

**Second Sunday in Lent
March 16, 2025**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

 **Call to Worship** (*Responsively*)

Bonnie Mecaughey

Let us worship God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ.
We are new creations; the old has gone, the new has come!
Let us worship God as Christ's ambassadors.
Through us and through our worship may we announce the good news to all.
Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.
Praise God! We are reconciled, redeemed, renewed!

—based on John 4:24; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

 **Invocation**

Bonnie Mecaughey

All-knowing and all-caring God,
we gather this day drained by another week.
We are like a parched desert, empty and in need of replenishment.
Visit us with your presence, saturate us with your Spirit,
and bathe us in your streams of living water,
that our lives might acknowledge and worship you
to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ. **Amen!**

—based on John 4:13-14; 7:37-38

 **Opening Hymn 1**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Bonnie Mecaughey

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our
God, for he will abundantly pardon. Trusting ourselves to the grace of
God, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

—based on Isaiah 55:6-7, NRSV

Prayer of Confession (*Responsively*)

Bonnie Mecaughey

**Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us.

We have not been true to the mind of Christ.

We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness:
the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

we confess to you, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways
and our exploitation of other people,

we confess to you, O God.

Our anger at our own frustration
and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

we confess to you, O God.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

we confess to you, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

we confess to you, O God.

Accept our repentance, O God,
for the wrongs we have done.

For our neglect of human need and suffering
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

accept our repentance, O God.

For all false judgments,
for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,
and for our prejudice and contempt
toward those who differ from us,

accept our repentance, O God.

For our waste and pollution of your creation
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

accept our repentance, O God.

Restore us, O God,
and let your anger depart from us.

**Favorably hear us, O God,
for your mercy is great. Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Bonnie Mecaughey

The Lord God said:

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you;

I will remove from you your heart of stone

and give you a heart of flesh.
Brothers and sisters: In Christ, all God's promises are "Yes."
Hear the good news: Through Christ,
our minds and hearts are cleansed, healed, and renewed!
—based on Ezekiel 36:26; 2 Corinthians 1:20, 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.*

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You
All: And also with you

Offering

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

Invitation Let us be faithful stewards of our time, our talents, and
our money. so that our treasure is in heaven and our
giving pleases God.

Offering

Offertory *Nothing But the Blood of Jesus*
Kelly Fox and Thomas Stevens

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

Compassionate God, we offer you these gifts as signs of our time and
labor. Receive the offering of our lives and feed us with your grace,
that in the midst of death all creation might feast on your unending life
in Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

 **Praise Song**

I Will Be Still

Verse 1

*Though the earth give way, Though the mountains fall to the sea
Though its waters roar, I will cling to Thee*

Pre-Chorus

There is no fear as I look upon you

Chorus

*I will be still, I will be still
And know, and know, and know You are God.*

Verse 2

*Though the nations rage and creation yearns for the Lord,
Though the earth may melt, I'm forever yours.*

Pre-Chorus

There is no fear as I look upon you

Chorus

*I will be still, I will be still
And know, and know, and know You are God.*

Bridge

*Forever my refuge, forever my strength,
forever my helper, forever my friend!*

Pre-chorus

There is no fear, there is no fear, there is no fear, as I look upon You.

Chorus (2x)

*I will be still, I will be still
And know, and know, and know You are God.*

Proclaiming

God speaks to us through His Word

Scripture Reading

John 8:12-20

¹² Jesus spoke to them again: "I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life."

¹³ So the Pharisees said to him, "You are testifying about yourself. Your testimony is not valid."

¹⁴ "Even if I testify about myself," Jesus replied, "my testimony is true, because I know where I came from and where I'm going. But you don't know where I come from or where I'm going. ¹⁵ You judge by human standards. I judge no one. ¹⁶ And if I do judge, my judgment is true, because it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. ¹⁷ Even in your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. ¹⁸ I am the one who testifies about myself, and the Father who sent me testifies about me."

¹⁹ Then they asked him, "Where is your Father?"

"You know neither me nor my Father," Jesus answered. "If you knew me, you would also know my Father." ²⁰ He spoke these words by the treasury, while teaching in the temple. But no one seized him, because his hour had not yet come.

Sermon *The Light of Life*
 Rev. Tim Latham

 **Song of Response** *Dayspring*

Verse 1
Christ whose glory fills the skies,
Christ the true the only light,
Son of righteousness arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high be near,
Day star in my heart appear.

Verse 2
Dark and cheerless is the morn,
were it ever without Thee Joyless in the day's return,
til thy mercy's beams I see,
Till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes and warm my heart.

Verse 3
Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief,
Fill me radiancy divine,
scatter all my un belief.
More and more thy self display,
shining to the perfect day.

Responding
We respond to God's Word

 **Profession of Faith** (*In Unison*)

By Christ's power
our old selves are crucified, put to death, and buried with him,
so that the evil desires of the flesh
may no longer rule us,
but that instead we may offer ourselves
as a sacrifice of gratitude to him.

—Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 43

Prayers of the People (*Responsively*)

Leader: *Lord in your mercy*

All: ***Hear our prayer***

Lord's Prayer

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 debts as we forgive our debtors;
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
And the glory forever, Amen.

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses



Commission Hymn 501 *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*



Benediction & Blessing



Postlude