



March 9, 2025

First Sunday in Lent

GATHERING IN THE LORD'S PRESENCE

Boldface = All speak

❖ = All who are able, please stand.

PRELUDE "I've Been in the Storm So Long" *Spiritual, Arr. by Calvin Taylor*

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT..... "Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days"
(CCLI Song #280458. Claudia Frances Ibotson Hernaman © Words & Music: Public Domain.)

❖ **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from Psalm 91)*

You who live in the shelter of the Most High, say to the Lord:

My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.

For God will protect us from evil and commands angels to guard us in all our ways.

God rescues those who love God and is present with us in trouble.

God answers when we cry out and reveals our salvation to us.

Come, let us worship God!

❖ **HYMN** "For the Beauty of the Earth" **#14**
(CCLI Song #43200. Conrad Kocher | Follitt Sandford Pierpoint © Words & Music: Public Domain.)

❖ **CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER**

As Lent unfolds before us, great God, we see how far we have to go to Jerusalem. The road is long, our sins are many, and our burdens are heavy. We can't imagine new life, Easter life, because our current lives are filled with unintended consequences and failed efforts. (a time for silent confession)

Loving God, meet us in our weakness. Take up our sins. Ease our burdens. Carry us on the way. Bring us to Jerusalem, at last. Show us a love that is stronger than death, a love no tomb can hold. Amen.

❖ **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

❖ **AFFIRMING THE PEACE AMONG US**

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

The children may go back to Sunday School at this time.

GLORIA PATRI.....Henry W. Greatorex (*Public Domain*).....**#581**

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord of light and salvation, let these words of Scripture live not only in our mouths, but in our hearts, that we will embody your truth and confess with our lives that Jesus is Lord. Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE Job 30:16-23, pg. 751
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION "Ground to Dust" The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

❖**HYMN** "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" **#834**
(CCLI Song #7205306. Thomas Andrew Dorsey. Words: 1938 Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.; Music: 1983 Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.)

2nd SCRIPTURE Luke 9:1-6, pg. 1475
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION "Shake Off the Dust" The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

CHORAL ANTHEM..... "Walking by Faith"
(Words and music by Travis Boyd)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

❖**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from The Theological Declaration of Barmen*)

The Christian Church is the congregation of the brethren in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit. As the church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with its faith as with its obedience, with its message as with its order, that it is solely his property, and that it lives and wants to live solely from his comfort and from his direction in the expectation of his appearance. We reject the false doctrine, as though the church were permitted to abandon the form of its message and order to its own pleasure or to changes in prevailing ideological and political convictions.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*p. 35 in the hymnal*)

OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

DOXOLOGY Genevan Psalter (*Public Domain*)..... **#606**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT & SERVE

❖ **HYMN** "God Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" **#543**
(*CCLI Song #4238423. Richard Bruxvoort Colligan © 2002 This Here Music (Admin. by Rivers Voice, LLC)*)

❖SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE.... "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" *Folk Tune, Arr. by Mark Hayes*

Pastor: The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

Lector: Chip Snowden

Greeter: Sue Cory

Worship Pianist: Amy Dickman

Offering Counters: Duncan Cory & Nancy Olson



Anonymous. Foot Detail, Mother Teresa Statue, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.