

**10:30 a.m. Worship Service
March 15, 2026 – 4th Sunday in Lent
*A New and Right Spirit***

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Introduction and Welcome

Moment for Mission

Preparation for Worship / Breath Prayer

GATHERING

Prelude

Call to Worship

For forty days and nights the rain fell,
and the waters covered the face of the earth.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

For forty years the people wandered,
seeking the land of God's promise.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Moses spent forty days on the mountain,
learning the commandments of God.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness
to hear the voice of God in the silence.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh:
Repent, or in forty days you will perish.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days
and was tested by the devil.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Opening Prayer

Gracious God,
in order that the children of earth
might discern good from evil,
you sent your Son to be the light of the world.
As Christ shines upon us,
may we learn what pleases you,
and live in all truth and goodness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. Amen.

Opening Hymn No. 801 – *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

**1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.**

**2 My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.**

**3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill,
for thou art with me; and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.**

**4 My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.**

**5 Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me,
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.**

Children's Song – *Where Children Belong*

**This, this is where children belong,
welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:
this is where children belong.**

Time for Children

Children's Prayer

Announcement Reminders

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God of mercy,
you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.
We confess that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.
We are misled by pride,
for we see ourselves pure when we are stained,
and great when we are small.
We have failed in love,
neglected justice,
and ignored your truth.
Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.
Return us to paths of righteousness
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, God's love has been poured into your hearts
through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

Lenten Sung Response No. 551 – *Lord Have Mercy*

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Passing the Peace of Christ

And now as forgiven people, I say to you:
the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also, with you.

LEARNING

Anthem

Lenten Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading – *Psalms 23*

Sermon

RESPONDING

Hymn of Response No. 458 – *Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

**When I feel afraid,
and I think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me.**

**Nothing will I fear
as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

***Affirmation of Faith – Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come
to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
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 People

Out of the ashes, up from the dust
we bring our prayers to God, saying:
In your steadfast love,

O Lord, have mercy on us.

We pray for those
who are in the sorrows of War.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

We Pray for those who are hungry.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

We pray for those who are scared.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

We pray for those who are walking
in the darkest of valleys.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

We pray for our leaders to stand up
and do what is right and just.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

We pray for our weary souls,
that you will sustain us.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Restore in us, O God, the joy of your salvation;
renew and sustain our spirits,
so that we may live according to your will;
through Jesus Christ, our hope and strength.

Sung Lord's Prayer for Lent

Our Father

Our Father

in heaven,

in heaven,

holy is your name.

holy is your name.

Your kingdom come,

Your kingdom come,

your will be done,

your will be done,

on earth

on earth

as in heaven.

as in heaven.

Give us today

Give us today

our daily bread;

our daily bread;

forgive us our sins

forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

who sin against us.

Save us from the time

Save us from the time

of trial,

of trial,

and deliver us

and deliver us

from evil.

from evil.

For the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory are yours, forever.

For the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory are yours, forever.

Forever,

Forever,

and ever.

and ever.

Offering

Lent Offertory Hymn – *There Is a Longing* – Anne Quigley

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord
for you to reveal yourself to us
There is a longing in our hearts for love
we only find in you, our God

For justice, for freedom, for mercy, hear our prayer
In sorrow, in grief, be near, hear our prayer, O God

**There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord
for you to reveal yourself to us
There is a longing in our hearts for love
we only find in you, our God**

For wisdom, for courage, for comfort, hear our prayer
In weakness, in fear, be near, hear our prayer, O God

**There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord
for you to reveal yourself to us
There is a longing in our hearts for love
we only find in you, our God**

Lord, save us, take pity, light in our darkness
We call you (we call you) we wait (we wait)
Be near, hear our prayer, O God

**There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord
for you to reveal yourself to us
There is a longing in our hearts for love
we only find in you, our God**

Doxology No. 606 – *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Lenten Prayer of Dedication**

**Holy God, from abundance upon abundance,
you have said that we may freely take and freely share.
As we return to you what is already your own,
we ask that you would bless these gifts and multiply them.
May we, in turn, be blessed,
as we see your reign unfolding before us,
through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

SENDING

Closing Hymn No. 840 – *When Peace like a River

1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul;
it is well; it is well with my soul.

2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ hath regarded
my helpless estate,
and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
It is well with my soul;
it is well; it is well with my soul.

3 He lives: O the bliss of this glorious thought.
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well with my soul;
it is well; it is well with my soul.

4 Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
even so it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul;
it is well; it is well with my soul.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Lora East, Pastor
Josh Clapp, Preacher
Youth Spring Confirmands Zoe Mitchell and Caitlin Villarreal, Liturgists
EJ Balreira, Acolyte
Erika Stiner, Director of Children's Spirituality
Christian Carpenter, Media Technician
Zachary Ridgway, Organist
Keith Martinez, Director of Choral Music
The UPC Adult Choir
David Anthony, Safira Carpenter, Roy & Sue Martino, Greeters

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and the Glory to God Hymnal.