

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity
Greenville, Pennsylvania

The Third Sunday in Lent March 6 and 7, 2021 Welcome in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ! If you come as a visitor today, we hope you will leave as a friend. We count it a privilege and a blessing to have you with us in worship. If you are not presently a member of any congregation, please feel welcome to gather with us around Jesus in this community of his disciples at Holy Trinity. Come and worship with us again!

Invitation to Communion: Holy Communion is the body and blood of Jesus Christ by which our Lord is truly present to forgive sin and bring life and salvation. All baptized Christians who believe this promise are welcome to commune. Parents with children are encouraged to come to the altar together. Children who do not yet receive communion will receive the blessing of the Church from the Pastor.

Procedure for Communing: We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.

Gluten-free wafers are available; let Pastor know when you come forward to receive.

Service of Holy Communion

Significance of the Day: The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

Gathering

Prelude

Variations on Slane

(Young et al)

Greeting and Announcements

(The assembly stands as the ministers enter.)

Confession

(All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the presiding minister begins.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Fountain of living water,
pour out your mercy over us.
Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood.
Make us alive in the Spirit
to follow in the way of Jesus,
as healers and restorers of the world you so love.
Amen.

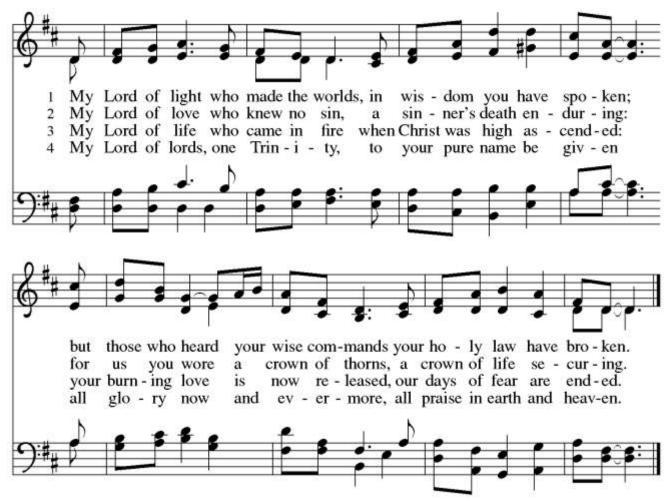
Beloved, God's word never fails.

The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.

Opening Hymn

My Lord of Light

(Please be seated. We will not be singing but these words are here for your reflection.)



(The assembly stands.)

Apostolic 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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

First Reading Exodus 20:1-17

A reading from Exodus:

- 1 Then God spoke all these words:
- 2 I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; 3 you shall have no other gods before me.
- 4 You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, 6 but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.
- 7 You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.
- 8 Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work. 10 But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. 11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.
- 12 Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.
 - 13 You shall not murder.
 - 14 You shall not commit adultery.
 - 15 You shall not steal.
 - 16 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- 17 You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19

(Saturday psalm will be spoken responsively, Sunday psalm will be sung by Cantor.)

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,
- 4 their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.
- 5 It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can detect one's own offenses?
 - Cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
 O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

A reading from 1 Corinthians:

18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

20 Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. 22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, 23 but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, 24 but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (*The assembly stands.*)

Glory and praise to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.

We proclaim Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of God. The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

(The reading of the Gospel.)

Jerusalem. 14 In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. 15 Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. 16 He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" 17 His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." 18 The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." 20 The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" 21 But he was speaking of the temple of his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly sits.)

The Sermon Pastor Brenda Martin

(The assembly remains seated.)

Hymn of the Day All My Hope on God Is Founded

(We will not be singing but these words are here for your reflection.)



(The assembly stands.)

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate:

he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

A: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need, responding, "Hear us, O God, your mercy is great."

(Brief silence)

- A: There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Michael; our pastors, musicians, teachers and council members. Hear us, O God,
- C: your mercy is great.
- A: The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us, O God,
- C: your mercy is great.
- A: Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all. Hear us, O God,
- C: your mercy is great.
- A: Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering. Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor. We pray for all whose lives have been disrupted by the pandemic; we pray for physical and financial health for all. Hear us, O God,
- C: your mercy is great.
- A: You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God,
- C: your mercy is great.

- A: The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death. Hear us, O God,
- C: your mercy is great.
- A: Are there others for whom we should pray?
- P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.

Peace

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

(The assembly sits.)

Meal

Music as the meal is prepared Interlude on *Beach Spring* (Frahm)

(The assembly stands. The deacon, on behalf of the people, prays.)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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 our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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.

The Breaking of Bread

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all is now ready.

(The assembly sits.)

Communion of the Faithful

Procedure for Communing: We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.

(Following the Communion the assembly stands for the blessing.)

Music during communion Appointed hymns

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Our Prayer for These Times

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Variation on Mit Freuden Zart

(Krapf)

(Once the pastor is at the back of the church, ushers will dismiss by row.)

Serving Tonight

Presiding MinisterPastor Brenda MartinPianistMaidene HackettLiturgical DeaconDan Eppley

Serving Today

Presiding MinisterPastor Brenda MartinOrganistMaidene HackettCantorMary Beth BradleyLiturgical DeaconCatherine MottCommunion AssistantAlyssa MartinLectorOlivia Martin-CallHead UsherTammy Daniello

Altar Guild Bonnie Massing, Bonnie Long

Acknowledgments

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Pastors in residence:

The Rev. Martin Roth, Pastor Emeritus, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
The Rev. Julia Fraser, chaplain at St. Paul Homes
The Rev. Brian Riddle, Thiel College Campus Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Curtis Thompson, retired, Thiel College

Attendance at the Saturday, February 27, 2021, 5:30 p.m. Service: 22. Attendance at the Sunday, February 28, 2021, 9:30 a.m. Service: 37. Total: 59.

Remember to order flowers to decorate the chancel on Easter Sunday. Order forms are on the last page of this bulletin.

Deadline to do so is Sunday, March 14, 2021.

This Week at Holy Trinity

Sunday, March 7, 2021, Third Sunday in Lent

9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

10:45 a.m. Sunday Church School/Confirmation

7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

5:15 p.m. Worship and Music

7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

6:15 p.m. Lenten Evening Prayer

7:15 p.m. Lenten Study

Council reports due today

Thursday, March 11, 2021

10:00 a.m. Weekday Communion

5:00 p.m. Officers' Planning meeting

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

8:00 p.m. Happy Hour (Zoom)

Friday, March 12, 2021

Virtual Stations of the Cross – see below for instructions

Saturday, March 13, 2021

5:30 p.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

Turn clocks ahead

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 14, 2021, Third Sunday in Lent

9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

10:45 a.m. Sunday Church School/Confirmation

1:00 p.m. Reformed: Always Reforming in Brath Hall

7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Easter flower/donation deadline

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

7:00 p.m. Congregation Council

7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

6:15 p.m. Lenten Evening Prayer

7:15 p.m. Lenten Study

Thursday, March 18, 2021

10:00 a.m. Weekday Communion

8:00 p.m. Happy Hour (Zoom)

Friday, March 19, 2021

Virtual Stations of the Cross – see below for instructions

Saturday, March 20, 2021

5:30 p.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

Morning Prayer

We will **NOT** be gathering at the church to pray Morning Prayer on weekdays during Lent. However, one member of the congregation will pray Morning Prayer at the church each day on our behalf. Because we typically pray for every member of the congregation by name during Lent at these services, we have created a simplified order of Morning Prayer for you to pray at home every day. See that order, and the list of names for each day, in the current Messenger.

Wednesday Evening Prayer and Lenten Study

We **WILL** gather for Evening Prayer at 6:15 p.m. in the sanctuary. Because we have had a daily Eucharist scheduled for Wednesday evenings since June, a brief distribution of Holy Communion will occur at the conclusion of Evening Prayer for those who wish to remain in the church.

We will also have a Lenten study at 7:15 p.m. Pastor Brenda will hold the study in-person at the church for a small number of people who attend Evening Prayer and prefer to remain in the church. The study will also be available via Zoom for those who feel safer gathering in that way. If you would like to participate via Zoom, please contact the church office so that we can email you the Zoom link.

The study this year will be on the Luther writing, "Freedom of the Christian." Last year was the 500th anniversary of the publication of "Freedom of the Christian," and we will explore what it means for those of us who usually think about "freedom" as the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of a Western democracy, and compare that to what it means to be freed in Christ.

Stations of the Cross

We will not gather in person to pray Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings. We will, however, have Stations of the Cross available on our YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCamdlF705R3knw7NEksvFxg. You can pray Stations on Friday evenings by using the posting on that channel.

Lenten Coin Folders

Lenten Coin Folders are available March in the narthex for anyone interested in keeping this tradition. There is a basket in the narthex where you may return your folder. They may also be placed in the offering plate on Saturday/Sunday.

Sunday Church School Lenten Project 2021 - Calling All Bunnies!

The Parish Education Committee is requesting participation from the congregation in our SCS Lenten Project.

For the Good Shepherd Center's Easter basket distribution this year, we will again be collecting chocolate bunnies. We ask that the bunnies be medium-sized, preferably 6 oz. Bunnies can be brought in, starting on Ash Wednesday (February 17) and placed on tables which will be located as usual at two spots – in the narthex, and in the administrative hall near the back alley door. We will need to have all bunnies collected by **Tuesday, March 23**, in order for GSC to have them in time for the Easter basket distribution dates.

Thank you so much in advance for any help you can provide with our Lenten Project!

Good Shepherd February Request

The Good Shepherd Center is our church community social service agency that supports the needs of many in the area. The Good Shepherd Center's request for Holy Trinity for **February is canned fruit.**

Donations may be dropped off at the church office or directly at the Food Pantry.

Good Shepherd Easter Request

The Good Shepherd Center's Easter request for Holy Trinity <u>60 pasta or rice side</u> <u>dishes</u>. Deadline for donations is Sunday, March 21.





Please Pray For

Permission is necessary to add a person to the prayer list. Please ask before your call the office. Thanks.

Health and Healing:

Kate (friend of Paul and Sue Bittler) Nancy Ullstrom

Jim Morris (brother-in-law of Louise Gilmore, uncle of Jennifer Martin) Nancy (friend of Linda Armstrong)

Lori McCann John L (father of Catherine Mott)

Donnie (friend of Wayne and Darla Swift) Brenda (sister-in-law of Betty K. Junk)

Chris Hansen (cousin of Betty K. Junk) Carl Laurie Campbell (friend of Fran Black) Paul

Dennis (brother of Jim Martin)

Betty K.

Hank (son of Henry and Ruth Heil)

Dillon (friend of Ed Pitcher and Beth Harpst)

Belle (granddaughter of Linda Bateman)

Christ's comfort for those who grieve the death of:

Kelly Henderson Bradley (cousin of Jill Murrin) Allan Wilkins **Beverly Richards**

In Military Service

Specialist (SPC) Andrew McCall, Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colorado (son of Mark and Jane McCall, grandson of Karen McKay and the late Jim McKay)

Sgt. First Class Nicholas Carman, US Army, Fredericksburg, Virginia (grandson of Nancy Ullstrom)

Admiral Richard Childs, Assistant Surgeon General of the USA (nephew of Harvey Childs)

CDR Ryan Leary, USN, Operation Officer, 7th Fleet, Yokosuka, Japan (son of David and Judy Leary)

Tim Ross, Navy Special Forces, (grandson of Rae Johnson, nephew of Lori McEwen) Ian McQuiston, US Air Force, Kuwait (friend of Betty K. Junk)

Easter Flower / ELCA Disaster Response Form

Help decorate the chancel for Easter by ordering potted flowers for our celebration of the Festival of the Resurrection. You may also make a donation to the ELCA Disaster Response.

Your donation may be made in celebration of, in memory of, or in honor of a person (s) or an event. (Amounts given are not listed in the bulletin.)

The deadline for ordering flowers and making a donation to Disaster Response is **Sunday, March 14, 2021.**

Please enclose payment for both Easter flowers and Disaster Response donations when you return this completed form to the church office.

	Lily (\$9.75)	Tulip (\$8.75)	Hyacinth (\$8.75)
	Donation to ELCA Disaster Response		
An	nount Enclosed \$	Enclosed \$ Envelope Number:	
	(Please make check	s payable to Holy Trinity Lut	heran Church)
To the Glo	ory of God and in Mem	nory (deceased) of:	
	ory of God and in Hono	or (living) of:	
		bration (event) of:	
L		our Easter plant(s) after the september of the following the Sunday.	
I	/we wish to have my/ou	or Easter plant(s) delivered to	a shut-in.
	(Your name)		(Phone)