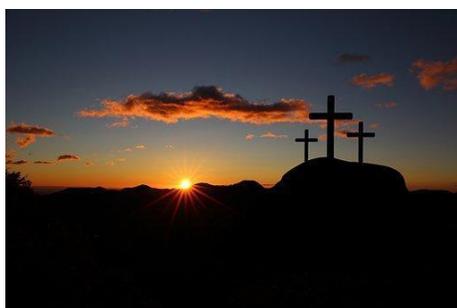


St. James Lutheran Church

1741 S State Street
Greenfield Indiana 46140

Our congregation's mission statement is to bring people to Christ,
encouraging relationships with Him and others.



Third Sunday of Lent

March 12, 2023

Meditation: Hope can be in short supply when you are wandering in the desert not knowing if or when you will arrive at your destination; when you are a woman shunned by your community; when your community is not listening to God's voice. But hope takes many forms—water in the desert, living water at a well, encountering a person who changes your life, knowing a God who has created everything and loves all that has been created.

Today's flowers are given in celebration of Dan and Kim Petry's 40th Wedding Anniversary.



1741 S. State Street
Greenfield, IN 46140
Phone: 317-462-7340
Email: office@stjamesnalc.org

Welcome to St. James Lutheran Church

The mission statement of our congregation is:

To bring people to Christ, encouraging relationships with Him and others.

Rev. Dr. Richard Blue, Jr. Pastor

TO ALL GUESTS...

- **THANKS** for joining us for worship today. We hope your experience will be one of being touched by God and of being enriched through our experience of fellowship. **Please fill out the Connection Card found in your bulletin and place in the offering plate.** And please come again!!
- **PARTICIPATE**
 - The worship service is printed in the bulletin and can also be viewed on the video screen for your convenience. Bulletins are emailed to all members each week.
 - **Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices during the worship service.**
 - The service is streamed live and available online afterward on YouTube. Links can be found on the [St. James website \(www.stjamesnalc.org\)](http://www.stjamesnalc.org) and [Facebook page](#).
- **COMMUNE** — All baptized Christians who believe that Jesus Christ is present with his body and blood in the bread and wine are invited to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. The ushers will direct those receiving the sacrament down the center aisle to the altar rail. **If you require gluten free host, please let the servers know.**
- **NEED ASSISTANCE?**
 - **Hearing devices** are available for those who have trouble hearing through the loudspeaker system.
 - Hand sanitizer is available on the tables in the Narthex and in the pews.Please feel free to ask an Usher for assistance, they will be happy to help you.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Browder

Please Stand

† **We Lift Our Hearts in Worship** †

INVOCATION AND PRAYER

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (Exodus 17)

All: Patient and ever-faithful God,
we come to you this morning
confessing that we can be a grumpy
and unsatisfied people.
When things are not perfect in our eyes,
we murmur and complain,
and grumble and doubt.
We lose hope in the people around us
and, even worse, we lose hope in you.
We challenge instead of accept.
We put you to the test
rather than trust your caring love.
Forgive our doubts and complaining.
Forgive our loss of hope.
Let your healing, life-giving waters pour over us.
Restore our souls. Amen

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

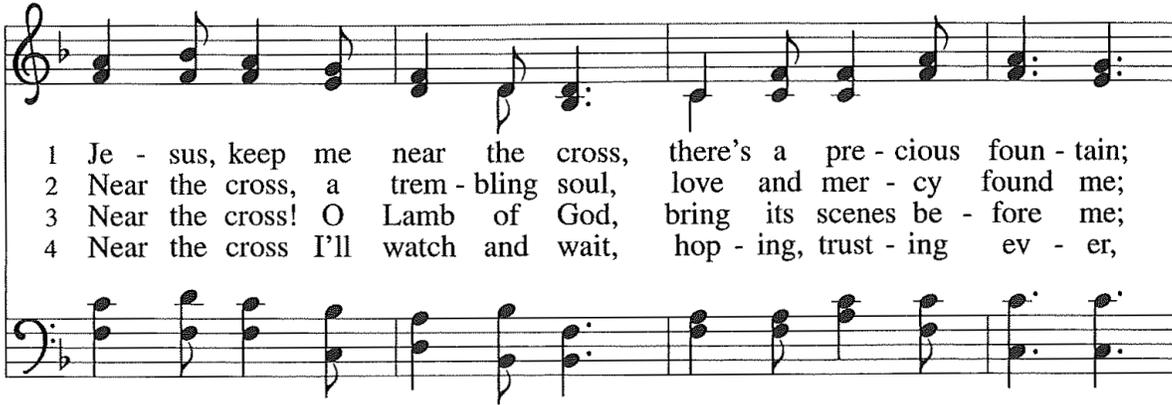
WORDS OF ASSURANCE: (Exodus 17, Romans 5, John 4)

Pastor: Our hope and assurance
rest in God's unfailing love and forgiveness.
Open your hearts and minds and souls
that the healing waters
of God's never-ending love and forgiveness
may flow into and over you.
Know that in this love and forgiveness
you have encountered the living God.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross ” ELW 335

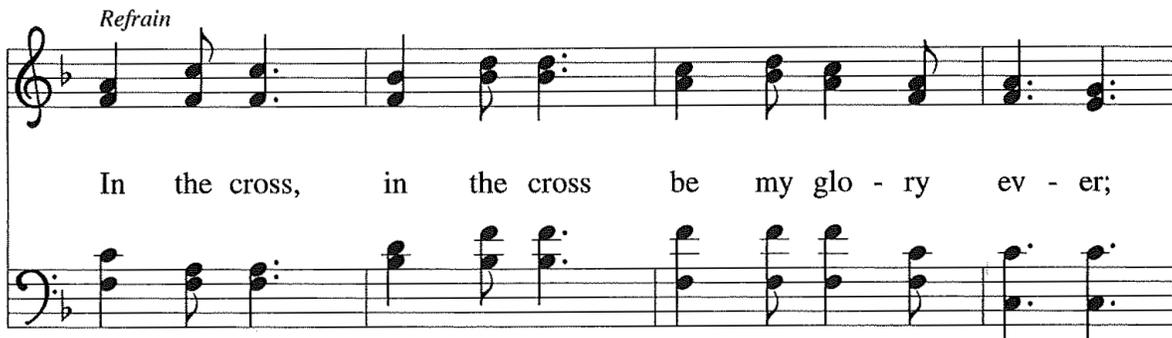


1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Psalm 95, Romans 5)

Assistant Minister: O come, let us sing to our God
and make a joyful noise
to the rock of our salvation.

**Congregation: We lift our hearts and voices
in joy and thanksgiving
for being here together
in the presence of our beloved God.**

Assistant Minister: Come, let us worship this amazing God,
for we belong to God.

**Congregation: We will listen for God's word
and live in the hope it inspires.**

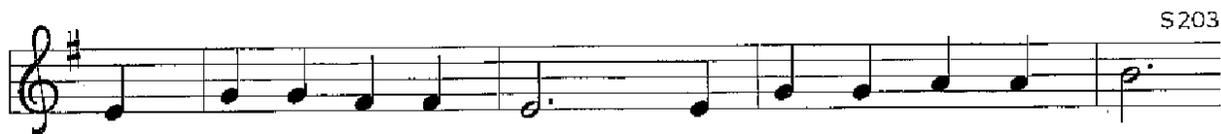
OPENING PRAYER (Exodus 17, Romans 5, John 4)

Loving and caring God,
we come this morning in hope—
hope that will sustain us in our trying times,
our lonely times, our doubting times.
Refresh us this morning with the living water
of your presence and love.
Open us to the possibilities of friendship—
the possibilities of encountering you
in unexpected ways,
the possibilities of seeing the miraculous
in everyday life. Amen.

Kyrie

ELW Page 203

A Kyrie may be sung by all.



S203

- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

Please be seated

† **We Hear God's Word** †

FIRST READING

Exodus 17: 1-7 (page 62 in your pew Bible)

Water From the Rock

17 The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?"

³ But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?"

⁴ Then Moses cried out to the LORD, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me."

⁵ The LORD answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ And he called the place Massah^[a] and Meribah^[b] because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the LORD saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Pastor: The Word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

LIVING LIGHT.

We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 4: 5-42 (Pages 914-915 in pew Bible)

⁵ So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" ⁸ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.^[a])

¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

¹¹ "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

¹³ Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

¹⁷ "I have no husband," she replied.

Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸ The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

¹⁹ “Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

²¹ “Woman,” Jesus replied, “believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

²⁵ The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”

²⁶ Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”

The Disciples Rejoin Jesus

²⁷ Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?”

²⁸ Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ²⁹ “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?” ³⁰ They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

³¹ Meanwhile his disciples urged him, “Rabbi, eat something.”

³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you know nothing about.”

³³ Then his disciples said to each other, “Could someone have brought him food?”

³⁴ “My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. ³⁵ Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. ³⁶ Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. ³⁷ Thus the saying ‘One sows and another reaps’ is true. ³⁸ I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor.”

Many Samaritans Believe

³⁹ Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. ⁴¹ And because of his words many more became believers.

⁴² They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world."

Pastor: The Gospel of Our Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Please Be Seated

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES

Pastor Doug Gast

Please stand

PRAYER

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

742

1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
 3 Are we weak and heav-y - lad - en, cum-bered with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do your friends de-spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886
 Music: Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

CONVERSE
 8787D

MESSAGE FOR OUR OLDER DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Richard Blue

Please Stand

† We Respond to God's Word †

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Congregation: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Please be seated

THE OFFERING

Now we join with Christians all over the world in worshiping God through our giving of our financial resources. If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. Instead, we hope that we are able to give something to you. We welcome you to give only as your heart desires. For members and friends, the vision and ministry of St. James depends on your giving. We thank you in advance for your generosity. This time of offering is a significant act of worship, and we now offer our offerings and tithes.

Please Stand

OFFERTORY MUSIC- special music

THE OFFERING RESPONSE

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost.

THE OFFERING PRAYER

(Exodus 17, John 4)

Pastor: Life-giving God,
we offer you ourselves and our resources.
Use us and our gifts,
that we may be water bearers
to a world thirsty for love,
for meaning, for justice, and for hope.
May all your people encounter fullness of life
through the love of Christ, which lives within us.
Amen.

† We Celebrate the Lord's Supper †

Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins

Pastor: The Lord be with you

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

Pastor: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. In these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may rediscover the grace of baptism and the joy of Easter. Through his fasting, prayer and acts of mercy, you have given us an example to follow as we strive to resist temptation and grow in holiness.

And so, with all the angels and saints we proclaim Your glory, as with one voice we sing:

Sanctus

People: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Jesus

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way after supper, saying, "This cup is the new testament in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The Lord's Prayer

People: 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. Amen.

Invitation

Pastor: Dear friends in Christ, as we gather on this Third Sunday of Lent, we are reminded of God's great love for us and the sacrifice made by Jesus Christ on the cross. As we come to the table of the Lord, let us open our hearts to God's presence and offer ourselves anew in faith and love.

I invite you now to come forward to receive the bread and cup of Holy Communion, the signs of God's love and grace. As you come forward, please bring with you all that weighs heavy on your hearts, all that you need to surrender to God, and all that you offer up in gratitude and thanksgiving.

Let us pray.

All: Almighty God, we thank you for this opportunity to come together and share in your holy sacrament. May we be nourished by the bread and cup we receive, and be filled with your Spirit as we go forth to serve you in the world. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Please come forward to receive the bread and cup, and return to your seats for a time of prayer and reflection.

Communion

Please be seated

LAMB OF GOD

S 208

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains the vocal melody, and the bass staff contains the accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 3/2. The music is divided into three measures, each with a different time signature: 3/2, 2/2, and 3/2.

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It also consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature remains one flat, and the time signature is 3/2. The music is divided into three measures, each with a different time signature: 3/2, 2/2, and 3/2.

THE DISTRIBUTION

Please Stand

COMMUNION HYMN

“Just As I Am” ELW 592



- 1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
- 2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not to rid my soul of one dark blot,
- 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict, man - y a doubt,
- 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es, heal - ing of the mind,



and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
yea, all I need in thee to find,

- 5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6 Just as I am; thy love unknown
has broken ev'ry barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Remain Standing

THE BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL

Pastor: Almighty and ever-living God, we give you thanks for this holy sacrament of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May the bread we have eaten and the cup we have shared be a sign of our unity in Christ and a source of nourishment for our journey of faith.

As we go forth from this holy place, may we be strengthened by your grace and empowered by your Spirit to serve you faithfully in the world.

And now, may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

All: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION (Exodus 17, Romans 5, John 4)

Pastor: We have encountered the living God
through the love of the living Christ.
We have been refreshed by living water.
Go now to live in the hope this encounter inspires.
Be water bearers to a dry and parched world,
knowing that the God of love and hope
goes before you and with you always. Amen.

All: Amen.

† We Depart in Peace †

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 807



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.



THE DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Worship Volunteer Schedule	Sunday 3/12/2023	Wednesday 3/15/2023	Sunday 3/19/2023
Assisting Minister	Tracy Guffey	Ben Black	
Lector	Dawn Hahm	Christian Gries	Christian Gries
Ushers	Sheila Bryan John Browder		Tracey Guffey Neal Guffey
Greeters	Terry Clark Liz Clark	Jeanette & Alan Berkshire	Joan Shaw John Shaw
Altar Guild	Karen Bell	Karen Bell	Karen Bell
Communion Assistant	Karen Bell	Karen Bell	Tina Beck
Acolyte	Benjamin Black	Eli Stearns	Luke Stearns
Sound Technician	Dan Ivers	Ronald Kissell	Ronald Kissell
Video Technician	Geoff LaFlower	Neal Guffey	Neal Guffey
Bread Baker	Jane Hale	Karen Bell	Terri Gast
Women's Bible Study Snacks	June Gries (March 13)	-	Debby Brooks 3-20-23
Slide Creators	Richard Bell	?	John Browder
Children's Sermon	Pastor Doug Gast	-	John Browder
Counters (Monday)	Maggie Bode Cindy Gregory	Cindy Gregory	Christian Gries