

First Sunday of Lent  
February 26, 2023

“Tree of Life”

Welcoming and Announcements

Centring Music: Let My Spirit Always Sing *by Jane Marshall*

Lighting of the Christ Candle and the Candles of Lent

Opening Hymn: **We Are One** (Voices United 402, vs. 1, 2 & 3)

*Words: Doreen Lankshear-Smith 1988*

*Music: Jeeva Sam 1987; arr. David Kai 199*

*Words © 1988 Doreen Lankshear-Smith.*

*Music © 1995 Jeeva Sam. Arrangement © 1995 David Kai*

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1 We are one as we come,  
as we come, joyful to be here,  
in the praise on our lips  
there's a sense that God is near.  
We are one as we sing,  
as we seek, we are found;  
and we come needful of God's grace  
as we meet, together in this place.

2 We are one as we share,  
as we share brokenness and fear,  
in the touch of a hand  
there's a sense that God is here.  
We are one as we care,  
as we heal, we are healed;  
and we share warmth in God's embrace  
as we pray together in this place.

3 We are one as we feast,  
as we feast, peace becomes the sign;  
in the bread and the wine  
there's a sense of love divine.  
We are one as we come,  
as we feed, we are fed;  
and we feel God's refreshing grace  
as we meet at table in this place.

Opening Prayer

A Time to Wonder: Spiritual Practice

Solo (Alan Priestley): Cry of My Heart *by Terry Butler*

Scripture Readings

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Matthew 4:1-11

Reflection: “Going Beyond Potato Chips”

Hymn of the Day: **Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery**

(Voices United 121, vs. 1, 2 & 5)

*Words and Music: Marty Haugen 1984*

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1 Tree of Life and awesome mystery,  
in your death we are reborn,  
though you die in all of history,  
still you rise with every morn,  
still you rise with every morn.

2 Seed that dies to rise in glory,  
may we see ourselves in you,  
if we learn to live your story  
we may die to rise anew,  
we may die to rise anew.

5 Christ, you lead and we shall follow,  
stumbling though our steps may be,  
one with you in joy and sorrow,  
we the river, you the sea,  
we the river, you the sea.

### Invitation to Offering

### Choral Response: What Can I Do? (More Voices 191)

*Words and Music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy; arr. Alan C. Whitmore, 2005*

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What can I do?  
What can I bring?  
What can I say?  
What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy.  
I'll say a prayer.  
I'll bring my love.  
I'll do my share.

### Offering Prayer

### The Sacrament of Holy Communion

### Welcome

God is with us!  
**We are not alone!**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to God.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### Liturgy

**Holy, holy, holy are you.**  
**Holy, holy, blessed are you.**

### Liturgy

### Memorial Acclamation

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come to us again.**

### Liturgy

**Bless this bread and this cup,  
the wheat and the grape,  
the farmer and the harvest,  
the seed and the sower.**

### The Lord's Prayer

The body of Christ,  
**the bread of life.**  
The lifeblood of Christ,  
**the cup of blessing.**  
The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### Sharing the Gifts

Chime Solo (Margaret Chambers): Spirit of the Living God  
*by Daniel Iverson*

### Prayer after Communion

**Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life.**  
**We are fed by your love;**  
**we are strengthened by your life.**  
**We are sent forth into this world to live into the visions**  
**God has laid on our hearts.**  
**We are now commissioned to:**  
**feed as we have been fed,**  
**forgive as we have been forgiven,**  
**love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Passing of the Peace

### Prayers for Others and Ourselves

#### Parting Hymn: O Lord My God (How Great Thou Art)

Voices United 238, vs. 1, 2 & 3

*Words: Carl Gustav Boberg ca. 1885; English trans.*

*Stuart K. Hine ca. 1939, rev. 1949.*

*Music: Swedish melody; arr. Stuart K. Hine 1949*

*English words and arrangement © 1953 [1981] renewal by Manna Music, Inc.*

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- 1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

#### *Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!

- 2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. *Refrain*
- 3 But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin. *Refrain*

#### Benediction: Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery

(Voices United 121)

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From the dawning of creation,  
you have loved us as your own;  
stay with us through all temptation,  
make us turn to you alone,  
make us turn to you alone.

*The first Lenten candle is extinguished.*

#### Postlude: You Are Holy

*South African Spiritual*

#### Grace

Worship Leaders –Pastor Beth Parsons and Pastor Nancy Walker  
Music Leadership – Glenn Parsons and the Band  
Welcoming – Stephen Godfrey  
Scripture Reader – Arlene Vickery  
Communion Servers – Val Armstrong, Alan Hodgson  
Lorne Holland, and Carol Paton  
Greeters – Grace and Russell Lindsay  
Spirit Kids Program – Nancy Walker  
Technical Support – Sam Boehner and Jayda Perry  
Fellowship Time – Men's Breakfast Group