

First Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 9, 2025

“Bloom Where You Are Planted”

Introit Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary (More Voices 18)

*Words and music: John W. Thompson and Randy Scruggs
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Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy tried and true; with thanksgiving.
I'll be living sanctuary for you.

Welcome and Announcements

Centring Music Jacob's Ladder

Traditional African - American Spiritual, arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

Lighting of the Christ Candle

We come to this place to continue our Lenten journey.

We come with our temptations and our laments.

We come as forgiven people ready to forgive others.

**We come to this place to find and accept the abundance of
God's love and grace.**

We come to worship God.

Opening Hymn We Are Pilgrims (Servant Song)

Voices United 595, vs. 1, 3, 4 & 5

*Words: Richard Gillard, 1977; Music: Richard Gillard 1977; arr. Betty Pulkingham
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1 We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

4 I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.

5 When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Children depart for Spirit Kids program.

Prayer of Preparation

Anthem I Will Remember You

by Jay Althouse

Scripture Readings Luke 4: 1-13

Reflection “The Imperfections of Life and Faith”

Hymn of the Day In You there is a Refuge (More Voices 84)

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1 In you there is a refuge,
in you we find our peace.
When all we know is chaos
may our trust in you increase.
In you there is a silence,
in you our minds are clear.
When all we hear is discord
may your quiet draw us near.

2 In you there is a vision,
in you we learn to dream.
When all we see is desert
may you be our living stream.
In you there is a future,
in you we find our way.
When hope has shed its brightness
may you show us a new day.

Children return for Communion.

The Holy Sacrament of Communion

Invitation To The Table

Take, O Take Me as I Am (More Voices 85)

*Words: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1995; Music: John L. Bell, 1995
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Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Holy Living God 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 to give our thanks and praise.

Liturgy

Holy, Holy, Holy (Voices United 942)

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Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heav'n and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

The Remembrance of Jesus

The Mystery of Our Faith

Christ has died, yet Christ is ris'n;

Christ will come once again!

We remember and proclaim your redeeming love.

Take, O Take Me as I Am (More Voices 85)

Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.

The Blessing

The Lord's Prayer (Erich Schulz)

Darryl Nixon, 1987; Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A- 605244. All rights reserved.

Sharing of Christ's Gifts

Prayer After Communion

Gracious God, may your gifts of love transform and enliven us that we may live lives of thanksgiving. May your presence among us provoke such longing for your realm, that we will never be satisfied until the whole earth knows your justice, your peace and your love. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

Offering Response **Here I Am, Lord** (Voices United 509)

Words: Daniel L. Schutte 1981; alt.

Music: Daniel L. Schutte 1981; harm. Michael Pope, Daniel L. Schutte, and John Weissrock 1983

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Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

Offering Prayer

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayers

Parting Hymn **All the Way My Saviour Leads Me** (Voices United 635)

Words: Fanny J. Crosby 1875, Music: Robert S. Lowry 1875

- 1 All the way my Saviour leads me;
what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt his tender mercy
who through life has been my guide?
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort,
here by faith in him to dwell,
for I know, whate'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well.
- 2 All the way my Saviour leads me,
cheers each winding path I tread,
gives me grace for every trial,
feeds me with the living bread.
Though my weary steps may falter,
and my soul athirst may be,
gushing from the rock before me,
lo, a spring of joy I see!

- 3 All the way my Saviour leads me;
O the fullness of his love!
Perfect rest to me is promised
in my Father's house above.
When my spirit, clothed, immortal,
wings its flight to realms of day,
this my song through endless ages,
'Jesus led me all the way!'

Sending Forth

Choral Response **Wherever You May Go** (More Voices 216)

Words and Music: David Kai, 1996

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Wherever you may go, I will follow,
and your people shall be my people too.
Wherever you may go, I will follow,
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.

Postlude Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

David Hegarty, base on hymn tune "Cwm Rhondda" by John Hughes

Worship Leader – Pastor Beth Parsons
Music Leader – Sharon Prindle-Collins
Chime Choir led by Margaret Chambers
Welcoming – Atholl Malcolm
Greeters – Karen Strawn Samis and Bill Samis
Lighting of the Christ Candle – Spirit Kids
Prayer of Preparation – Arlene Box
Spirit Kids Program – Grace Cave and Moira Dennis
Scripture Reader – Kate Insley
The Lord's Prayer – Erich Schulz
Communion Liturgy – Wilda Cottam and Pastor Beth
Communion Servers – Karen Clark, Wilda Cottam, Al Flower
Glenn Parsons and Karen Strawn Samis
Technical Support – Karen Clark and Melissa Nagy
Fellowship Time – 2nd Sunday Brew Crew
Flowers are offered by Karen Clark
in celebration of the life of her father, Bill Angell