

**LENT** | *The season of Lent is traditionally the season to prepare for the memorial of Christ's death and the celebration of his resurrection. This preparation involves a special examination of our devotion to Christ. As such, we lay aside through repentance both our sins and even, for a time, good things that sometimes compete for our love and trust. Instead, we intentionally pursue, even with sacrifice and effort, all things that remind our hearts that we are united to Christ and belong to no other.*

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### prelude

*As the music plays, please quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship, lifting your thoughts up from the cares of this world.*

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### preparing our hearts

For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints.

— Proverbs 2:6-8 ESV

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### \*\* call to worship

**Leader:** I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

**All:** **Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.**

**Leader:** One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

**All:** **They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.**

**Leader:** The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**All:** **The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.**

— Psalm 145:1-2, 4, 7-9 ESV

\*\* Please stand if you are able

## ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam –  
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heaven along – O praise him! Alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice; ye lights of evening, find a voice.  
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part. O sing ye! Alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and on him cast your care.  
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him in humbleness. O praise him! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One!  
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Words: Francis of Assisi; Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN. Public Domain.

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## **\*\* prayer of invocation**

*Leader:* Great you are, O Lord, and greatly to be praised; great is your power, and your wisdom is infinite. You would we praise without ceasing. You call us to delight in your praise, for you have made us for yourself, and our hearts find not rest until we rest in you; to whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit all glory, praise, and honor be ascribed, both now and forevermore. Amen.

—A prayer of Augustine of Hippo

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## **\*\* affirmation of faith**

*Leader:* Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

— Deuteronomy 6:4-7 ESV

What is the third commandment?

**All: The third commandment is, “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.”**

*Leader:* What does the second commandment require and forbid, and why?

**All: The third commandment requires the holy and reverent use of God’s names, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word and works.**

**The third commandment forbids all profaning or abusing of anything by which God makes himself known.**

**The reason added to the third commandment is that although breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, the Lord our God will not allow them to escape his righteous judgment.**

— *The Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English* (trans. David Snoko), Q&A 53-56

## FATHER, LONG BEFORE CREATION

Father, long before creation, thou hadst chosen us in love.  
And that love, so deep, so moving, draws us close to Christ above.  
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us firmly fixed in Christ alone.

Though the world may change its fashion, yet our God is e'er the same.  
His compassion and his covenant through all ages will remain.  
God's own children, God's own children, must forever praise his name.

God's compassion is my story, is my boasting all the day.  
Mercy, free and never failing, moves my will, directs my way.  
God so loved us, God so loved us, that his only Son he gave.

Loving Father, now before thee, we will ever praise thy love.  
And our songs will sound unceasing 'til we reach our home above,  
Giving glory, giving glory, to our God and to the Lamb.

Giving glory, giving glory to our God and to the Lamb!

"Father, Long Before Creation," Words: Chinese hymn, trans. by Francis Johnson, Public Domain.  
Music: Andrew Osenga © 2005 The Velvet Eagle Sings. CCLI #3022711, #20579701, Song #4714349.

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Leader:* As for me, I said, “O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against you!”  
— Psalm 41:4 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**All:** **Our Lord and Creator God,**  
**All things you have made, you made for your purposes.**  
**Everything that has breath is designed to worship you.**  
**I have failed to magnify you in my own heart, much less in the world.**  
**I have not honored you in what I speak or do, nor in what I think.**  
**I am prone to sin, to indulge the flesh and ignore your Holy Spirit.**  
**Forgive me, Lord, because of the grace of your Son, my Lord Jesus Christ;**  
**For his sake, make me holy and make my prayer sincere.**  
**In Jesus’ Name I pray, Amen.**

*Please reflect and silently confess your sins.*

## KYRIE ELEISON<sup>†</sup>

*Leader:* 

Lord Je-sus Christ, Son of God, have mer-cy on me a sin-ner

*Leader:* 

**All:** Lord Je-sus Christ, Son of God, have mer-cy on me a sin-ner

*Leader:* 

*Leader:* Ky-ri-e E-le-i-son, have mer-cy on me a sin-ner,

*Leader:* 

**All:** Have mer - cy on me — a sin - ner. —

<sup>†</sup>*Kyrie Eleison* is transliterated from Greek for “Lord, have mercy.” Public Domain.

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## ASSURANCE OF GRACE \*\*

*Leader:* I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

— Ezekiel 36:25-26<sub>ESV</sub>

**All: Thanks be to God!**

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## \*\* hymn of gratitude

### JESUS, I COME

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.  
Into thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to thee.  
Out of my sickness into thy health; out of my wanting and into thy wealth,  
Out of my sin and into thyself, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.  
Into the glorious gain of thy cross, Jesus, I come to thee.  
Out of earth's sorrows into thy balm; out of life's storms and into thy calm,  
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.  
Into thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to thee.  
Out of myself to dwell in thy love; out of despair into raptures above,  
Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.  
Into the joy and light of thy home, Jesus, I come to thee.  
Out of the depths of ruin untold, into the peace of thy sheltering fold,  
Ever thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to thee.

“Jesus, I Come,” Words: William True Sleeper, Public Domain; Music: Greg Thompson.  
© Cardiphonia Music. CCLI #3022711, #20579701, Song #7131576.

*Leader:* Isaiah 6:1-7  
This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

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prayer

*An officer of the church prays for the world, nation, community, and church.*

*Leader:* All these mercies we ask in the name of Jesus, who prayed saying,  
**All: Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name;  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors,  
Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil,  
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.**

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**\*\* passing the peace**

*Leader:* Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” In a world filled with trouble, let us encourage one another to look to the one who has overcome the world. May the peace of Christ be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**

**While your children are welcome and encouraged to worship with you, at this time they can be dismissed for an age-appropriate worship for ages 3-5.**

If you would like to hear more about CPC or would like to let us know of a prayer need, please include your contact information or prayer request in the welcome pad when it comes around to you.

*An elder will lead the passing of the peace. If you are joining us from your home, please unmute yourself so that you can greet one another. If you are gathered here with us today, greet one another warmly with the peace of Christ.*

Series | “James – Faith Works”

DANIEL MCDOWELL

Sermon | “The Power of the Tongue”

March 19, 2023

**James 3:1-12**<sub>ESV</sub> | 1 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. 2 For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. 3 If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. 4 Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. 5 So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! 6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. 7 For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, 8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. 9 With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. 10 From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. 11 Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? 12 Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

*Leader:* This is the Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God!



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## **\*\* gospel affirmation**

*Leader:* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

*Leader:* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of the heavens and the earth.

**All: By your will they were created and have their being.**

*Leader:* From dust you brought forth the human race and blessed us in your image. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**All: Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

*Leader:* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**All: By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Leader:* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory.

**All: Hallelujah! Worthy is the Lamb!**

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## WELCOME TO HIS TABLE

*The Lord's Supper is a family meal for Christians — a time when we delight in Christ and in the good news that His work alone has made us right with God. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, and seek strength to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, please use this time to meditate on the following prayer.*

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

*For Sundays in Lent, please come forward via the inside aisles to the carpeted areas to receive the elements. Once you have been served, please take a few moments to reflect and take your elements. When you are done, place your empty cup in the trays provided and return to your seat via the outside aisles. If you are not taking the elements, you may come forward and stand with your arms crossed to receive a prayer of blessing from one of the elders, or simply remain seated. If you have a gluten allergy, there are gluten-free wafers available in the center of the bread trays. During the celebration of communion, we will sing the printed hymn.*

**NOTE TO PARENTS:** *To receive communion, a child must have been baptized, publicly professed their faith in Christ, and been formally received as a communing member by the elders of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. We look forward to welcoming your children to the table when they come to this point and ask that you speak to the pastor when you feel your child is ready to begin the process of becoming a communing member.*

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## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

— From 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 ESV

*Minister:* Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Minister:* Let us give thanks to our God.

**All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Minister:* It is very good and right, our duty and privilege, to at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, Creator of heaven and earth. Hear us then, as we pray:

**All: We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But it is your right, O God, to give mercy to whom you please. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink of him, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood; that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

*Minister:* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*As the elements are distributed, sing as one body, affirming that in Christ we are united to him and to one another.*

## WHO IS THIS SO WEAK AND HELPLESS

Who is this, so weak and helpless, child of lowly Hebrew maid,  
Rudely in a stable sheltered, coldly in a manger laid?  
'Tis the Lord of all creation, who this wondrous path has trod;  
He is Lord from everlasting, and to everlasting God.

Who is this, a Man of Sorrows, walking sadly life's hard way,  
Homeless, weary, sighing, weeping over sin and Satan's sway?  
'Tis our God, our glorious Savior, who above the starry sky  
Is for us a place preparing, where no tear can dim the eye.

Who is this? Behold him shedding drops of blood upon the ground!  
Who is this, despised, rejected, mocked, insulted, beaten, bound?  
'Tis our God, Who gifts and graces on His church is pouring down;  
Who shall smite in holy vengeance all His foes beneath His throne.

Who is this that hangs there dying while the rude world scoffs and scorns,  
Numbered with the malefactors, torn with nails, and crowned with thorns?  
'Tis our God Who lives forever 'mid the shining ones on high,  
In the glorious golden city, reigning everlastingly.

“Who Is This So Weak and Helpless?” Words: William How; Music: Christopher Miner.  
© Christopher Miner Music. CCLI #3022711, #20579701, Song #3251731.

*The offering is a vital part of our response to God's grace provided for us in the preaching of his word and administration of the Lord's Supper. Our tithes and offerings represent the entirety of our lives being consecrated to the Lord Jesus Christ and the coming of His kingdom to this world. As God's grace is freely given to us, so our gifts are freely returned, and in no way add to but are only a response to the supremely adequate work of Christ's atonement.*

## MY HEART IS FILLED WITH THANKFULNESS

My heart is filled with thankfulness to him who bore my pain;  
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace and gave me life again.  
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness, and clothed me with his light,  
And wrote His law of righteousness with power upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to him who walks beside;  
Who floods my weaknesses with strength and causes fears to fly;  
Whose every promise is enough for every step I take,  
Sustaining me with arms of love and crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to him who reigns above;  
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace, whose every thought is love.  
For every day I have on earth is given by the King.  
So I will give my life, my all, to love and follow him.

"My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness," Words and Music: Stuart Townend & Keith Getty,  
© Thankyou Music. CCLI #3022711, #20579701, Song #4108704.

*Minister:* The God of love has shared his love with you.

**All: May he strengthen us in our love for others.**

*Minister:* The Son has shared his life with you.

**All: May he grant us grace, that we might share our lives.**

*Minister:* The Holy Spirit now dwells in you.

**All: May he empower us to live only and always for God's glory.**

*Minister:* Amen.

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**for first-time visitors**

Whether you are visiting us from out of town or looking for a church to call home, we're so glad to have you with us. Please fill out a visitor card, located at the entrance by the bulletins.

**MEN'S GAME NIGHT | SATURDAY**

Join your brothers from CPC for an evening of fellowship and friendly competition on **Saturday, March 25, 6p**. This is a great event to bring a friend to as well. All men are welcome! **Please respond to the evite or email James Schell** (wjameschell@gmail.com) to be added to the evite list or to RSVP.

**WALK TO THE CROSS DONATIONS**

We need candy-filled Easter eggs for our *Walk to the Cross* event! Last year we hid 500 eggs for our egg hunt, and we are looking to meet that same quota. We will be accepting candy-filled eggs from now until **Sunday, March 26**. Donations can be left at the Children's Ministry table in the appropriate bin. **Please reach out to Korina Slabach** (kids@cpcgerogetown.org) with any questions.

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE | APRIL 7**

Please plan to join us **Friday, April 7, 530p** at the **Georgetown Community Center** (445 E. Morrow St. Georgetown, TX 78626) for Good Friday Service.

**easter breakfast sign-up**

Join us Sunday, **April 9, 915 to 1015a**, for our Easter Breakfast. We will have good food and fellowship during the Sunday school hour to celebrate our Risen Lord! There is a sign-up sheet in the main hall for items to bring. **Please contact Sherryl Hatz** (sherryl.hatz@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**new staff contact information**

Please make note that Ryan and Korina Slabach's phone numbers have changed on page 19. They don't want to miss any calls or texts!