



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
February 21, 2021



Our altar flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Lucy and Marcus Thompson by Babs Mollere. Thank you Marcus and Lucy for your love and service!



PRELUDE
Marcus St. Julien



GATHERING AND GREETING
Jay Hogewood

*To the Lord of all creation, we offer our lives.
We trust in the love of Christ, who gathers us
in his compassion and peace.*

*Let us offer our intentions, our affections and
all our actions to the way of Jesus Christ that
he may teach us his paths of mercy and holy
love.*



CALL TO WORSHIP
Marissa Teauseau Horvath

*When Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River,
he emerged from the waters
to see the heavens splitting open and
the Spirit soaring down like a dove.*

*When Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River, he stood up from
the waters and heard:*

"You are my Child, the beloved; with you I am well pleased."

*When Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River,
he emerged from the waters
to walk a new path and to call the world to join him.*

Here comes God's kingdom on earth.

Teach us your ways, brother Jesus.

**Now is the time to count the cost,
to take up the cross, and to follow you.**



**CHRIST, WHOSE GLORY
FILLS THE SKIES**

#173

**Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Day-spring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.**

**Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see;
till they inward light impart,
cheer my eyes and warm my heart.**

**Visit then this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, Radiancy divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.**



PRAYER

*The saving love of Jesus, our Savior, be with you.
And also with you.*

*Let us pray responding to each other:
Creator and Sovereign,
our world and our lives are often full of threat.*

**We return to you in this place today. We need your reminder
that you do not abandon us to the hard realities of our lives.**

You are the one who saves us.

**You are the one who faithfully shows us your forgiveness and
care.**

*You are the one who instills courage within us to arise
from the waters of our baptism
and to stand up for the poor, the hurting, the pushed aside
and the powerless.*

Enter now our hearts and lives for your powerful purposes.

...
THE LORD'S PRAYER



THE RED STEPS

A Moment for Children



OFFERING

soloist, Rebecca Sullivant

The Penitent Song

Colin McAlpin

*Cease from the world, beloved, the stress of mortal things but
clouds thy spirit's brightness and dims her silver wings. Thine
eyes have lost their shining, thy voice is sad and low. Cease
from the world, beloved, this bitter world of woe.*

*Peace to thine heart, beloved, there is no need for tears. One
draught from Heaven shall banish the fret and stain of years.
Full heaven lies all about thee, vast and unspeakable. Peace to
thine heart, beloved, Peace for all is well.*

*Then rise from the dust, beloved, the ripening harvest stands.
The vineyard bow with sweetness, the mountains clap their
hands. The whole wide world is longing, the laborers are few.
Rise from the dust beloved -- God shall make all things new.*

You may give your offering this morning several ways:

TEXT: **giverayne** TO: **73256**

<http://raynenola.org/contribute/>

You may also make your 2021 pledge online.

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MARK 1:9-15

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. Jesus Announces the Good News

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"



HOMILY

Wilds



ANTHEM

soloist, Randy Bunnell

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INVITATION

We joyfully welcome all who wish to become members of Rayne and encourage you to call Pastor Jay at 225-772-3550 or email him at jay@raynenola.org to explore joining our community of faith.



GRACE GREATER THAN OUR SIN

#365

1 Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt! Yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured - There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

[Refrain]: Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within; Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that is greater than all our sin!

2 Sin and despair like the sea-waves cold, Threaten the soul with infinite loss; Grace that is greater - yes, grace untold - Points to the Refuge, the mighty Cross. [Refrain]

3 Dark is the stain that we cannot hide. What can avail to wash it away? Look! There is flowing a crimson tide, brighter than snow you may be today. [Refrain]

4 Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, Freely bestowed on all who believe! All who are longing to see His face, Will you this moment His grace receive? [Refrain]



BENEDICTION

GO IN PEACE,

Stand firm in your faith.

Be Strong.

Be Brave.

**Let everything you do,
be done in love.**

POSTLUDE

