

Gather Us In

EVENING PRAYER DURING THE
SEASON OF LENT

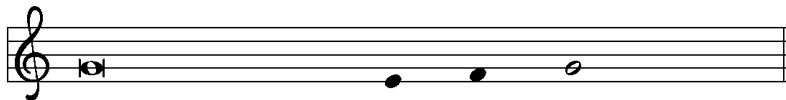


Zion Lutheran Church
7 P.M. | Wednesday Night

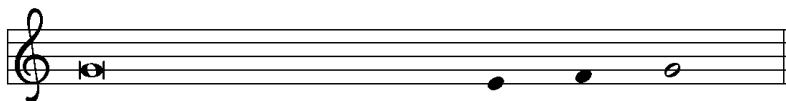
DIALOG



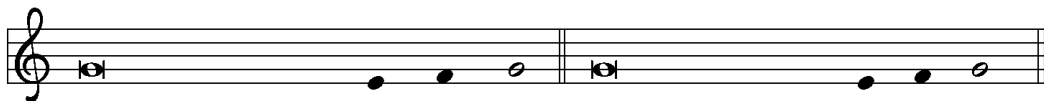
Behold, now is the accept - a - ble time; **now is the day of sal - vation.**



Turn us again, O God of our sal - vation,



that the light of your face may shine on us.



May your justice shine like the sun; **and may the poor be lift - ed up.**

HYMN OF LIGHT

ELW 565



1 All praise to thee, my God, this night for
2 For - give me, Lord, for thy dear Son, the
3 Teach me to live, that I may dread the
4 Oh, may my soul in thee re - pose, and
5 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



all the bless - ings of the light. Keep me, oh, keep me,
ill that I this day have done; that with the world, my -
grave as lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die, that
may sweet sleep mine eye - lids close, sleep that shall me more
God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye



King of kings, be - neath thine own al - might - y wings.
self, and thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
so I may rise glo - rious at the awe - some day.
vig - 'rous make to serve my God when I a - wake!
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

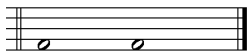


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being, and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day. In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night you led your people into freedom. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Christ; may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.



A - men.

EVENING PSALM



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when

All



I cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.

Group Two or All



Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

Group One or All

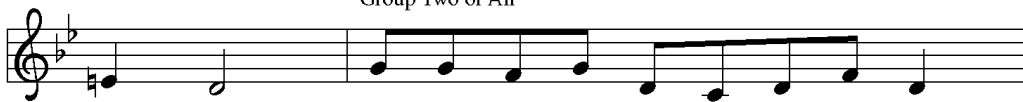


Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;

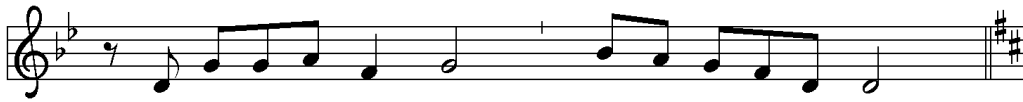


let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil -

Group Two or All



do - ers. But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;



in you I take ref - uge. Strip me not of my life.

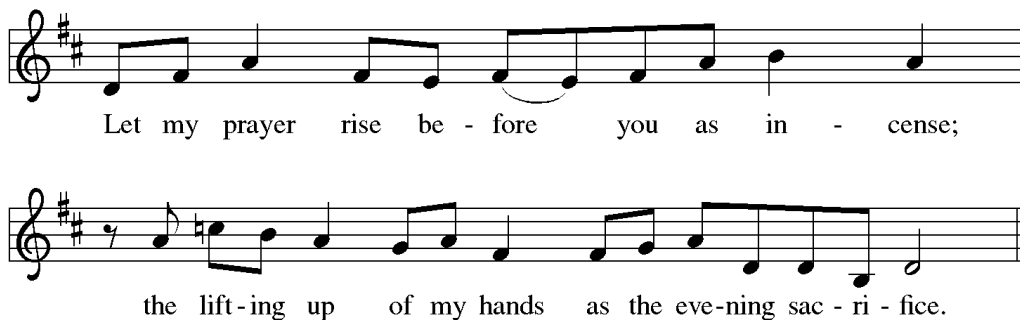
All



Glo-ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



READINGS

Week 1 in Lent: Psalm 149 & Joel 2: 15-17 - **Gathering**

Week 2 in Lent: Psalm 119: 41-48 & Isaiah 55:6-13 - **Word**

Week 3 in Lent: Psalm 145: 13-21 & Isaiah 6:1-7 - **Meal**

Week 4 in Lent: Psalm 8 & Matthew 28: 16-20 - **Sending**

Week 5 in Lent: Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24 & Romans 6: 3-11 - **The Highest, Most Holy**

After the reading, the leader and congregation will respond by saying:

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

HYMN

Week 1 in Lent: Gather Us In

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Week 2 in Lent: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

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Week 3 in Lent: All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

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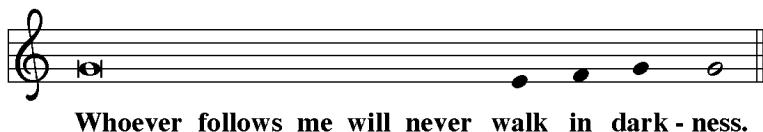
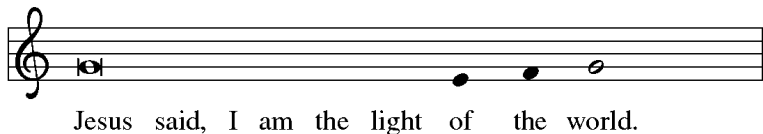
Week 4 in Lent: Go My Children

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Week 5 in Lent: Of the Glorious Body Telling

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After the song, the prayer continues with a scriptural dialogue. When it is sung, the following or a similar tone may be used, the assembly echoing the leader.



GOSPEL CANTICLE

The assembly sings the gospel canticle appointed for vespers, the Magnificat, using the hymn "My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness."

1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;

You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.

Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—
The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,

great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

PRAYERS

The first musical staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains two measures. The first measure has a whole note on B-flat. The second measure has a whole note on D, a quarter rest, a quarter note on E, and a whole note on F. Below the staff, the lyrics "In peace, let us pray to the Lord." are written, with the words "let us" and "to the" aligned under the notes in the second measure.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

The second and third staves are also in treble and bass clefs with a key signature of one flat. They contain two measures each. The first measure of each staff has a whole rest. The second measure of each staff has a whole note chord consisting of G, B-flat, and D. Below the staves, the lyrics "Lord, have mer - cy." are written, with "mer - cy." aligned under the notes in the second measure.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us | pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us | pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us | pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share, and for peaceful times, let us | pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us;
for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection
in this and every place, let us | pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering,
and for those who are in captivity, let us | pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need,
let us ¹ pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For *name/s and* all servants of the church, for this assembly,
and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us ¹ pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

A time of silence follows.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of *name/s and* all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you,

through Christ our Lord. To you, O Lord.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a melody of quarter notes: G4, F4, E4, D4, followed by a double bar line, then G4, F4, E4, D4. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a bass line of quarter notes: G3, F3, E3, D3, followed by a double bar line, then G3, F3, E3, D3. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Silence for prayer follows. A prayer appropriate to the theme may be said followed by the following:

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. For into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

A - men.

The musical notation is a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a melody of quarter notes: G4, F4, E4, D4, followed by a double bar line.

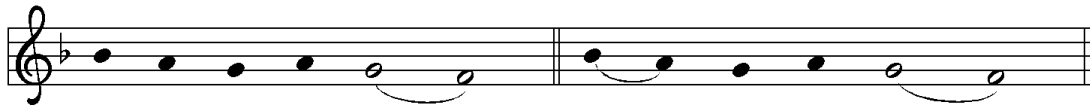
LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

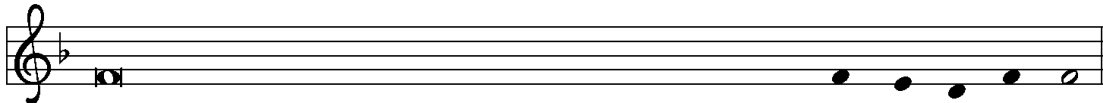
BLESSING



Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The leader continues:



Almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre-serve us.



A - men.

**May the spirit of our Lord be with us this night,
And with our absent brothers and sisters in Christ.**

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

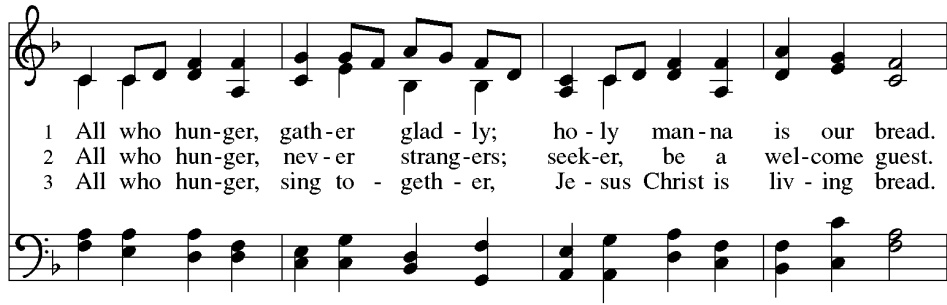
1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

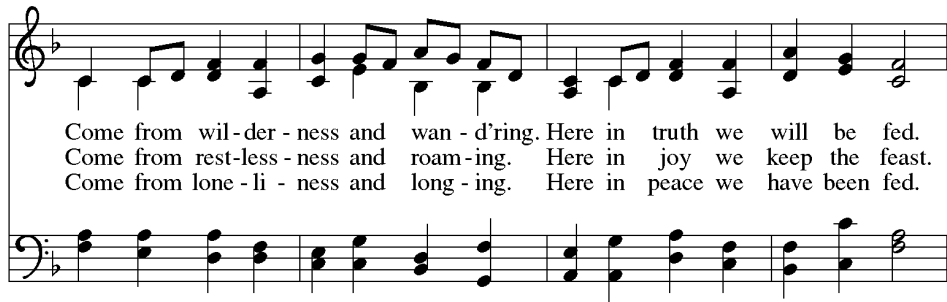
and bring to naught all he has done.
 may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

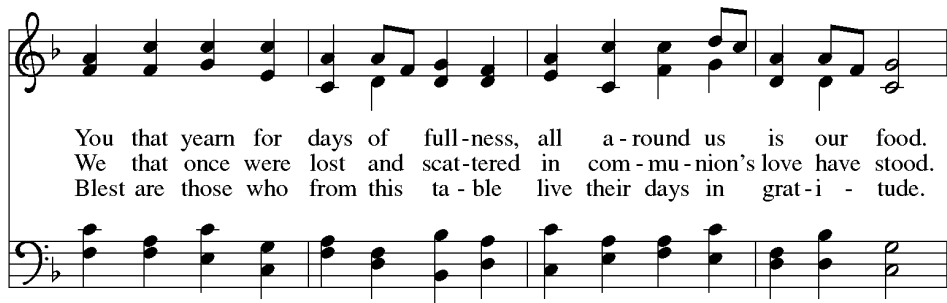
All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



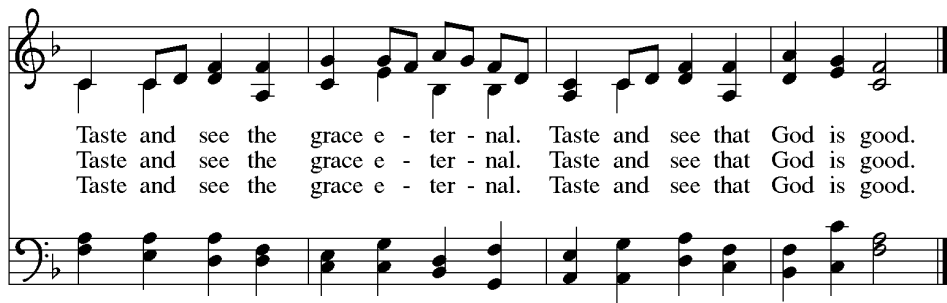
1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
 2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
 Come from rest-less - ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
 Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a - round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825; arr. hymnal version

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Go, My Children, with My Blessing



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

Of the Glorious Body Telling

Of the glori - ous bo - dy tell - ing O my tongue, its myst - eries sing,
 Giv'n for us, for us de - scend - ing of a vir - gin to pro - ceed,
 At the last great sup - per ly - ing cir - cled by his cho - sen band,
 Word made flesh, by word or - dain - ing ve - ry bread his flesh to be;
 There - fore we be - fore him bend - ing, this great sac - ra - ment re - vere;
 Glo - ry let us give, and bless - ing to the Fath - er and the Son;

and the blood, all price ex - cell - ing, which the world's e tern - al King.
 with us all in con - verse blend - ing, scat - tered he the gos - pel seed,
 meek - ly with the law com - ply - ing, first he fin - ished its com - mand
 We, in wine Christ's blood ob - tain - ing, and if sen - ses fail to see,
 types and sha - dows have their end - ing, for the new - er rite is here;
 hon - or, might and praise ad - dress - ing, whi - le e - ter - nal ages run;

in a nob - le womb once dwell - ing shed for the world's ran - som - ing.
 till his so - journ drew to end - ing, which he closed in wond - rous deed.
 then, im - mort - al food sup - ply - ing gave him - self with his own hand.
 faith a - lone will wake those strain - ing to be - hold the mys - ter - y.
 faith, our out - ward sense be - friend - ing makes the in - ward vis - ion clear.
 ev - er to the Spir - it bless - ing, who, from both, with both is one.

Gather Us In - Midweek Lent Series

Week 1- Gathering – “The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.” *We have come broken and hurt longing to hear words of forgiveness and grace in the presence of others. We thank God and sing praise for God’s goodness, asking to be renewed and reminded of God’s call on our lives.*

Week 2- Word – “God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.” *We encounter a living word that is sent from God to God’s people throughout many generations. We listen as the word comes from the mouths of lectors, preachers, and choir members, inspiring us to love as God has loved us in our daily lives.*

Week 3- Meal – “God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.” *We are a people who need to constantly be reminded by physical means of God’s love and forgiveness. We hunger for that love and forgiveness and Jesus offers his very body and blood to nourish us belly and heart.*

Week 4- Sending – “God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.” *We are filled to overflowing body, heart, and mind with God’s affirmations of love and forgiveness. It is a love that cannot be contained and must be shared. God sends us out to live and share this good news that has changed our lives with others.*

Week 5- The Highest, Most Holy – Jesus’s life, death, and resurrection save us and bring us to everlasting life. *We are a people who learn best by example and experience. God sent Jesus to live and move and have our being that God might understand those things that are good and beautiful and those things that are hard and difficult. He takes on the very sin that keeps us from being who God created us to be annihilating it in his death and coming back to life that sin may not have its hold on us forever.*



A Beacon in the Middletown Valley
Zion LUTHERAN CHURCH

Zion Lutheran Church

**107 West Main Street
Middletown, MD 21769**

301-371-6500

Website: www.zionmiddletown.org

*For emergency pastoral care or to
schedule an appointment, please call the church office
for additional information.*

Pastor Diane Day

ext. 202, pastordiane@zionmiddletown.org

Pastor Matt Day

ext. 209, pastormatt@zionmiddletown.org

**Wendi Kishimoto - Church Administrator/
Director of Youth & Family Ministry**

ext. 203, wendik@zionmiddletown.org

Melissa Cregger - Administrative Assistant

ext. 201, melissac@zionmiddletown.org

Deb Reichelt - Treasurer

treasurer@zionmiddletown.org

Kaye Derr - Financial Secretary

financialsecretary@zionmiddletown.org

Matt Puziss - Director Worship Team

mattpuziss@gmail.com

Bobby Staples - Director of Music Ministry/Organist

rstaples93@gmail.com