

Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022, 9:00 am

You are invited to speak the words in **bold**. + Please stand as you are able.

Musicians

Chris Garofalo, Director of Music Ministry, Organ & Piano • Minji Will, Cantor

Prelude

Sonatine: II Menuet

by Maurice Ravel

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Welcome

with Pastor Jeremiah

+ Call to Worship

with Pastor Jeremiah

Come, all who are thirsty.

Come, all who are seeking.

Come, all who are waiting.

Come, all who labor.

Come, all who need rest.

Come, all who dream dreams.

Come—

whether you're young or old,

confident or curious,

lonely or hopeful.

This is God's house. All are welcome here.

Let us worship holy God.

+ Opening Hymn

We Sing to You, O God

The Faith We Sing #2001

Verse 1

We sing to you, O God, the Rock who gave us birth,
let our rejoicing sing your name in all the earth.

To you, O God, let songs be raised,
in joyful hymns, our feast of praise.

Verse 2

We wandered far from home out in a desert land,
you shielded with your love our fearful pilgrim band.

You kept us safe within your arms
and sheltered us against the storm.

Verse 3

You bear us through the world, an eagle to her young,
who rises on her wings and bears us toward the sun.

We ride the vaults of light and air
and trust in your unfailing care.

Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022, 9:00 am

Verse 4

O God, eternal God, we hide within your wings,
the everlasting arms to whom our praises ring.
Your word is true, your way is just,
you are the God in whom we trust

Prayer of Confession

with Pastor Jeremiah

Holy God,

*we treat our self-worth like something
that can be bought at a store,
but you know this even better than we do.
Instead of trusting that we are made good,
instead of trusting that we are loved
exactly as we are,
we stockpile our value in earthly things—
in trophies and awards, in likes and follows,
in wealth and power.*

*Forgive us for creating our own measuring stick.
Heal our open wounds and tell our hearts that we
won't be forgotten if we slow down.
We won't be forgotten if we rest.
Gratefully, we pray. Amen.*

Song

Jesus Loves Me

United Methodist Hymnal #191

Verse 1

Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

Time for Young Disciples

with Beth Hagemeyer

Psalter

Psalms 63: I Long for You

© 1981, 1993, Damean Music

Cantor Sings

I long for you, O Lord.
With all my soul I thirst for you.

Congregational Sung Response

*I long for you, O Lord.
With all my soul I thirst for you.*

Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022, 9:00 am

Verse 1

God, my God, it is you I seek;
for you my soul is thirsting.
Like a dry and weary land
my spirit longs for you.

Sung Response

Verse 2

I have sought your presence, Lord;
to see your pow'r and glory.
Lord, your love means more than life;
I shall sing your praise.

Sung Response

Verse 3

Thus will I bless you while I live,
and I will call your name, Lord.
As with the riches of a feast,
my soul is filled by you.

Sung Response

Verse 4

Through the night I remember you
for you have been my savior.

In the shadow of your wings
I will shout for joy.

Sung Response

Scripture

Luke 13: 1-9

with Donna Pries

The Inclusive Bible © 2007 by Priests for Equality

¹ On the same occasion, there were people present who told Jesus about some Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their own sacrifices. ² Jesus replied, "Do you think these Galileans were the greatest sinners in Galilee just because they suffered this? ³ Not at all! I tell you, you'll all come to the same end unless you change your ways. ⁴ Or take those eighteen who were killed by a falling tower in Siloam. Do you think they were more guilty than anyone else who has lived in Jerusalem? ⁵ Certainly not! I tell you, you'll all come to the same end unless you change your ways." ⁶ Jesus told this parable: "There was a fig tree growing in a vineyard. ⁷ The owner came out looking for fruit on it, but didn't find any. The owner said to the vine dresser, 'Look here! For three years now I've come out in search of fruit on this fig tree and have found none. Cut it down. Why should it clutter up the

Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022, 9:00 am

ground?'⁸ "In reply, the vine dresser said, 'Please leave it one more year while I hoe around it and fertilize it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, fine; if not, then let it be cut down.' "

Response to Scripture

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn of Preparation

There Is a Balm in Gilead

United Methodist Hymnal #375, verse 1

Refrain

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Verse 1

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain.
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

Refrain

Sermon Preparation

May the words of my mouth,
and the meditation of our hearts

***be acceptable to your Spirit,
our Rock and our Redeemer.***

Sermon

You Are Worthy

with Pastor Jeremiah

Affirmation of Faith

with Pastor Jeremiah

We believe

that the God of the cosmos is at work here.

We believe that God is fertilizing the soil.

We believe that God is planting roots.

***We believe that God is growing fruit
that is yet to be tasted.***

But until that promised day

when the fig tree stands tall

and swords are beaten into plowshares,

we believe:

when our work does not bear fruit,

God still loves us.

When our soil grows dry and cracked,

God still longs for us.

When all seems hopeless here on earth,

God holds hope for us.

The God of the cosmos is at work here.

We believe. Help our unbelief.

Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022, 9:00 am

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Hymn of Response

The Lord of Life, a Vine Is He

Worship & Song #3155

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Verse 1

The Lord of Life, a vine is he
and grafted to him we must be;
and thus we yield abundantly
sweet fruit for all to taste and see.

Verse 2

If we be joined to him we know
his strength and power will help us grow.
His Spirit's grace through us will flow
to prune and shape us as we go.

Verse 3

The vine is he, the branches we
for now and to eternity.
His word sown deep in us will be
both sun and rain ... sufficiency.

Verse 4

The Lord of Life, the Source Divine
calls us to come, with him entwined.

Will we, unhearing, dare decline
the call of Christ, the One True Vine?

Pastoral Prayer

with Pastor Jeremiah

The Lord's Prayer

with Pastor Jeremiah

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

Offering Invitation

with Pastor Jeremiah

Offertory

Menuet sur le nom d'Haydn

by Maurice Ravel

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Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022, 9:00 am

+ Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

United Methodist Hymnal #95

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

Prayer of Dedication

with Pastor Jeremiah

Announcements

with Pastor Jeremiah

+ Hymn of Sending Forth

When We Are Called to Sing Your Praise

The Faith We Sing #2216

verses 1 & 3

Verse 1

When we are called to sing your praise
with hearts so filled with pain
that we would rather sit and weep
or stand up to complain,
remind us, God, you understand
the burdens that we bear;

you, too, have walked the shadowed way
and known our deep despair.

Verse 3

When we are called to sing your praise
and life ahead looks grim,
still give us faith and hope enough
to break forth in a hymn,
a thankful hymn, great God of Love,
that you are everywhere;
you walk the shadowed way with us
and keep us in your care.

Benediction

with Pastor Jeremiah

Postlude

La vallée des cloches

by Maurice Ravel

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