

A Reconciling in Christ congregation, celebrating the diversity of God's children and fostering understanding and healing in community



First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025



Christ in the Desert, 1939, Gustave van de Woestyne, Belgium

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all... an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Please silence your cell phone.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Please be respectful of people who use this time to prepare for worship.

Prelude

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On Eagles Wings, Arranged by John Carter, 1997

Welcome



When We Are Tested Hymn 0 When ed test and tle lone, we are wres а -1 lief, 2 When in the des ert we cry for re -3 When we are tempt - ed bar ter souls, to our 4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night, fam - ished the of fers for bread when world stone, plead - ing paths marked by be lief, for cer tain trad - ing the truth for the pow'r trol, to con sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right, nour - ish God, by your word and your way, us, lift us love you be - yond sign and test, to teach us wor ship and praise on ly you, to -Sav - ior, round with cir cles sur us of care, food that tains by night and by day. sus us trust - ing pres - ence, rest. your our on - ly true will the do. seek - ing your in work that we an - gels heal - ing, of of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

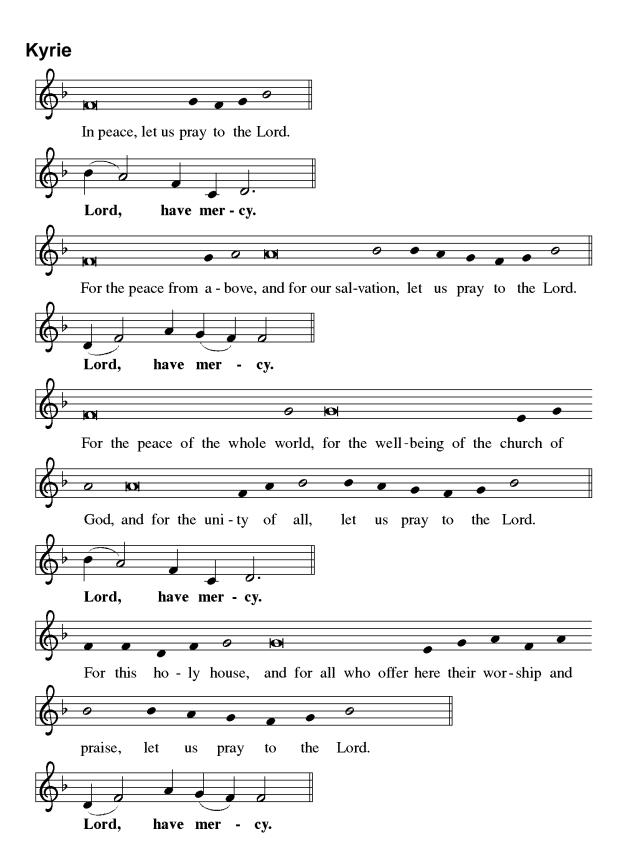
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

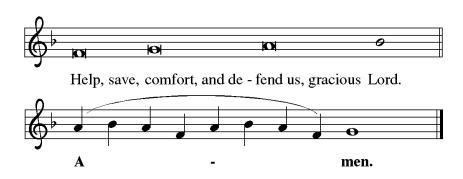
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Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the friendship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.





Prayer of the Day

God of the wilderness, as you stayed with Jesus through his times of hunger, fear, and confusion, so you promise to be present to us in all seasons of our lives. When our uncertainties lead us to name any as falling outside your circle of love, draw us close to you, so your boundless compassion can fill us and heal us to understand that in your beloved community, all belong. All belong.

Please be seated



WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

(Contemporary English Version, inclusivized)

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

[Moses said to the Hebrew people]: "Yahweh is giving you this land, and soon you will conquer it, settle down, and plant crops. And when you begin harvesting each of your crops, the very first things you pick must be put in a basket. Take them to the place where the Lord your God chooses to be worshiped, and tell the priest, "Long ago Yahweh promised to give this land to our ancestors. And today, I thank Yahweh for keeping this promise and giving me a share of the land."

The priest will take the basket and set it in front of the altar of Yahweh.

Then, standing there in front of the place of worship, you must pray:

'My ancestor was homeless,

an Aramean who went to live in Egypt.

There were only a few in his family then,

but they became great

and powerful, a nation of many people.

The Egyptians were cruel and had no pity on us.

They mistreated our people and forced us into slavery.

We called out for help

to you, the God of our ancestors.

You heard our cries;

You knew we were in trouble and abused.

Then you terrified the Egyptians

with your mighty miracles and rescued us from Egypt.

You brought us here

and gave us this land rich with milk and honey.

Now, YAHWEH, I bring to you

the best of the crops that you have given me.'

After you say these things, place the basket in front of the altar and bow down to worship.

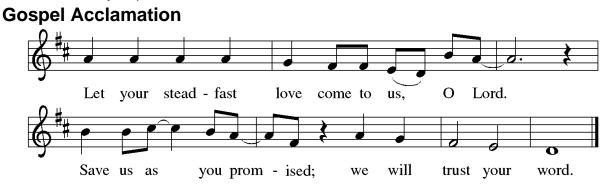
Then you and your family must celebrate by eating a meal at the place of worship to thank the Yahweh for giving you such a good harvest. And remember to invite the Levites and the foreigners who live in your town."

May we open ourselves to what the Spirit is saying to the church. Amen.



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* \otimes 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

You who dwell in the shelter of ¹ the Most High, who abide in the shadow of ¹ the Almightyyou will say to the LORD, "My refuge | and my stronghold, my God in whom I | put my trust." Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your | habitation, no evil | will befall you, nor shall affliction come | near your dwelling. For God will give the angels charge [|] over you, to guard you in I all your ways. Upon their hands they will | bear you up, lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone. You will tread upon the lion | cub and viper; you will trample down the lion | and the serpent. I will deliver those who | cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name. They will call me, and I will | answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and ¹ honor them. With long life will I | satisfy them, and show them | my salvation.



GospelLuke 4:1-13(Contemporary English Version, inclusivized)The Holy Gospel according to St. LukeGlory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus returned from the Jordan River [after being baptized], the power of the Holy Spirit was with him, and the Spirit led him into the desert. For forty days Jesus was tested by the devil, and during that time he went without eating. When it was all over, he was hungry.

The devil said to Jesus, "If you are God's Own, tell this stone to turn into bread."

Jesus answered, "The Scriptures say, 'No one can live only on food."

Then the devil led Jesus up to a high place and quickly showed him all the nations on earth. The devil said, "I will give all this power and glory to you. It has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. Just worship me, and you can have it all."

Jesus answered, "The Scriptures say:

'Worship your God and serve God only!'"

Finally, the devil took Jesus to Jerusalem and had him stand on top of the temple. The devil said, "If you are God's Own, jump off. The Scriptures say:

'God will tell the angels to take care of you.

They will catch you in their arms,

and you will not hurt your feet on the stones."

Jesus answered, "The Scriptures also say, 'Don't try to test your God!" After the devil had finished testing Jesus in every way possible, the devil left him for a while.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Musical Reflection How Beautiful

How beautiful the hands that served the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth. How beautiful the feet that walked the long dusty roads and the hill to the cross. How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the heart that bled, that took all my sin and bore it instead. How beautiful the tender eyes that choose to forgive and never despise. How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

And as He laid down His life, We offer this sacrifice: that we would live just as He died, willing to pay the price, willing to pay the price.

How beautiful the radiant Bride who waits for her Groom with His light in her eyes. How beautiful when humble hearts give the fruit of pure lives so that others may live. How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the feet that bring the sound of good news and the love of the King. How beautiful the hands that serve the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth. How beautiful, how beautiful how beautiful is the body of Christ. Paris/Courtney Senior Choir



Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

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.

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

After each petition: "Your mercy is great, O God." Receive our prayer.

Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sisters Kleta Childs and Karla Weaver, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin and their son-in-law Brandon James, Skye Andree, Kris Kauffman, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, Kathie Ehrich, Dottie and Larry Bird, Eileene Welker, Nancy Magargal's grandson Benjamin, Kelley Frank's mother Charlotte Frank, Scott Steiner, Bill Boys on Ruth's death; Skye and Clay Andre on the death of their grandmother For the people of Peace Lutheran Mission in Gahanna For Redeemer community member Kurt Goshen

Time with the Young People

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

Members are encouraged to move around the sanctuary to greet each with a hearty handshake or a hug.

For those who have special concerns or who do not wish close contact, please offer a sign of blessing to let others know you are more comfortable greeting them from a distance. We will continue to take a moment to greet those who are worshiping via livestream before greeting those in the sanctuary.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION AND HEALING PRAYER

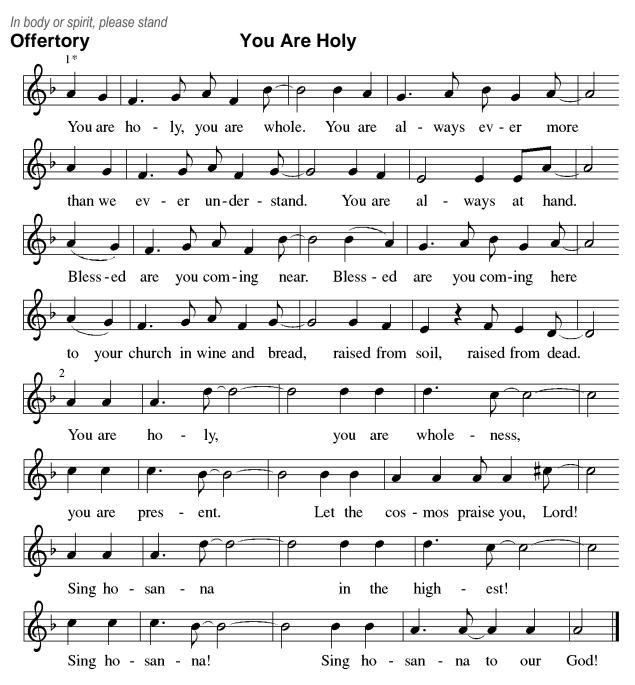
Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.

During the Rite of Communion, Prayors and Prayer Assistants will assemble on the steps of the sanctuary to offer a gentle touch and blessing. Those who wish to receive this healing in their pews may let an usher know and the healing team will come to you. Jesus often touched others—blessing children, washing feet, and healing injuries or disease. Such an act is a tangible expression of the presence of the healing Christ, working in and through those who minister in His name.



And also with you.



* May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945 Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling Text and music © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin. Augsburg Fortress in North America, South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

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Great Thanksgiving

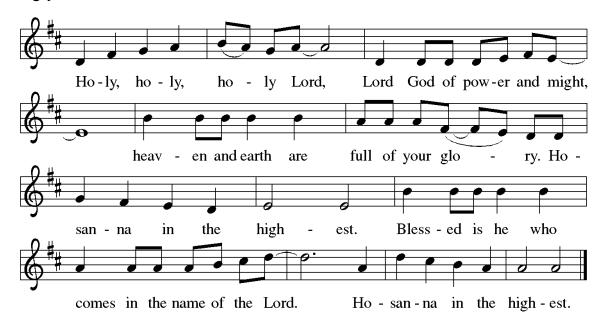
The Lord be with you. Lift up your hearts. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you. We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and joyful to lift our voices in praise to you, loving God! You answer fear with grace and encourage our wayward steps toward home. You make yourself present to all of creation, so your Spirit can work through us to help mend the broken, bring justice to the excluded, and welcome the forgotten.

You hold us in every sorrow, and bring us comfort and companions even in the shadow of death. All your creatures behold your works, and join to sing your steadfast love:



Now, O God, we remember Jesus. He fasted and prayed; he was tempted and tried. His commitment to follow your way led the powers of this world to put him on a cross. Yet human hands cannot destroy your love. You brought him to new life. He lives even now, our healer and friend. He loved us well, loved us to the end, and loves us still.

- So we remember on the night his closest friends abandoned and betrayed him, he shared a meal with them in which he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them saying, "Take this and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this to remember me."
- After the meal, Jesus took a cup of wine and gave it to them, saying, "This is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."
- Holy Spirit, come! Bless this bread which you have given and human hands have made. Let it become for us the bread of life. Bless also this cup, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. Let it become for us the cup of salvation. Open us to recognize the living Christ in this bread and cup, and in one another. And open us to lives these words Jesus teaches:

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Sharing the Meal

Whoever you are, from wherever you come, whatever you believe, you are welcome and invited to receive. Come! For all things are now ready. *Please be seated*

You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray, grape-apple juice in the inner ring. Gluten-free wafers are available on request, ask Pastor.



Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thank you, merciful God, for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the splendors of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Open us to receive the gifts of this holy communion: oneness of heart, love for creation, welcome in this community, and the promise of friendship with the Spirit who delights in us.

WE ARE SENT

Please stand in body or spirit Shine, Jesus, Shine Hymn Refrain fill this with the Fa-ther's glo-ry; Shine, Je - sus, shine, land Θ fire. blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on riv - er, flow, flood the tions with grace and mer - cy; Flow, na -0 send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light! the midst of the shin - ing, 1 Lord, the light of your love is in our fac - es dis-2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, SO dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us, play your like - ness, ev - er chang-ing from glo - ry to glo - ry, bring the truth you now set us free by us. lives tell your sto mir - rored here, may our ry. Refrain σ Ο Shine shine on me: on me, shine Shine on me, on me: SHINE, JESUS, SHINE Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950 Music: Graham Kendrick 99 10 10 33 and refrain Text and music © 1987 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

Blessing

Amen.

Announcements

Postlude Just A Closer Walk with Thee, Arranged by John Carter, 2005

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The communion liturgy is adapted from "Enter with Joy," by Pat Bennett, published by Wild Goose Publications. Contemporary English Version (CEV) ©1995 American Bible Society

Healing Prayer is offered at worship the second Sunday of each month.

Adult Ed

Sundays March 9, 16, 23 11:15 a.m.

Death, Dying, and Grieving --Emily Kent and Brad Binau--

March 9 - Death: Grieving our Losses March 16 - Dying: Experiencing Physical Death March 23 - Grieving: Remembering Life

In-Person and Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83475541581?pwd=PEyYLFq <u>ECnuQBzf9bSbagxGY44GXcU.1</u> Meeting ID: 834 7554 1581 = Passcode: 752230 Phone only: 1-312-626-6799

SUNDAX SCHORY

Monchly Sunday School for all ages! Sunday, March 9 == 11:15 am





OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister		David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister		Lynn Belhorn
Cantor		Emily Kent
ASL Interpreter		Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director		Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chimes Choir Director		Karen Kent
Usher		Helen Brunston
Verger	Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica	
Producers	Toshi Phillips, Sachio Phillips	
Communion Prep Hospitality	Wendy Stoica, Lynn Bell	norn, Kay Ernsthausen Michelle Clemence

The Noisy Offering will go to CRIS [Community Refugee and Immigration Service]

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER MARCH 9 – 16

Today	8:45 am 10:00 am 11:15 am 11:15 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion and Healing Prayer Sunday School for all ages IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education
Tuesday	1:00 pm 6:30 pm	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Bible Study ZOOM A Brewing Faith
Wednesday	noon 7:00 pm	Lenten Soup and Discussion IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Lenten Evening Prayer
Thursday	4:30 pm	RLC at First English dinner
Next Sunday	8:45 am 10:00 am 11:15 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education

1555 South James Road, Columbus OH 43227 614.237.1263 + <u>info@RedeemerLuth.com</u> + <u>www.RedeemerLuth.com</u> Office hours –9am-1pm, Mon-Wed; 9am-noon Thu A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America