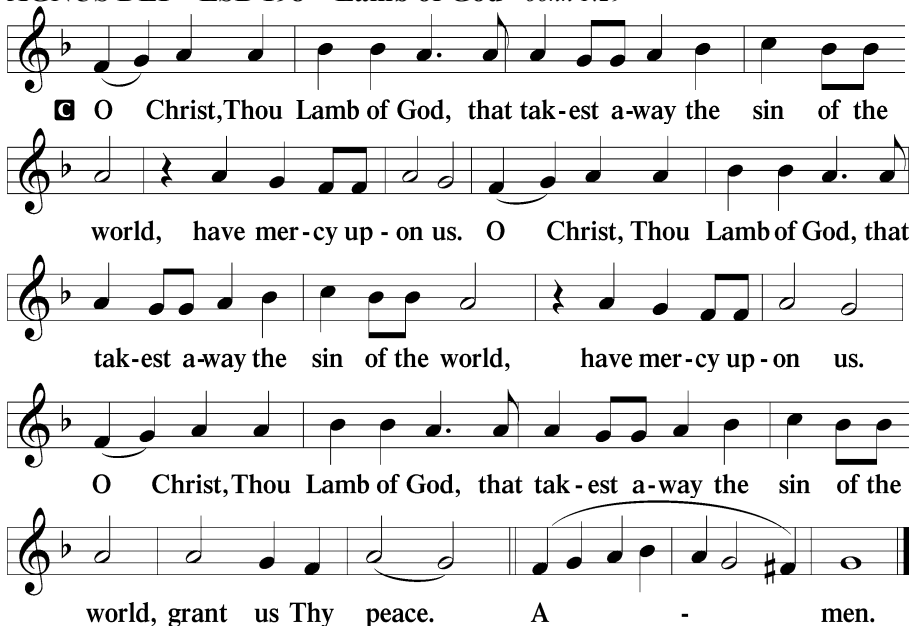
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI – The Peace of the Lord – *John 20:19*

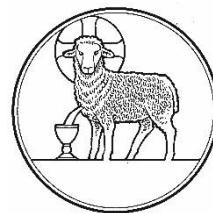
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI – LSB 198 – Lamb of God - *John 1:29*



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.



Distribution Notes:

If you need
gluten-free wafers,
please let one of the
pastors know.

Non-alcoholic grape
juice, containing *a*
trace amount of
wine, is available in
the center of the tray.

DISTRIBUTION

Anthem – *Humbly, I Adore Thee* (arr. Mark Schweizer)

LSB 571 – God Loved the World So That He Gave



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.

△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessèd Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

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*Humbly I adore thee,
Verity unseen,
who thy glory hiddest,
'neath these shadows
mean;
Lo, to thee surrendered,
my whole heart is
bowed,
tranced as it beholds
thee, shrined within the
cloud.*

*Taste and touch and
vision to discern thee
fail;
faith, that comes by
hearing, pierces
through the veil.
I believe whate'er the
Son of God hath told;
what the Truth hath
spoken, that for truth I
hold.*

*O memorial wondrous
of the Lord's own
death;
living Bread that givest
all they creatures
breath,
grant my spirit ever by
thy life may live, to my
taste thy sweetness
never failing give.*

*Jesus, whom now
hidden, I by faith
behold,
what my soul doth long
for, that thy word
foretold;
face to face thy
splendor, I at last shall
see, in the glorious
vision, blessed Lord, of
thee.*

-Thomas Aquinas

LSB 396 – Arise and Shine in Splendor



1 A - rise and shine in splen - dor; Let night to day sur -
 2 See earth in dark - ness ly - ing, The hea - then na - tions
 3 The world's re - mot - est rac - es, Up - on whose wea - ry
 4 Lift up your eyes in won - der— See, na - tions gath - er
 5 Your heart will leap for glad - ness When from the realms of



ren - der. Your light is draw - ing near. A - bove, the
 dy - ing In hope - less gloom and night. To you the
 fac - es The sun looks from the sky, Shall run with
 yon - der From sin to be set free. The world has
 sad - ness They come from near and far. Your eyes will



day is beam - ing, In match - less beau - ty
 Lord of heav - en— Your life, your hope— has
 zeal un - tir - ing, With joy Your light de -
 heard Your sto - ry; Her sons come to Your
 wake from slum - ber As peo - ple with - out



gleam - ing; The glo - ry of the Lord is here.
 giv - en Great glo - ry, hon - or, and de - light.
 sir - ing That breaks up - on them from on high.
 glo - ry; Her daugh - ters haste Your light to see.
 num - ber Re - joice to see the Morn - ing Star.

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LSB 690 – Hope of the World



1 Hope of the world, Thou Christ of great com - pas - sion;
 2 Hope of the world, God's gift from high - est heav - en,
 3 Hope of the world, a - foot on dust - y high - ways,
 4 Hope of the world, who by Thy cross didst save us
 5 Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death vic - to - rious,



Speak to our fear - ful hearts by con - flict rent.
 Bring - ing to hun - gry souls the bread of life,
 Show - ing to wan - d'ring souls the path of light,
 From death and dark de - spair, from sin and guilt,
 Who by this sign didst con - quer grief and pain,



Save us, Thy peo - ple, from con - sum - ing pas - sion,
 Still let Thy Spir - it un - to us be giv - en
 Walk Thou be - side us lest the tempt - ing by - ways
 We ren - der back the love Thy mer - cy gave us;
 We would be faith - ful to Thy Gos - pel glo - rious.



Who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.
 To heal earth's wounds and end our bit - ter strife.
 Lure us a - way from Thee to end - less night.
 Take Thou our lives and use them as Thou wilt.
 Thou art our Lord! Thou dost for - ev - er reign!

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POST-COMMUNION SONG – LSB 767 – Jesus, Remember Me

Sung as the distribution comes to a close and repeated as needed.



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when You come in - to Your king - dom.



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when You come in - to Your king - dom.

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THANKSGIVING

P O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C and His mercy endureth forever.

P Let us pray... one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

HYMN TO DEPART – LSB 422 – On My Heart Imprint Your Image



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev-er may Your work e-raise;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

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SILENT PRAYER / ANNOUNCEMENTS

POST-SERVICE MUSIC – *God Loved the World So That He Gave* (arr. Valerie A. Floeter)

Pastor Edwards and family are on vacation until through Saturday.

Church office hours THIS week due to Spring Break:

Mon-Wed, March 16-18: 10am-Noon

Thurs, March 19: CLOSED

Fri, March 20: CLOSED as usual

The office email (office@faithbtown.org) is for *non-essential* matters only.

If you have **urgent pastoral needs** please **contact Pastor Sui** at 812-671-3915.

Regular office hours will resume on **Monday, March 23.**



Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the **Woodworth family** in loving memory of Loryn's grandparents (**Charles & Willa Cable**) and Andrew's grandparents (**Stan & Eileen Smith**).



The PPC is forming the **Call Committee** to call an Associate Pastor. If you have questions, are willing to be considered to serve on this committee, or would like to recommend another member for consideration, please *contact PPC Chair Ryan Shettlesworth* (rshettle@gmail.com or 812-269-2888).

TUESDAY, March 17

9:30am **Chinese Bible Study** (Grand Hall)

WEDNESDAY, March 18 Midweek Lenten Worship

12:00pm **Worship** † 12:30pm **Meal**

5:45pm **Meal** † 7:00pm **Worship**

7:45pm **Senior Choir** (sanctuary)

THURSDAY, March 19

Office and Downstairs part of the building **CLOSED** (acoustic testing in the sanctuary)

11:30am **JOY Group** (Longhorn Steak House)

WEDNESDAY, March 25 Spirit Camp Registration OPENS for congregation & preschool families

WEDNESDAY, April 1 [Faith Campership application](#) deadline (visit FaithBtown.org)

WEDNESDAY, April 8 Spirit Camp Registration OPENS for the community

FRIDAY, April 10 Ladies' Night Out (home of Margo Schwenke)

SATURDAY, April 11 LWML Spring Gathering (St. John's, White Creek)

SATURDAY, April 18 Generosity Feeds

SUNDAY, April 27

9:15am **Confirmation Examination**

10:30am **Rite of Confirmation** (reception to follow)

Do you receive our weekly announcements?
Subscribe to **FaithBtown News** for weekly announcements and updates.



flocknote



NEWHOPE FOR FAMILIES

Support New Hope Families *through March 22*

Each year New Hope transitions around 50 families out of homelessness into housing. When these families leave the shelter, they have minimal items needed to move into their new home.

The Health and Human Care Ministry team is collecting donations to make 'move-in baskets' so families can have basic cleaning supplies and other items provided.

Needed Items:

- Bath towel set (new or gently used)
- Dish towels (new or gently used)
- Dish cloths
- Dish soap
- All-purpose spray cleaner
- Paper Towels and/or cleaning rags
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Toilet paper

Donations may be placed in the marked bin in the narthex **through March 22nd**.

Contact Samantha Schaefer or Janet Hitzeman with questions or if you prefer to make a monetary donation for someone to shop for you.