

STAFF

Rev. Mathew Berger, Pastor mathew.berger@stjohnsparkville.org	Rev. Amy Berger, Pastor amy.berger@stjohnsparkville.org
M. Claire Miller, OSSD Deacon	Carol Erpenstein, Office Administrator
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For emergencies call 443-844-9314
*****The Pastors are off on Fridays****



Notice of live streaming:
Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville
stjohnsparkville.org
(410) 665-1234
office@stjohnsparkville.org
Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

Introduction to the Day

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life.

(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)
(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Jesus Walks This Lonesome Valley* *Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.*
 (© 1983 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

GATHERING

(Please stand as you are able.)

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *O God, Who Gives Us Life* *ACS 1086*

(Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944; Music: English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900; Text © 1990 Hope Publishing Company)

This week's schedule

Today	9 am	Sunday School & Faith & Fellowship
	9 am	Handbell Choir (Music Room)
	10 am	Live & Online Worship
Mon.		
Tues.		
Wed.	9:30 am	Busy Bees (Smith Building)
	6 pm	Soup & Salad (Fellowship Hall)
	7 pm	Holden Prayer Service
	7:45 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
Thurs.	7 pm	Finance Meeting (Music Room)
Fri.	10 am	Viewing/Visitation for Deacon Claire Miller
	11 am	Funeral for Deacon Claire Miller followed by luncheon in the Fellowship Hall
Sat.		

Counting our Blessings

		2023	
Wed. 3/15	Attendance: 58	January Offering Income	\$21,245
	Offering: \$482	January Other Income	\$ 6,085
		January Total Income	\$27,330
Sun. 3/19	Attendance: 84	January Expenses	\$34,496
	Offering: \$4,585	YTD Offering Income	\$21,245
	Homebound: 17	YTD Other Income	\$ 6,085
		YTD Total Income	\$27,330
		YTD Expenses	\$34,496



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Phil Ermer, Alec Brock, Ruth Skarda, Bill Spink, Bonnie Rogers, Mardi Nickel, Thomas McDonough, Bett Murphy, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, Tony Jasinski, and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Helen Bender, Anna Meyers, Nancy Natkin, Rae Eberwine, Deemer Morrow, John Bowman, Lee Hall, Robin, Alice Ensor, Jeanne Edmunds, Mike Haven, Gail Gangi, Jen Schoenfliess, Doug Adams, Kristin Weger, Joan Murphy, Tim Dunn, Donna Bobloch and Yung-Mee Rhee

For the military and their families: Kalib McCann, Mason Ledbetter, Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Corporal Justin Ferro, Sgt. Stephen Peck, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, Chaplain A. J. Striffler and all those in harm's way

For those grieving family & friends of: Claire Miller, Norma Weber and Erin Scarborough

For St. John's Caring Friends: Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Gladys Downs, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Paul Nolder, Patrick O'Connell, Arthur Pulket, Mary Ann Reek, Janet Roth, Kim Townsley, Cass Tracey and Emma Volz

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

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(The assembly is seated.)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WORD

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.'" ¹²Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring

you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(Read responsively; congregation reads bold verses)* **Psalm 130**

- ¹Out of the depths
I cry to you, O LORD;
²**O LORD, hear my voice!**
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.
³If you were to keep watch over sins,
O LORD, who could stand?
⁴**Yet with you is forgiveness,**
in order that you may be feared.
⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;
in your word is my hope.
⁶**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,**
more than those who keep watch for the morning.
⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;
with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.
⁸**For the LORD shall redeem Israel**
from all their sins.

SECOND READING **Romans 8:6-11**

For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.

- ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.
⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)



St. John’s Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 8th from 10 am-12 noon behind the parsonage. In case of rain, the event will be held in the Fellowship Hall. RSVP to the church office by Friday, March 31st with the age and grade of your child. Please see the volunteer signup on the bulletin board and sign up to volunteer!

Save the Date for our Prayer Partner Luncheon on April 16th at 11:30 am. If you would like to participate in the Prayer Partner Program, **fill out a form and place it in the box located on the counter outside of the Sanctuary by Sunday, April 2nd.** Any questions, contact Vickie Jasinski at 410-529-7536.



TRIVIA NIGHT **Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry in Baltimore is having their 7th Annual Trivia Night fundraiser!** This event will take place Saturday, April 22. Doors open at 5:30, and game play begins at 6:00 pm. We'll be in 2 sites this year, linked together via livestream: **Churches of the Holy Apostles and St Stephen**, 901 Courtney Rd, Arbutus, MD 21227 & **Ascension Lutheran Church**, 7601 York Road, Towson, MD 21204. See the bulletin board to join a team of up to 8 people for \$20/per person (includes lots of munchies!) Childcare is available for \$10/child or \$20/family.

Campfire at the Labyrinth sponsored by Family Ministry will take place on Friday, April 28th at 6pm. This will be a fun evening of games, devotions and marshmallow roasting.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL **Save the Date for our 2023 Vacation Bible School on July 10-14th from 9 am-12:30 pm.** We will starting our planning soon. **As always, we will need many volunteers.** If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Haacke at haackefamily@comcast.net.

Help Needed for Music Camp... If you know any young (high school or college) person who enjoys and has experience with theater, music, art, arts and crafts, and a love for working with children, PLEASE contact Martha Requard at mrequard1@gmail.com. Our assistants will be working with the campers to help them create their program (July 24-26) or musical (August 7-11). We need to make sure that we have the help before we can advertise our camps.



We have Venmo! We are happy to announce that you can give your offering using Venmo. Enter @stjohnsparkville in the Venmo App or scan the QR code.

Announcements & Upcoming Event

Next Week— Sunday, April 2nd—Palm/Passion Sunday

† 9 am— Sunday School and Faith & Fellowship
† 10 am—Worship in-person
and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel

Wednesday Nights in Lent

Soup and Salad—6 pm in the Fellowship Hall
Holden Evening Prayer with stories of Daily Bread— 7 pm



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in memory of my father, Andrew Duerling, on what would have been his 100th birthday by Keith and Lisa Duerling.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2023. Dates available are: April 23rd, June 18th and 25th, July 2nd, 16th and 30th, August 6th and 27th, September 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th, October 1st, 8th and 15th, November 5th, 12th and 26th, December 3rd, 10th, 24th and 31st. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers.

Nursery Care for infants through age 2 is available during the Sunday School hour while parents are attending Faith and Fellowship. During worship, care is available for infants through kindergarten.



Food for Thought Program is in great need of: **Snack crackers**. We are packing two bags of food for the weekend for 25 children each week, therefore our supply is depleted quickly. Please help if you can!



Victor's Vittles, the food pantry at Christus Victor Lutheran Church is in great need of items for their food pantry. Items needed are: canned fruit, cereal & oatmeal, jelly, peanut butter, pasta sauce, spaghetti noodles, Raman noodles, mac & cheese, beef stew, pancake mix, syrup, instant potatoes, and canned spaghetti.



BIBLE Bible Study....A Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew meets weekly on Fridays at 11 am in the Smith Building. If you have questions or would like to learn more, contact Ardi Scarborough or speak with one of the Pastors.



Free Community Meal at St. John's on Wednesday, March 29th from 5:30 pm— 7 pm. Join neighbors and friends for potato soup, salad, bread and dessert. All are welcome!



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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.

GOSPEL

John 11:1-45

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on

the last day.”²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him.³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.³⁴ He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”³⁵ Jesus began to weep.³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?”⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me.⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly is seated.)

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Are the Way

ELW 758

(Text: George W. Doane, 1799-1859, alt.; Music: Psalter, Edinburgh, 1615)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

BLESSING

God, the giver of love, ✚ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Restore in Us, O God

ELW 328

(Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944; Music: Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933; Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company; Music © 1985 Hope Publishing Company)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fughetta in C Minor

Johann Kaspar Ferdinand Fischer

(© 1985 Harold Flammer Music)

Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Linda Wiley
Crucifer	Gabby G.
Acolyte (s)	Simon B.
Lector	Donna Nicholson
Communion Assistant	Donna Nicholson
Dismissal Assistant	Jack W.

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COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with a sip of wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.

If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing, crossing your arms over your chest.

LAMB OF GOD

Now Behold the Lamb

ELW 341



1 Now be - hold the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God, who
2 Ho - ly is the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Why
3 Thank you for the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Be -



bore all my sin, that I may live a - gain: the pre-cious Lamb of God.
you love me so, Lord, I shall nev - er know; the pre-cious Lamb of God.
cause of your grace I can fin - ish the race; the pre-cious Lamb of God.

(Text and music: Kirk Franklin, b. 1970; arr. Keith Hampton, b. 1957; Text and music © 1996 Lilly Mack Music CCLI Song #1892738)

COMMUNION HYMN

I Am the Bread of Life

ELW 485

(Text and music: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6; Text and music © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Embodied God,
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.
Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition Merciful God,
Receive our prayer.

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

(We offer each other a sign of God's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Canticle of Hope

Adult Choir

(Words and music: Gary Hallquist; Words and music © 2004 Jubilate Music Group)

Thank you for your generous support of St. John's. During this time an offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of the Church as together we experience and share God's abundant grace and love.

Many in our congregation give online. You can set up one-time or recurring donations on our website stjohnsparkville.org. Checks and cash may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville

OFFERING HYMN

Change My Heart, O God

ELW 801

**Change my heart O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart O God; may I be like you.**

You are the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

**Change my heart O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart O God; may I be like you.**

(Text and music: Eddie Espinosa; Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services)

OFFERING PRAYER

God of good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of
your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very
presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

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, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus
Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Easter
feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.
And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, God of the universe.

You made everything that is, and you sustain every living thing.

You taught us to tend and care for your earth.

When we turned away from our task of sharing,
you made for yourself a people, rescued them from slavery,
nourished them with manna in the wilderness,
and taught them to rely daily on your mercy.

You entered human life in Jesus,

who ate with sinners,

who fed the thousands with a few loaves,

and who called us back to the way of sharing our bread and your mercy.

In the night in which he was betrayed...

With this meal we remember Jesus giving himself to us.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

As we share this bread and cup, O God, fill us up.

Pour your Spirit on us so that we may be the body of Christ,
food for your hungry world and signs of your love.

With the earth and all its creatures,

with all who have gone before us,

we give you praise, feeding God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 assembly is seated.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.