

Third Sunday in Lent
March 23, 2025

GATHERING: *God invites us to enter His presence*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP (*Time for Silent Preparation*)



CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*) *Dan Obenschain*

Let us worship God,
for whom our souls thirst and our bodies long.
Listen, listen to me,
and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.
We have come to hear the Word God has sent.
God's Word will not return empty
but will accomplish through us his holy purpose.
Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.
Then we will go out with joy and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills will sing;
the trees of the field will clap their hands.

—based on Isaiah 55:2, 11-12; John 4:24



INVOCATION

Dan Obenschain

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 10 *O Worship The King*

CONFESSING: *God invites us to be honest with Him*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dan Obenschain

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*)

Dan Obenschain

O Lord, you desire truth in our inward being;
teach us wisdom in our secret heart.
Send out your light, send out your truth,
and let them lead us to our home.
Take from us the weight of our sin,

that room might be made for the spirit of truth.

If we prepare a dwelling place, that spirit will abide within us,
and the truth will set our spirits free.

Then shall we love not only in word or in speech;
then shall we love in deed and in truth,

and by this know that our service is faithful.

O Lord, you desire truth in our inward being;
teach us wisdom in our secret heart. Amen.

TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Dan Obenschain

Return to the Lord your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

In Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

—based on Joel 2:13; 2 Corinthians 9:15, NRSV

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 As we come before God with our tithes and offerings,
let us remember the words of Micah 6: What does the Lord require of us? To act justly,
to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. Thus we bring our money, gifts, and
whole lives as an offering to our God.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

In the Garden *Miles, arr. Johnson*
(Greg Maurer, Pamela Johnson, Saxophone, Thomas Alberici, Piano)

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.**

 **PREPARATION SONG** *My Soul Will Wait*

Verse 1

*When the enemy surrounds and my heart grows faint within,
When the darkness overwhelms and my fears are pressing in,
I will trust in You, O Lord, in the silence I will wait.
I will stand upon Your Word.*

Chorus

*You're my solid rock and my salvation,
my steadfast hope that won't be shaken.
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.*

Verse 2

*You're my stronghold and my shield in the midst of ev'ry threat.
Though the wicked never yield, they will vanish like a breath.*

*Yes, I know the outcome's sure, satan's evil plans will fail.
In Your power I'm secure.*

Chorus

*You're my solid rock and my salvation,
my steadfast hope that won't be shaken.
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.*

Chorus 2

*You're my comfort when I feel forsaken,
my refuge and my sure foundation.
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.*

Verse 3

*This is love I can't explain. This is mercy unreserved.
Through Your sacrifice so great I have peace that's undeserved.
For the battle has been won and I fear no shame or loss.
Now the sting of death is gone.*

Chorus

*You're my solid rock and my salvation,
my steadfast hope that won't be shaken.
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.*

Chorus 2

*You're my comfort when I feel forsaken,
my refuge and my sure foundation.
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.*

Tag
Pouring out our hearts before You, we will trust in You.
Perfect Savior, strong Defender, we will trust in You.

PROCLAIMING: *God speaks to us through His Work*

SCRIPTURE READING *John 12:22-30*

²² Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ Jesus replied to them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains by itself. But if it dies, it produces much fruit. ²⁵ The one who loves his life will lose it, and the one who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him. ²⁷ "Now my soul is troubled. What should I say— Father, save me from this hour? But that is why I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹ The crowd standing there heard it and said it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰ Jesus responded, "This voice came, not for me, but for you.

SERMON *"Jesus at the Festival"*
 Rev. Tim Latham

 **SONG OF RESPONSE** *In Christ Alone*

*In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.*

*In Christ alone—who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross, as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For every sin on Him was laid.
Here in the death of Christ I live.*

*There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine—
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.*

*No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no schemes of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home,*

Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

RESPONDING: *We respond to God's Word*



PROFESSION OF FAITH *(In Unison)*

I believe that God,
because of Christ's satisfaction,
will no longer remember
any of my sins
or my sinful nature
which I need to struggle against all my life.
Rather, by grace
God grants me the righteousness of Christ
to free me forever from judgment.

—Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 56

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Lord, In you mercy;

All: Hear our prayer

COMMISSIONING: *God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*



COMMISSION HYMN 268

God, Our Father We Adore Thee



BENEDICTION & BLESSING

POSTLUDE