



The Attentiveness of God
March 8, 2026
Third Sunday in Lent



MEDITATION

You say you feel overwhelmed with guilt and a sense of unworthiness.

Well, you cannot be too aware of the inward and inbred evils you complain of, but you may be (indeed you are) improperly controlled and affected by them.

You say it is hard to understand how a holy God could accept such an awful person as yourself.

You, then, not only express a low opinion of yourself (which is right!) but also too low an opinion of the person, work, and promises of the Redeemer, which is wrong. . .

- John Newton

He is your best servant, O Lord, who hopes not so much to hear from you what he wants to hear, but rather hopes to do what he hears from you.

- Augustine, *Confessions*

These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. Use them along with your worship guide as resources for readings, prayers and hymns. Set in the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), a schedule of daily Bible readings in accord with the Church year, these scripture readings are designed around a three-year cycle that will take you through the Old Testament once, the New Testament twice, and the Psalms frequently.

	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Monday, March 9th	Psalm 81	Genesis 24:1-27	2 John 1:1-13
Tuesday the 10th	Psalm 81	Genesis 29:1-14	1 Corinthians 10:1-4
Wednesday the 11th	Psalm 81	Jeremiah 2:4-13	John 7:14-31, 37-39
Thursday the 12th	Psalm 23	1 Samuel 15:10-21	Ephesians 4:25-32
Friday the 13th	Psalm 23	1 Samuel 15:22-31	Ephesians 5:1-9
Saturday the 14th	Psalm 23	1 Samuel 15:32-34	John 1:1-9

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Second City Church is a community that exists to worship the Triune God and to celebrate, in word and deed, the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Harrisburg.

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us in worship today. We hope this guide will help you participate in our service. If you have any questions about our worship, faith, or how you can be a part of our mission to serve God and neighbor in Harrisburg, be sure to talk to our pastor.

For Parents:

Children of all ages are welcome to remain with us as we worship. We like the noise; it helps us remember we are alive. The following services are available for you and your children to get the most out of your time of worship:

Infant & Toddler Care

Infant and toddler care is available on the first floor of the east wing of our building. Ask one of our greeters if you need help locating this room. Nursery staff are well-trained, have required background checks, and maintain a safe environment for your child(ren).

Children & Worship

Children & Worship is for children ages preschool through 2nd grade and meets in a worship space below the sanctuary during the sermon. They are dismissed during the announcements and return during the offertory. New families are welcome to tour the space before or after a service if desired.

ADVENT + CHRISTMAS + EPIPHANY + LENT + EASTER + PENTECOST + TRINITY

Lent is a 40 day season of confession and repentance in preparation for Easter. Christians have been keeping the season of Lent since the 2nd century. During this season Christians typically fast on certain days and abstain from certain things in order shape our hearts and souls towards repentance. The 40 day fast of Lent symbolizes several events in salvation history: Jesus' 40 day fast in the wilderness, Israel's 40 year wandering in the desert, and the 40 days of rain cleansing the earth during the flood of Noah, among others. The liturgical colors for Lent are purple and black, symbolizing mourning and repentance.

Please note that our services are live-streamed.



LITURGY OF PREPARATION

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,**
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

- Psalm 103:1-5

Gathering Hymn - Let Us Love And Sing and Wonder

Let us love and sing and wonder
Let us praise the Savior's name
He has hushed the law's loud thunder
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame

Let us love the Lord who bought us
Pitied us when enemies
Called us by His grace and taught us
Gave us ears and gave us eyes

He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He presents our souls to God

Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store

When through grace in Christ our trust is
Justice smiles and asks no more

He who washed us with His blood
He who washed us with His blood
He who washed us with His blood
Has secured our way to God

Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high
Here they trusted Him before us
Now their praises fill the sky

He who washed us with His blood
He who washed us with His blood
He who washed us with His blood
Has secured our way to God

Confession Hymn - Trisagion

Ho - ly God Ho - ly and might - y Ho - ly Im-
mor - tal One have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness & Peace

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

1 Peter 2:24

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

[Invitation for congregation to share a sign of peace with one another]

Hymns of Praise and Adoration

Beautiful, Scandalous Night

Go on up to the mountain of mercy
To the crimson perpetual tide
Kneel down on the shore, be thirsty no more
Go under and be purified

Follow Christ to the holy mountain
Sinner sorry and wrecked by the fall
Cleanse your heart and your soul
In the fountain that flowed
For you and for me and for all

At the wonderful, tragic, mysterious tree
On that beautiful scandalous night you and me
We're atoned by His blood and forever washed white
On that beautiful, scandalous night

On the hillside, you will be delivered
At the foot of the cross justified
And Your spirit restored, by the river that poured
From our blessed Savior's side

At the wonderful, tragic, mysterious tree
On that beautiful scandalous night you and me
We're atoned by His blood and forever washed white
On that beautiful, scandalous night

There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood

There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's vein
And sinners plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains
And sinners plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains

The dying thief rejoiced to see, that fountain in his day
And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away
Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away
And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood, shall never lose its power
Till all the ransomed church of God, be saved, to sin no more
Be saved, to sin no more, be saved, to sin no more
Till all the ransomed church of God, be saved, to sin no more

E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream, thy flowing wounds supply
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die

When this poor lisp'ing stamm'ring tongue, lies silent in the grave
Then in a nobler sweeter song, I'll sing Thy pow'r to save
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save, I'll sing Thy pow'r to save
Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I'll sing Thy pow'r to save



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Living Our Faith

Blessing Our Children

Jesus called the children to him and said,

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them,

for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.

March Memory Verse

What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?

Mark 8:36

Psalm Reading

Psalm 36:5-9; page 549

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. Amen. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:3-6; page 707

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:12-17; page 1174

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark:
Glory to you, O Lord!

Mark 7:24-37; page 1002

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Pastor Peter Rowan - *The Attentiveness of God*

Creed

Let us affirm the faith of the Church:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his 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 into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended to heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there 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 life everlasting. Amen.**

- *The Apostles' Creed*

Offering of Prayers of the People

**God of all seasons,
in your pattern of things
there is a time for keeping and a time for losing,
a time for building up and a time for pulling down.
In this season of Lent
as we journey to the cross,
help us to discern in our lives
what we must lay down and what we must take up,
what we must end and what we must begin.
Give us grace to lead a disciplined life,
in glad faithfulness and with the joy
that comes from a closer walk with Christ.**

Hear us as we bring before you the needs of our church, our community and the world.

**In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Offering of Gifts

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

Friends and members of Second City Church support the extension of God's Kingdom with gifts of bread, wine, talents and resources. Guests are not expected to contribute. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering plates, boxes on the wall as you leave, or can be made electronically. Instructions for setting up online giving are available at the donation boxes.



Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.



LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Invitation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Praise God for His Mighty Acts

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might

Heaven and earth full of your glory; Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest

Praise for Christ's Sacrifice

Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Calling on the Holy Spirit and Lord's Prayer

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us:

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.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Prayer of Humble Access and Invitation to the Table

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us once for all upon the cross.

Therefore let us keep the feast!

Sharing Holy Communion

Second City Church welcomes all baptized Christians who have made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ in a Christian church to join us in this sacrament. Non-communicants can come forward and ask for a blessing. If you need to receive communion in your seat, ask a fellow worshiper to let the communion servers know. If you are unable to receive wine, you will find a chalice containing non-alcoholic grape juice at the station the pastor is serving. The communion bread is gluten-free.

Closing Prayer

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit, give to you a contrite heart.

Amen.

May Christ, who bore our sins in his body on the tree, heal you by his wounds.

Amen.

May the Holy Spirit, who leads you into all truth, speak to you words of pardon and peace.

Amen.

And may the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.

Amen.

Closing Hymn - What A Friend We Have In Jesus

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear
What a privilege to carry, everything to God in prayer
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, oh what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry, everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
Jesus, Savior, is our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer
Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Jesus knows our every weakness, take it to the Lord in prayer

Oh, what a friend! Oh, what a friend in Jesus!
Oh, what a friend! Oh, what a friend in Jesus!

Blessed Savior, You have promised, all our burdens You will bear
May we ever, Lord, be bringing, all to you in earnest prayer
Soon, in glory bright unclouded, face to face will be our prayer
Joyful praise and endless worship, will be our sweet portion there

Oh, what a friend! Oh, what a friend in Jesus!
Oh, what a friend! Oh, what a friend in Jesus!

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Amen.



ATTRIBUTIONS

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Words by John Newton
Music by Laura Taylor
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Trisagion

Armenian; English; Spanish

Beautiful, Scandalous Night

Words and Music by Derald Daugherty and Steve Hindalong
© 1995 Never Say Never Songs; New Spring
Used by Permission

There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood

Words by William Cowper (1772)
Tune: CLEANSING FOUNTAIN

Sanctus

© 2005 Evan Mazunik
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Sweet Hour of Prayer

Words by William W. Walford (1845)
Music by William Batchelder Bradbury (1845)

Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul

Words by Anne Steele (1716-1778)
Music by Kevin Twit
Music: © 1998 Kevin Twit Music
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What a Friend We Have in Jesus (Oh! What A Friend!)

Words and Music by Charles Crozat Converse, Jordan Butcher, Joseph Medicott Scriven and Luke Vander Pol
Music: ©2015 We Are Younger We Are Faster Music
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vespers Evening Worship Service Tonight

Join us at 6 pm next Sunday for a liturgy of reflective prayer and song.

Potluck Luncheon After Worship Next Sunday, March 15

Join us for our next potluck next Sunday after church. Please bring any dish you enjoy sharing: a main dish, side dish, or dessert. Once again, the focus is to encourage our congregation to get to know each other better, so Pastor Peter will interview a guest or couple about their life and spiritual journey.

Next Senior Saints' Lunch March 18

The next Senior Saints' lunch gathering is at 12:15 on Wednesday, March 18. We will meet in the Orange Room and the Sanctuary. Please join us if you can!



ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Easter Lilies

If you'd like to sponsor an Easter lily, please complete an order form (available outside the church office and the Narthex) and drop it off at the office. You can also contact the office by phone or email. Please include the name of anyone you'd like to honor or memorialize, as well as any text you want to include in the list of sponsors. The cost is \$8 per plant.

March Children's Sunday School Classes

During the first four Sundays in March, the church is offering a new series of classes. The classes begin at 9 am Sunday mornings. The age groups and classroom locations are:

Age 3 - 1st grade, meeting in the Children's Worship space, behind the Orange Room, at the ground level of our building.

2nd - 4th grade, meeting in an upstairs Logos classroom, above the Social Hall.

5th - 8th grade, meeting in an upstairs Logos classroom, above the Social Hall.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to pray for:

Dottie Roden

Darwin Leshar

Virginia Anderson

Greg Nies

Wes and Cynthia VanderArk

Joseph Ayers

Chuck Bagley and Bagley/Gazsi families

Sophia James, USAF

Elizabeth James

Christine Zubrod Perrin

Jon Yawger

Dawn Benner

Donna Weatherly

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please consider liking, following and subscribing to our social media! Also, when you see, read or watch something you like, share it with your friends. It's a helpful way to let others know we are here!

Facebook



Instagram



YouTube



Your contact information

If you are our guest and would like to indicate your presence with us, or if you'd like to make us aware of a change in your contact information, fill out this form and place it in the offering plate.

_____ Visitor
_____ Regular Attendee
_____ Member

Name(s):

Address (please include city and zip):

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Prayer

Requests: _____

Contact us

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