

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 especially examining 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 that we belong to no other.*

prelude

ANNA FLYNN & BROOKE LEWIS

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

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us with He Leadeth Me – William Bradbury, arranged by Cindy Berry
Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy – American Folk Song, arranged by Jane Dang*

preparing our hearts

Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

– Isaiah 30:18 ESV

** call to worship

Leader: Blessed be the LORD!

All: For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

Leader: The LORD is my strength and my shield;

All: In him my heart trusts, and I am helped;

Leader: My heart exults,

All: And with my song I give thanks to him.

Leader: The LORD is the strength of his people;

All: He is the saving refuge of his anointed.

– Psalm 28:6-8 ESV

** Please stand if you are able

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

O, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of reigning sin, he sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Savior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy.

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: AZMON, Carl G. Glaser. Public Domain.

****prayer of invocation**

Leader: O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

**** affirmation of faith**

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!

COME YE SINNERS

Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus, ready, stands to save you, full of pity, joined with power.
He is able, he is able; he is willing; doubt no more.

Come, ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall;
If you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.
Not the righteous, not the righteous; sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness he requires is to feel your need of him.
This he gives you, this he gives you, 'tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Lo! The Incarnate God, ascended; pleads the merit of his blood.
Venture on him; venture wholly, let no other trust intrude.
None but Jesus, none but Jesus, can do helpless sinners good.

"Come Ye Sinners," Words: Joseph Hart, Public Domain. Music: Matthew Smith.
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CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: “Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

– Joel 2:12-13^{ESV}

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: O Holy God, in your light we see ourselves as we really are, and we are ashamed.
 We confess that we are people of impure thoughts and unclean lips;
 We think too highly of ourselves and too little of others.
 We cling so tightly to the treasures of this world
 That we cannot open our hands to receive blessings from above.
 Our feet follow the paths of sin;
 We wander so far astray that we become strangers to righteousness.
 Forgive us, and set us again on the path that leads to life.
 Deal with us not as we deserve, but according to your mercy;
 Not because we are worthy but because you are gracious.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

KYRIE ELEISON†



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



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



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



All: Have mer-cy on me— a sin-ner.—

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

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

– Our Lord in Matthew 9:12-13 ESV

All: Thanks be to God!

**** hymn of gratitude**

THERE IS A FOUNTAIN

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel’s veins,
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.
Wash all my sins away, wash all my sins away.
And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away.

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, lispings, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave,
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I’ll sing thy power to save.
I’ll sing thy power to save, I’ll sing thy power to save;
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I’ll sing thy power to save.

Words: William Cowper; Music: FOUNTAIN, Lowell Mason. Public Domain.

Leader: Psalm 18:1-6, 13-19
This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

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.**

** 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 preschool 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.

When instructed, greet those around you, saying, “The peace of Christ be with you.” When the music begins, please be seated and prepare yourself for the hearing of God’s Word.

Series | “The Coming of the King”

Sermon | “The King’s Mercy”

March 8, 2020

Mark 2:1-12 ESV | 1 And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. 2 And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. 3 And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. 4 And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. 5 And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” 6 Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, 7 “Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” 8 And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, “Why do you question these things in your hearts? 9 Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, take up your bed and walk’? 10 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” – he said to the paralytic – 11 “I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home.” 12 And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw anything like this!”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

1. Words of Life & Bold Faith
2. Words of Strife & Cold Faith
3. The Final Word & Saving Faith

AND CAN IT BE

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be that thou, my God, should die for me? *

** Chorus:*

Amazing love! how can it be
That thou, my God, should die for me!

He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite his grace;
Emptied himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race;
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me. *

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray, I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth and followed thee. *

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him is mine!
Alive in him, my living head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th' eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own. *

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: SAGINA, Thomas Campbell. Public Domain.

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 receive the elements. Once you've been served, move to the front carpeted area to reflect and then take your elements. When you are done, place your empty cups in the trays provided and return to your seats via the outside aisles. If you are not taking the elements, you may come forward and stand with your arms crossed to receive a blessing or simply remain seated.

If you are unable to come forward and would like to receive communion, please notify the usher as he comes to your row. If you have a gluten allergy, there are gluten-free wafers available in the center of the bread trays.

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.*

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: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Minister: Let us lift up our hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord 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.

During the celebration of communion, while the music plays, please reflect on your understanding of and readiness for the Lord’s Table.

JESUS PAID IT ALL

I hear the Savior say, “Your strength indeed is small.
Child of weakness, watch and pray. Find in me your all in all.” *

** Chorus:*

Jesus paid it all; all to him I owe.
Sin had left a crimson stain; he washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find your power, and yours alone,
Can change the leper’s spots and melt the heart of stone. *

For nothing good have I whereby your grace to claim;
I’ll wash my garments white in the blood of Calvary’s Lamb. *

And when, before the throne I stand in him complete,
“Jesus died my soul to save,” my lips shall still repeat. *

Words: Elvina Hall; Music: ALL TO CHRIST, John Grape. Public Domain.

Please note the announcements found on Pages 17-20 of your bulletin.

**** benediction**

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 his glory.**

Minister: Amen.