
LENT 2023: WE ARE ALL ON PILGRIMAGE

SHARE



Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 19, 2023

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People's Preparation

"Lent" comes from an old English word for springtime, perhaps connected with the lengthening of days in this time of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. The season of Lent is a time for growth in faith—through prayer, spiritual discipline, and self-examination in preparation for the commemoration of the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus Christ. Reconciliation is a key theme in the season of Lent—reconciliation with God and with one another through the grace of Jesus Christ.

Lent is a period of forty days—like the flood of Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah's call of repentance to Nineveh, and Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness. The Sundays in Lent are not counted among the forty days, as every Lord's Day is a celebration of Christ's resurrection. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and concludes at sunset on Holy Saturday, at the start of the Great Vigil of Easter.

- *PC(USA) Book of Common Worship, 2018*

Prelude

Prelude in C# Minor

Sergei Rachmaninoff

Welcome

Introit

We are Pilgrims on a Journey

Gillard, Pulkingham



Call to Worship*

One: As God called our ancestors to journey to places known and unknown, so we are called on our journeys through Lent.

Many: Like clouds by day and pillars of fire by night, we are shown the path as it unfolds before us.

All: In praise and thanksgiving, let us worship God.

Opening Hymn #159*

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

Service of Friendship

Please sign the Friendship Book, passing it down the pew and then back to the center aisle. Guests, please provide your contact information.



Children's Message

Matt Carlisle

159 O Sing a Song of Bethlehem



1 O sing a song of Beth-le-hem, of shep-herds watch-ing there,
 2 O sing a song of Naz-a-reth, of sun-ny days of joy;
 3 O sing a song of Gal-i-lee, of lake and woods and hill,
 4 O sing a song of Cal-va-ry, its glo-ry and dis-may,



and of the news that came to them from an-gels in the air.
 O sing of fra-grant flow-ers' breath, and of the sin-less boy.
 of him who walked up-on the sea and bade its waves be still.
 of him who hung up-on the tree, and took our sins a-way.



The light that shone on Beth-le-hem fills all the world to-day.
 For now the flowers of Naz-a-reth in ev-ery heart may grow.
 For though, like waves on Gal-i-lee, dark seas of trou-ble roll,
 For he who died on Cal-va-ry is ris-en from the grave,



Of Je-sus' birth and peace on earth the an-gels sing al-way.
 Now spreads the fame of his dear name on all the winds that blow.
 when faith has heard the Mas-ter's word, falls peace up-on the soul.
 and Christ, our Lord, by heaven a-dored, is might-y now to save.



**First Lesson**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

OT p. 180

Anthem*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

“When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did ever such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an present far too small;
Love, so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen!”

Words: Isaac Watts

Music: tune – Lowell Mason; arr. Gilbert M. Martin

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**Prayer of Illumination (Unison)**

Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us by your Word, through these forty days,
and minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Second Lesson

Acts 2:42-47

NT p. 120

One: This is the word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

**Sermon**

Debbie Kirk



Following the sermon, please take a moment to write a prayer or reflection on the shoe image on the bulletin cover. After worship, you are invited to pin the cover of your bulletin to the clothing line on the side of the Sanctuary under the path image that says *Share*. We will continue this practice through the duration of Lent.

Lenten Hymn #315

In the Midst of New Dimensions

“In the midst of new dimensions,
in the face of changing ways,
who will lead the pilgrim peoples
wandering in their separate ways?”

Refrain:

“God of rainbow, fiery pillar,
leading where the eagles soar,
we your people, ours the journey
now and ever, now and ever,
now and evermore.”

WASH & FELLOWSHIP

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of perfect love, you continually bring forth life, transforming sadness to joy, and despair to hope. We are weak, but you are strong. Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true. We are seldom right, but you are never wrong. Forgive us, redeem us, transform us. Take away the sin that burdens us, and restore us to the people you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. *(Silence)*

Assurance of Pardon

Many: Relentlessly, God seeks us out offering abundant grace and boundless mercy.

One: Therefore we can believe this good news, in Jesus' name we are forgiven.

Gloria Patri #581*

“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.”

Passing of the Peace*

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Please stand and offer a sign of Christ's peace to those around you.



Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Adagio (Pie Jesu), from REQUIEM

Gabriel Fauré

Doxology #606*

“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.”

Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

REST

Closing Hymn #306*

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Benediction*

Choral Response*

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me Spiritual, arr. Nolan Williams

Chimes*

Postlude

Postlude on “Pilgrims”

arr. Rex Koury

**Rise, in body or spirit*

Welcome

We are delighted you have joined us for online worship today!

Worship Notes

The Order of Worship during the Season of Lent: Lent is a journey. Our 2023 Lenten theme is “We Are All on Pilgrimage.” Christine V. Painter, author of *The Soul of a Pilgrim* writes, “A pilgrimage is an intentional journey into this experience of unknowing and discomfort for the sake of stripping away preconceived expectations.” She says, “We grow closer to God beyond our own imagination and ideas.” To live into this idea and theme, we have divided the Order of Worship into the rhythm of a daily pilgrimage: Wake, Walk, Eat, Walk, Eat, Walk, Journal, Wash, Fellowship, Eat, Rest (...Repeat). Pastor Mac and other worship leaders will give brief explanations throughout Lent on why the liturgy is designed this way, but also consider for yourself what this rhythm means to you and your faith journey.

The flowers this week are given to the glory of God, and in honor of Lou Bond’s & Jason Bond’s birthdays, given by Harry, Christine & Claire Bond.

Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
2 Be - fore our *Fa - ther's throne we pour our
3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual
4 When we are called to part, it gives us
5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of
ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each
in - ward pain; but we shall still be
shall be free; and per - fect love and

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Greeters today - Linda Meeks, Christine Bond

Ushers today - Teri & Craig Morris, Ace & Linda Ornt

Soundboard Setup - John Whisler

Soundboard Operator - Davis Boone

Livestream Operator - Erik Jacobsen

Deacon on Call (DOC) for March is Gretchen McDuffie. If you are in need of prayer, comfort or assistance, please call the confidential Deacon Prayer line at 919-787-1086.

Hymns, anthems and texts used with permission (CCS #8034 and CCLI #2211695).

Image cover - Mr. Rogers' favorite shoe, in honor of Mr. Rogers' Day (tomorrow, March 20th)

The Memory Book is open today to Memorials given September 14, 2021 - In Memory of Louis Fritsch by Mary Lou Blackmon.



Our Special Offering for March is to support HMPC's General Mission Fund. You may place your donation in the offering plate, mail it, donate online (QR code to left), or text to give. Text donation amount with the word "GenMission" to 888-906-0744 (Example: 25 genmission).

Children and Their Families: Worship, Education and Helpful Hints

We enthusiastically welcome all children to HMPC!

Nursery for infants, toddlers, and twos is located on the north end of the first floor and is available from 9:15–12:15. Please sign in your child with one of our childcare workers. Staff are HMPC employees and experienced childcare professionals, and our nursery wing has its own security system. Members and guests participating in Worship can leave children with confidence, knowing they will be contacted by text message should it become necessary.

- We welcome all families to begin Worship together in the Sanctuary. Please sign in children at the back of the Sanctuary near the Children's Worship Area and ensure each child is wearing his/her lanyard or a nametag. Following the Children's Message, all children age 3 yrs through 4th grade are welcome to go with the Children's Ministry volunteers to Sunday School.
- **Our Children's Worship area** is open to children 1st grade and under. Children 2nd grade and older are asked to sit with their parents until the Children's Message. While your child is in the Children's Worship Area, parents should sit in nearby pews to supervise their children.
- **Our Children's Music program**, Joyful Noise and Wee Worshipers, will gather today from 11:30-12:15 in Geneva Hall. ***Parents: While your children are in music, please join us for Coffee & Conversation in the Chapel today!**

Lenten Simple Suppers & Prayer Services

Wednesdays, March 22 and March 29 - 6:00pm - WH/Chapel

Simple Supper: 6:00pm in WH North

Service: 6:30pm in the Chapel

HMPC Deacons invite you to join them for evening contemplative, reflective services that include scripture, liturgy, several forms of prayer, music, and the opportunity to be anointed with oil for yourself or on behalf of someone else. The services conclude with the celebration of the Lord's Supper. All are welcome.

Upcoming Dates to Note...

Easter Egg Hunt - Next Saturday, March 25 - 10:00am-12:00pm

Sign up to volunteer on our homepage or contact Cary Dickerson- cdickerson@hmpc.org

Offering of Letters - Next Sunday, March 26 - Following Worship

Learn more about this letter-writing campaign on the homepage of hmpc.org

Sunday, April 2 - Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 6 - Maundy Thursday - 7:00pm Service in the Sanctuary

Friday, April 7 - Good Friday - 12:00pm Service in the Sanctuary

Sunday, April 9 - Easter

Services:

7:00am - Ecumenical Sunrise Service - Location TBD

8:00am – 10:30 a.m. – “Cancake” Breakfast - Westminster Hall

9:00am – Easter Worship - Sanctuary

11:00am – Easter Worship - Sanctuary

2022 Giving Statements

Giving statements for 2022 were emailed in February 2023. If you have not received yours, please be sure to check your spam folder. If you still have not received it, please email Amy Claprood at aclaprood@hmpc.org to request a copy.

Our Mission Statement

To Know, Love and Serve God in Jesus Christ

Our Vision

A Community Enriched by Responding to the Wonder of God

Our Core Values

Worship, Generosity, Service, Nurture, Education & Gratitude

Session

Glenn Schindo, Clerk

Mac Schafer, Moderator

Debbie Kirk

Class of 2023

Ashley Edmister
Sandy Geiger
Rick Melling
Caroline Smart

Class of 2024

Tom Bradshaw
Cary Dickerson
Roger Howard
Joan Lester

Class of 2025

Dottie Burch
Carol Cox
Jay Cummins
Melinda Dickinson

Deacons

Class of 2023

Pat Balletta
Wilson Cheeley
Denise Crosson
Judie Greenawalt, Moderator
Keto Komono

Class of 2024

Ron Ash
Tony Bedini
Martha Chapman
Susan Krause
Elizabeth Rankin

Class of 2025

Billy Branch
Ruth Herpich
Joanna Hulsey
Gretchen McDuffie
Carolyn Scott

Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation

Mac Schafer	Pastor, Head of Staff
Debbie Kirk	Associate Pastor, Spiritual Growth & Nurture
Aleta Ash	Minister of Visitation
Barbara Loehr-Fox.....	Director of Music Ministries
Rich Richards	Director of Youth Ministries & Children's Music
Cary Dickerson.....	Director of Children's Ministries
Amy Claprod.....	Church Business Administrator
Lesley Ash-Jacobsen.....	Communications Specialist
Susan Gressel	Interim Bookkeeper
Dorothy Roche	Preschool Director
Joyce Hawkins	Assistant Preschool Director
Al Hyde.....	Organist
Hope Parangi	Church Hostess



Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church (USA)

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