

**Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 10, 2024**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

! Call to Worship (*Responsively*)

Dennis Lesher

The earth is the Lord's, for he made it:
Come, let us adore him.
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:
Come, let us adore him.
The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:
Come, let us adore him.
Lord, open our lips.
And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

! Invocation (*Responsively*)

Dennis Lesher

God of goodness and grace, we long for your presence,
for the peace your promises bring, and for the assurances we have
received through the gift of your Son.
**May we, your people, this day and every day,
have open eyes to see and open ears to hear
your presence among us.**
Open us to your Holy Spirit, Lord,
and prepare us for worship. **Amen.**

! Praise Song *Before the Throne of God Above*

Verse 1
*Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong and perfect plea:
A great High Priest, whose name is Love,
whoever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart,
I know that while in heav'n He stands,
no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.*

Verse 2

*When Satan tempts me to despair
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
my sinful soul is counted free,
For God the Just is satisfied
to look on Him and pardon me,
to look on Him and pardon me.*

Verse 3

*Behold Him there, the risen Lamb,
my perfect, spotless righteousness,
the great unchangeable I Am,
the King of glory and of grace.
One in Himself, I cannot die,
my soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ my Savior and my God,
with Christ my Savior and my God.*

Confessing

God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Dennis Lesher

In spite of God's love for us and gift of love to us, we often act in destructive and hateful ways. We close our hearts to God and disobey God's law. Together let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession *(Responsively)*

Dennis Lesher

Father, we are sorry for the many times we have left you and chosen to satisfy our own selfish desires. For the times we have hurt the members of our families by refusing to do our share of the family tasks.

Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.

For the times we were unkind and impatient with those who needed our time and concern.

Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.

For the times we were too weak to stand up for what was right and allowed others to suffer because of our cowardice.

Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.

For the times we refused to forgive others.

Father, we have sinned. Forgive us.

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Dennis Leshner

There is now no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus.

—Romans 8:1, NIV

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.
A-men, A-men.*

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation Remember the words the Lord Jesus himself said:
"It is more blessed to give than to receive."
—from Acts 20:35, NIV

Offering

Offertory *Christ Has No Body But Yours* Sanchez & Talbot
Mike Lenz

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, you have given us life, a place to live in,
and people to live with. Open our eyes to each other
and to all our brothers and sisters, especially the poor, the
oppressed, the alienated. Make us humble enough to help
and comfort them, so that your love and justice and peace
may come to them. We make bold to consecrate ourselves
and our gifts to you and to the service of others, through
Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn 369

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Proclaiming
God speaks to us through His Word

Scripture Reading

Luke 17:1-10

17 He said to his disciples, "Offenses will certainly come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ²It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea than for him to cause one of these little ones to stumble. ³Be on your guard. If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. ⁴And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and comes back to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith."

⁶"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed," the Lord said, "you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you."

⁷"Which one of you having a servant tending sheep or plowing will say to him when he comes in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down to eat'? ⁸Instead, will he not tell him, 'Prepare something for me to eat, get ready, and serve me while I eat and drink; later you can eat and drink'? ⁹Does he thank that servant because he did what was commanded?¹⁰ In the same way, when you have done all that you were commanded, you should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we've only done our duty.'"

Sermon

"4 Ingredients of the Christian Life"
Rev. Tim Latham



Praise Song

Abide with Me

*Abide with me fast falls the eventide
The darkness deepens Lord with me abide
When other helpers fail and comforts flee
Help of the helpless abide with me*

Verse 2

*Thou on my head in early youth didst smile
And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile
Thou hast not left me though I oft left Thee
On to the close Lord abide with me*

Verse 3

*I need Thy presence every passing hour
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be
Through cloud and sunshine abide with me*

Verse 4

*I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless
Ills have no weight tears lose their bitterness
Where Is thy sting death where grave thy victory
I triumph still abide with me*

Verse 5

*Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies*

*Heav'n's morning breaks
And earth's vain shadows flee
In life in death Lord abide with me*

Responding
We respond to God's Word

! Profession of Faith

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

—from Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39, NRSV

Prayers of the People

Commissioning
God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

! Hymn 88 *Fairest Lord Jesus*

! Benediction & Blessing

! Postlude