

13600 Caspian Lane Clermont, FL 34711 (352) 394-3382



## Fourth Sunday of Lent

## March 30, 2025 9:30am

Rev. Dr. Joann Heaney-Hunter, Pastor Joe Foryan, Worship Coordinator Paul Motto, Organist/Pianist

Email: <a href="mailto:churchoffice@shephillsclermont.org">churchoffice@shephillsclermont.org</a>

Website: www.shephillsclermont.org

## **Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**

Mission Statement: "Leading by Christ's teaching and example of loving, caring, sharing, and joyfully connecting to all others as God loved us."

Vision: "We rejoice in making Christ known through reaching out by faith and proclaiming the good news of God."

#### WELCOME! WE ARE BLESSED TO HAVE YOU WORSHIP WITH US TODAY!

Welcome to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. We pray that you will find our worshipping community to be welcoming and a place where you will hear and feel God's grace. If you are new to our church, please stop by the Welcome Table in the entry area where you can get additional information. We trust God's Spirit has led you here and that God will speak to you today.

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

If you would like to inquire about membership here at SOTH, please notify the church office for more information.

#### **Hearing Amplification Devices Available**

Please see an usher if you would like to use a device to assist in hearing.

In Need of a Bible? A member of our church has graciously donated a supply of Bibles to be given to anyone in need of one. Pick one up from the Welcome Center Table in the back of the church.

Restrooms are located in both the Education and Administrative wings. A Baby Changing Station is located in the Restroom in the Education wing.

## **Holy Communion**

All Baptized Christians are welcome at our Lord's Table. Please come forward and extend an open hand, palm up, if you wish to receive the bread and wine.

If you are not baptized or are waiting for your first communion, please come forward for a blessing. You may cross your arms across your chest or fold your hands together to indicate you wish to receive a blessing.

If you are unable to come forward for communion, please let an usher know and the pastor will come to you at your seat.

Communion wafers & wine are offered.

Grape juice (instead of wine) and gluten free wafers (non-wheat) are available by request when you come forward to receive communion.

*Reference to hymnals are as follows:* **LBW:** Lutheran Book of Worship hymnal (green); **WOV:** With One Voice (blue); **ELW**: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

## March 30, 2025 Fourth Sunday in Lent

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

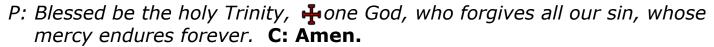
#### **PRELUDE**

**WELCOME** 

#### A TIME FOR SILENT MEDITATION

**CALL TO WORSHIP** 

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS



P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

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

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In + Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.** 



#### \*GATHERING HYMN

## "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

LBW 477 v1-3



- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
- 2 Here I raise my Eb en e zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise. and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home. let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love, Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God; Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove. he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood. Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

#### **GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And Also with you!

#### \*KYRIE



#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. God of compassion,

C: you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, 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: Joshua 5:9-12

- L: <sup>9</sup> The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.
  - <sup>10</sup> While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup> On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup> The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.
- L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

## **PSALM:** Psalm 32 (read responsively by verses)

- <sup>1</sup> Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!
- <sup>2</sup> Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- <sup>3</sup> While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.
- <sup>4</sup> For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- <sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- <sup>6</sup> Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- <sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 8 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.
- <sup>9</sup> Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

# <sup>10</sup> Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

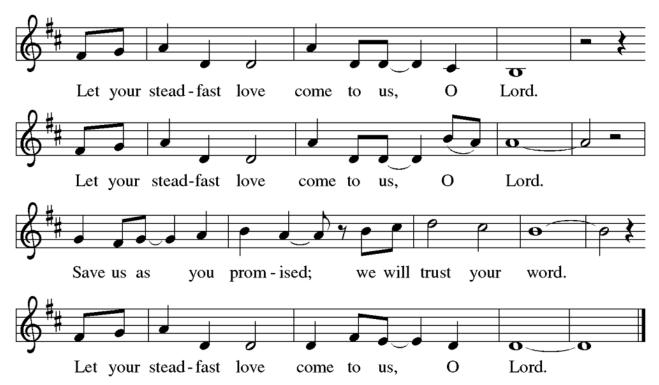
<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

#### SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

L: <sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

#### \*THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



#### \*GOSPEL READING: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*P:* <sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

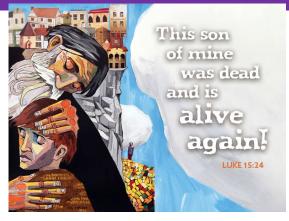
<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup> "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! 18 I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' 20 So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup> He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." <sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends.

<sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'" *P: The Gospel of the Lord.* **C: Praise to you, O Christ.** 

#### **MESSAGE:**

## Rev. Dr. Joann Heaney-Hunter



#### \*HYMN OF THE DAY

## "Our Father, We Have Wandered"

#### **WOV 733 v1-3**



#### \*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.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Verse sung before and after the prayers.)

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

(Response after each petition:)

A: God in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.** 

#### \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

P: We share God's peace with one another.

## **MEAL**

## \*OFFERING/OFFERTORY

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Let us pray: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among

us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.** 

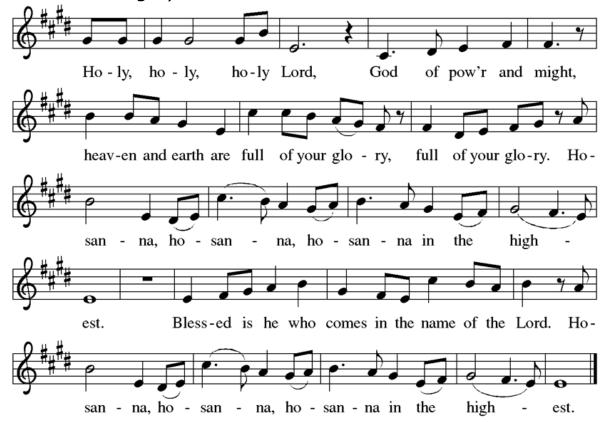
#### \*DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give him thanks, and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

. . . within each cell; with every breath. We praise you, O God.

. . . out of exile; into the future. We bless you, O God.

- . . . beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. We thank you, O God.
- . . . we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- . . . by your Spirit, in your church, without end. Amen.

#### \* THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray in the words that Jesus taught us. C: Our Father, who art in heaven......

#### \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

#### THE DISTRIBUTION

All Baptized Christians are welcome at our Lord's Table. Please come forward and extend an open hand, palm up, if you wish to receive the bread and wine. Grape juice is offered on the Pastor's left.

If you are not baptized or are waiting for your first communion, please come forward for a blessing. You may cross your arms across your chest or fold your hands together to indicate you wish to receive a blessing.

#### **COMMUNION HYMNS**

"Lamb of God"
Tune: Amazing Grace
"There's a Wilderness in God's Mercy"
Softly and Tenderly"

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

Reflective

Tune: Amazing Grace
LBW 290 v1-3
EOV 734 v1-3
ELW 697 v1-3

#### \*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE "Awesome God"

Our God is an awesome God, He reigns from heaven above with wisdom, pow'r, and love our God is an awesome God! (repeat)

Our God is an awesome God! Our God is an awesome God!

#### \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of

heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.** 

#### \*SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick and homebound In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **COMMUNITY SHARING**

## **SENDING**

#### \*BENEDICTION

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.** 

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever. Amen.

#### \*SENDING HYMN

## "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

#### **WOV 660 v1-3**



#### **DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **C: Thanks be to God.** 

## \*Communion Hymns

## "There's a Wilderness in God's Mercy"

#### LBW 290 v1-3



- 1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
- 2 There is wel-come for the sin-ner, and a prom-ised grace made good;
- 3 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures of our mind;
- 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je sus; it is some-thing more than all:



there's a kind-ness in his jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty. there is mer - cy with the Sav-ior; there is heal - ing his blood. in the heart of the e - ter - nal most won-der - ful - ly kind. is great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n. There is grace e - nough for thou-sands of new worlds as great as this; There is plen-ti - ful re - demp-tion in the blood that has been shed; If our love were but more sim - ple, we should take him at his word;



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg-ment giv'n. fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of there is room for bliss. there is joy for all the mem-bers in the sor-rows of head. and our lives would be all sun - shine in the sweet-ness of Lord.

#### "Softly and Tenderly"

#### EOV 734 v1-3



- 1 Soft ly and ten der ly Je sus is call ing, call ing for
- Why should we tar ry when Je sus is plead ing, plead ing for Oh, for the won-der ful love he has prom ised, prom ised for

See, por - tals he's wait-ing and watch-ing, you and for on the me. lin - ger and heed not his you and for Why should we me? mer - cies, have sinned, he has mer - cy and you and for me! Though we par - don,



watch-ing for you and for me. mer - cies for you and for me? par - don for you and for me.

"Come home, come home!



You who are wea-ry, come home."

Ear - nest-ly, ten - der - ly,



#### "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

## ELW 697 v1-3



Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee,

let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



- am weak but thou art strong: Je sus, keep me from all wrong;
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal-ter, Lord, who cares?
- 3 When my fee-ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



I'll be sat - is - fied as long who with me my bur-den guide me gent-ly, safe-ly o'er as I walk, let me walk close to thee.

None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

# Announcements

## **Altar Flowers**

Flowers on the altar for March 30th are given by Colin & Ronda Berg in celebration of Colin's 67th birthday.



## March 30 - April6

Mar 31

Mar 31

Apr 4



Roger Hanson Donna Wright Kelly Allen Colin Berg Amy Niewinski

We will be collecting kid friendly cereal (8-10 Serving boxes) during the month of March for Faith Neighborhood Center.











## Easter Lily Sign-up

Now is the time to order your Easter lilies to grace our chancel on Easter Sunday. Lilies may be ordered for many reasons; in memory of, in celebration of, in thanksgiving, to the glory of God, in honor of, etc. To order a lily (\$6.00 each) sign up at the Welcome Table. Thanks

#### **Lenten Midweek Services:**

# Lent

Midweek Soup Supper & Service – April 2nd and 9th. Soup Supper at 6:00 pm and service to follow at 7:00 pm.

There is a signup sheet for volunteers to provide soup for these services located on the table in back.



## **Lenten Bible Study**

Lent is here. I invite you to make Bible study a part of your Lenten prayer time. We are exploring the themes of the Lenten season, including Transfiguration, Temptation, The Meaning of Discipleship, Forgiveness, and the Cross. We will study these themes in the New Testament and explore their Old Testament roots.

All session are held on Zoom at 7:00pm on Mondays, beginning on March 10<sup>th</sup> and ending on April 7<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome. Hope to see you! Pastor Joann

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81976673296?pwd=liImhFtFMUnTUPBo3b8YFZjDtidkUp.1

Meeting ID: 819 7667 3296

Passcode: 779639



## Church Giving Totals\* March 10 - March 16

Weekly Giving Totals \$3,663 Budgeted Weekly Giving \$4,558

Difference Overage (\$ 895) (Shortfall)



Fellowship Meeting Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Room.



## This Week at Our Church

Sunday	3/30/2025	9:30am	Sunday Worship Sunday School
		11:00am	Church Brunch Congregational Meeting
Tuesday	4/1/2025	8:00am 10:00am	Tuesday Breakfast (at IHOP) Women's Circle
		10:45am 6:00pm	Prayer Group Fellowship Meeting
Wednesday	4/2/2025	6:00 pm	Soup Supper/Midweek Service
Thursday	4/3/2025	6:00pm	Choir Practice

## **CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST**

Benjamin Andreachi, grandson of Darlene Andreachi

Darlene Andreachi
John Andreachi, son of Darlene Andreachi
Darrell Aulds, father of Pastor Karin Albaugh

Marquis Beagle, friend of Kathy Oberg

William Blaisdell, brother of Tina Blaisdell
Gloria Bork, sister of Linda Cummings

Kelly Carpenter

Robin Carroll, daughter of Darlene Andreachi
Carol Cenyar, sister-in-law to Bob McKee

Kelli Colarusso, friend of Diane Bursey
Sandy Criner
Gwen Doyle, daughter of Dorothy Derrick
Jeff Dohse

Kimberly and Jayson Eddins, daughter & son-in-law of Linda Cummings

**Tom Ford,** friend of Joe and Jean Montfort



**Nancy Fry** 

Craig Gennrich, son of Jeanie Gennrich

Kristi Genopolos, daughter of George Lentz

Sharon Grubbs, friend of Dave and Diane Acheson

**Virginia Hart**, friend of Diane Bursey

**Charlotte High** 

**Chetinna Hodges** 

**Bob Holzer** 

Sandy & Denny Horazak, sister and brother-in-law of Pat Rach

**Kevin Jacobs** 

**Janice Jones** 

**Mindy Longenbach** 

Bobby McGee, son-in-law of Marge Zuelke

Caity Mitchell, cousin of Joe Foryan

**Kathy Oberg** 

Marshall Penny, brother of Barbara Lentz

Rakesh Premdass, son of Chandra Premdass

Cynthia Schindele, daughter of Marion Dielman

**Denise Schlector** 

**Karen Schumacher** 

Linda Sheerin

Jay Shipbaugh, grandson of Marge Zuehlke

Jordyn Smith, daughter of Robert & Linda Smith

**Denise Sookdeo** 

**Kathy Thorby** 

**Ray Thorby** 

Luis Torres, father-in-law of Diane Acheson's son

Harlan Wick, brother of Dennis Wick

Brian, nephew of Joe Foryan



## THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY

Michael Reid, US Marines, Darlene Andreachi's nephew's son Capt. USAF Griffith Hiss, Thomas and Cheryl Stutesman's son-in-law Capt. USAF Kat Hiss, Thomas and Cheryl Stutesman's daughter Capt. Neils Seim USAF, grandson of Rocky & Maria Lafaro Lt. Justin Seim US Army, grandson of Rocky & Maria Lafaro SGT USAF Andrew Stutesman, Thomas and Cheryl Stutesman's son LTC Andrew West, USAF