

March 7, 2021
The Third Sunday of Lent



Our altar flowers are given by Nancy Creel in honor of David Bisschop and Adam Creel, who celebrate their birthdays this month!

GATHERING

"Out of the depths," ~ Charles Hughes

*God isn't love or isn't God. This is,
for doubt, its royal flush: God can't be both.
I'm caught up in the logic and the mood,
hemmed in by facts, one fact, that world's abyss
of suffering and injustice, how it's loath
to love: no God or else one far from good.*

Pray, then, to learn love's work from Christ, to trust the rumored beauty of this world renewed, which - like some long-lost heirloom tablecloth, once wedding gift, lace linen, still discussed - doesn't show up but should. What if all our words were pleasing to God? Might we discover wisdom and then change the world?

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Called by Christ, **we gather as one.**
Blessed by God's wisdom, **we gather to open our hearts and minds.**
Amazed by God's love, **we gather to worship.**

HYMN

O Church of God, United

PRAYER

The everlasting mercy of Jesus our Savior be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us pray together: **God of glory and mercy, speak to us with your grace. Pour out your presence through the sacraments of bread and cup and font of water. Display your majesty that we might truly encounter you. Transform the chaos of our lives with the energy of your call that we might serve you in our community and worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.**

THE RED STEPS (8:30am)

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:30am)
Maryn Louise with parents, Jonnie & Ford Sutter

...

Do you as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? **We do.**
Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Maryn Louise now before you in your care? **With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Maryn with a community of love and forgiveness that she may grow in her service to others. We will pray for her that she may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.**

ANTHEM

8:30am - Cassie Segal

Shepherd Me, O God - arr. Marty Haugen

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life. God is my shepherd, so nothing I shall want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace. Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your Name. Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side, your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.

11:30a - C. Leonard Raybon

What Wondrous Love - arr. Michael Larkin

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul.
What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.*

*To God and to the Lamb I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb,
Who is the Great I AM
While millions join the theme I will sing.*

*And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free
I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on.*

SCRIPTURE - John 2:13-22

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Confession & Pardon

When we set up barriers that prevent others from knowing the truth of your love, please forgive us and break down those walls. When we set up barriers in our own minds and lives that keep us from accepting the truth of your love, please break down our walls with your grace. When we are confused by the world's schemes, please break through our muddled spirits and shine the clear love of your teachings. Draw us closer to you, to one another and to the beauty of your forgiveness and mercy.

(Silent confession)

Hear the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are neither slave nor free, Jew nor Greek, male nor female; we are all one in Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...

And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn, by saying together: **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.**

...

And so in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of our faith. **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

The Lord's Prayer

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

(individually contained wafer and cup are supplied for you in your pew)

INVITATION

OFFERING

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL BY ROW