

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19th, 2023 9:30 am

PRELUDE *Above All*

by Lenny LeBlanc and Paul Baloché. Arranged by Larry Shackley
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WELCOME

OPENING HYMN *How Can I Keep From Singing*

words and music by Robert Lowry
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Please stand as you are able

Verse 1.

*My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.*

REFRAIN:

*No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

Verse 2.

*Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul - How can I keep from singing? REFRAIN*

Verse 3.

*The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am His! How can I keep from singing? REFRAIN*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please continue to stand as you are able

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of mercy and forgiveness,

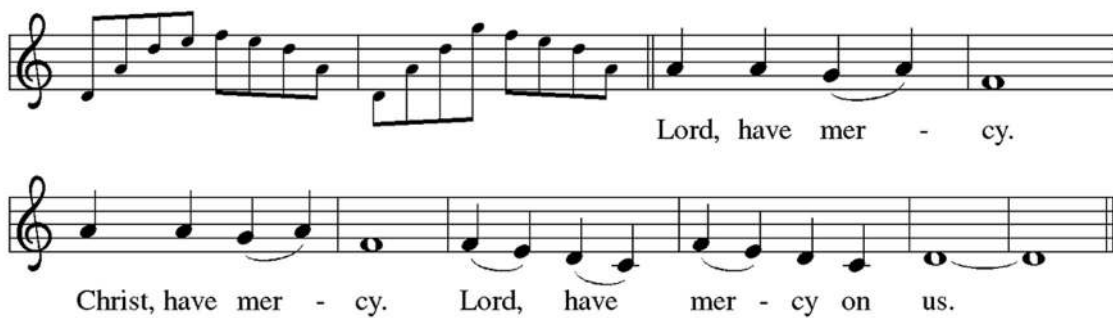
C: We confess we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have ignored voices that call for your justice. We have neglected actions that witness to your righteousness. We have spoken and acted in ways that disrupt your beloved community. We truly repent of things we have done and left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Restore our troubled spirits, so that we may live in newness, follow the way of the Spirit, and build up the body of Christ. Amen.

P: Thus says our God: “The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.” God’s mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

C: Amen

KYRIE

Music by Swee Hong Lim. Copyright 1990 General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik



Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Greet one another with a sign of peace as you feel comfortable)

THE WORD

Congregation may be seated

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

C: AMEN

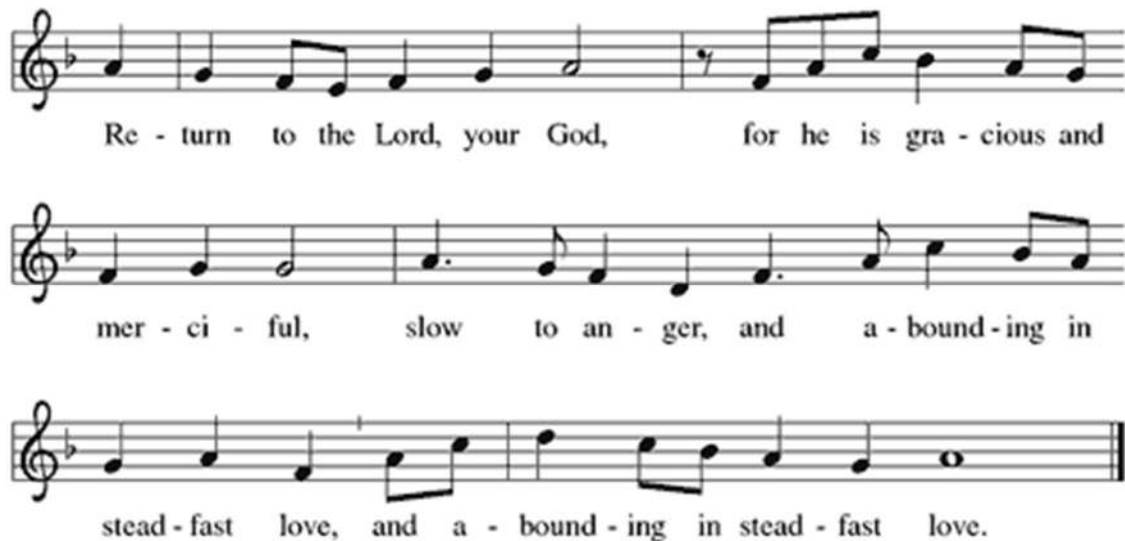
ANTHEM *King of Kings Sunday School Singers*

“Rorisa Morena: (Praise the Lord)
South African Tune. Copyright: Public Domain

What Would Jesus Do?
words and music by Catherine Brophy
copyright: 2000 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *ELW Setting Three*

Please stand as you are able



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. John:

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

THE GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were

divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation may be seated

PUPPET MINISTRY SHOW

“At the Water Fountain”

SERMON

Reverend Gail Wolling

OFFERING

P: Let us gather our offering

God of Promise

by Paul Damico-Carper

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A: Let us confess our faith using the words of the creed.

Please stand as you are able

C: THE CREED

**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.**

THE PRAYERS of the People

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer

A: Help us to love our neighbors and to pray for their wholeness, strength and healing...

Roy (Marcy Grundner)

Mike (Dawnelle Jager)

Chris (Beth Colbert)

Ed (Beth Colbert)

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer

Matthew (Pat Lebel)

Reina & David (Maria Jackson)

Ellen (Lorraine Savidge)

Frank (Lorraine Savidge)

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer

Dick (Karen Anders)

Rob (Barb Winkel)

Bill (Deanna Pavlacka)

Susan (Stephany Richardson)

The Family of Rick Bohlke (Deanna Pavlacka)

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer

Please speak additional names aloud or silently in your heart

A: Lord in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer

P: Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

COMMUNION LITURGY

(Communion provided offers wine and white grape juice as well as gluten-free wafers as an option. Please ask the Pastor for gluten-free wafers as needed. If you desire to receive a blessing, come forward with arms crossed. If you desire communion, come forward and extend your hands.)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C : We lift them to the Lord.

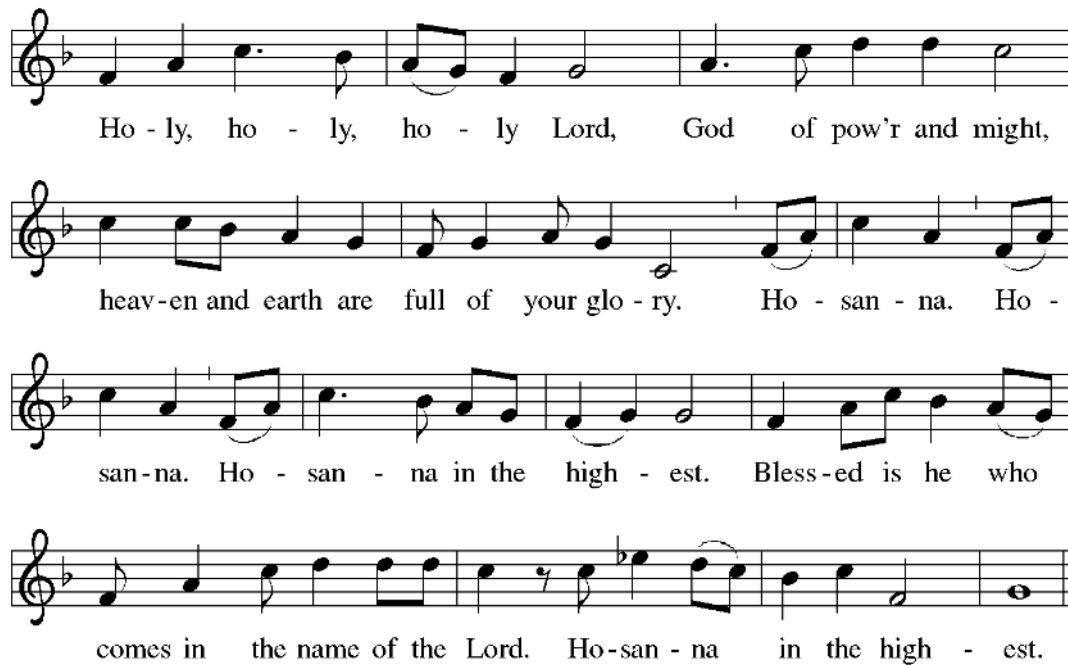
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all place give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light. And so, with all the choirs of the angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

THE SANCTUS (ELW Setting Three)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed,
took bread, and when he had given thanks,
he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said:
Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you.
Do this, in remembrance of me.

In the same way also he took the cup after supper,
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying:
Drink of it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C – Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup, we remember Christ's life among us;
his association with outcasts, his eating with sinners,
his healing of the sick, his care for the poor.

Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit
upon us and upon this bread and wine,

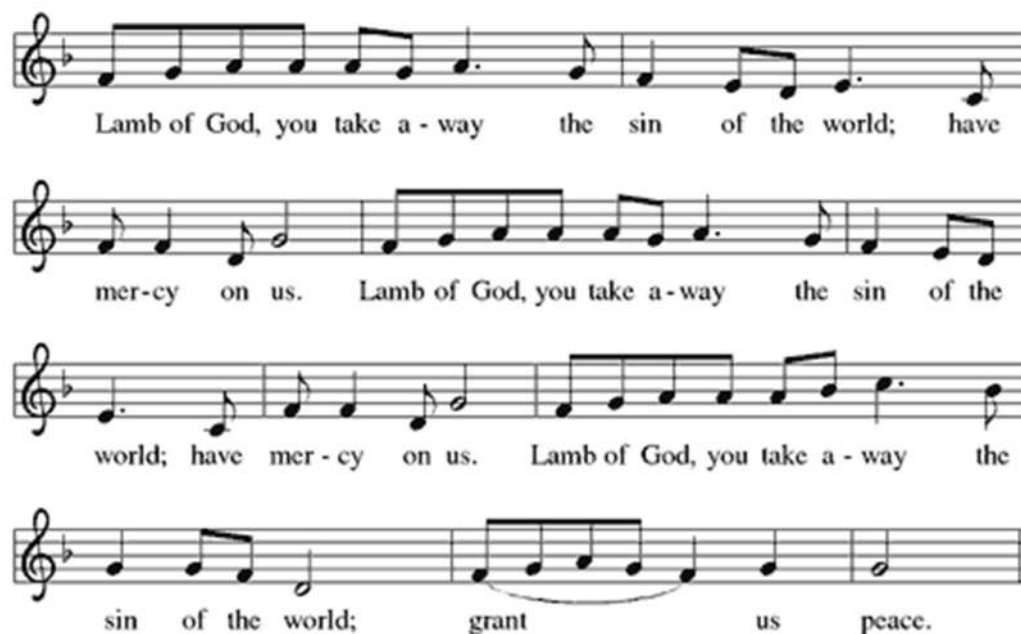
that we who share this meal
may become a holy communion,
the body of Christ in the world.

**C: Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever. Amen**

THE 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; and 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.

LAMB OF GOD *ELW Setting Three*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

C: Thanks be to God.

Congregation may be seated

COMMUNION MUSIC *Man of Sorrows*

by Matt Crocker and Brooke Ligertwood. Arranged by James Koerts
copyright: 2013 Hillsong Music Publishing . CCLI# 6476063

COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE SENDING

CELEBRATING OUR MISSION: Opportunities for service

THE BENEDICTION *Please stand as you are able*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)* words by John Newton with additional words and music by Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio copyright: 2006 WorshipTogether.com Songs. CCLI# 4768151

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I'm found,
was blind but now I see!*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!*

REFRAIN:

*My chains are gone, I've been set free!
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood, His mercy rains unending love,
amazing grace!*

*The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures. REFRAIN 2 X.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun! REFRAIN 2 X*

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace, be merciful to others.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *What a Beautiful Name*

by Ben Fielding and Brooke Ligertwood. Arranged by Matt Schinske

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*Presiding-Reverend Gail Wolling
Worship Assistant-Stephany Richardson*

*Communion Assistant-Michele Hayes
Music Director-Beth Colbert*