



Sunday, March 7, 2021

## Welcome!

We are thankful that you are worshiping with us today! To learn more about the life of our congregation, join our email list [here](#).

Here are some helpful resources for our younger worshipers:

[This Week's Children's Bulletin](#) | [Worship Worksheet for Kids](#)

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The Third Sunday in Lent

10:30 A.M.

## THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 19*

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;  
**The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;**  
The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;  
**The commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes.**

\*OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, that we may become instruments of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

\*HYMN 342

*Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor*

RHUDDIAN

1. Judge Eternal, throned in splendor, Lord of lords and King of kings,  
with your living fire of judgment purge this land of bitter things;  
solace all its wide dominion with the healing of your wings.
  
2. Still the weary folk are pining for the hour that brings release,  
and the city's crowded clangor cries aloud for sin to cease,  
and the homesteads and the woodlands plead in silence for their peace.

3. Crown, O God, your own endeavor; cleave our darkness with your sword;  
feed the faithless and the hungry with the richness of your word;  
cleanse the body of this nation through the glory of the Lord.

#### TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Leader: May God be with you in worship there.

Congregation: **May God be with you in worship there.**

#### CALL TO RECONCILIATION

*2 Cor. 5:20*

In the name of Christ, I urge you: be reconciled to God. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSON

**O Christ who chased the money changers from the temple,  
chase the greed from our lives and our hearts.  
As you overturned the tables, O Lord,  
overturn the systems in our world  
that contribute to cycles of poverty and oppression.  
Forgive us, O God, of the ways we contribute to the world's brokenness.  
Forgive us, O God, and wash us in your mercy.  
Forgive us, O God, and free us to try again.**

#### POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*2 Cor. 6:2*

Listen, the time has come at last. Look, now is the day of salvation!  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

#### \*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 215)

WONDROUS LOVE

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,  
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing.  
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,  
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;  
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

#### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

#### \*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 223)

HAMBURG

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

# THE WORD

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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.**

## READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:1-7

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

John 2:13-22

The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

Jeff Moles

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Yong Ting Jin*

We believe in Jesus Christ, our savior and liberator;  
the expression of God's redeeming and restoring love;  
the mark of humanness, source of courage, power and love;  
God of God, light of light, ground of our humanity.

We believe God resides in slums, lives in broken homes and hearts,  
suffers our loneliness, rejection and powerlessness.

But through death and resurrection God gives life, pride and dignity;  
provides the context of our vision, offers the context of our struggle,  
promises liberation to the oppressor and the oppressed,  
hope to those in despair.

We believe in the activity of the Holy Spirit who revives the decaying soul,  
resurrects our defeated spirits, renews our hope of wholeness  
and reminds us of our responsibility in ushering God's new order here and now.

# THE EUCHARIST

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

*What Wondrous Love*

Arr. Sharp

\*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

### THE 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.**

### BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**We give you thanks, O God, for here at your table you have transformed us from individuals into the body of Christ. Make us strong for your service that we may be messengers of your reconciling love for all people. Amen.**

## THE SENDING

\*HYMN 226

*There in God's Garden*

SHADES MOUNTAIN

1. There in God's garden stands the tree of Wisdom,  
whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations:  
tree of all knowledge, tree of all compassion,  
tree of all beauty.
2. Its name is Jesus , name that says, "Our Savior!"  
There on its branches see the scars of suffering;  
see there the tendrils of our human selfhood  
feed on its life blood.
3. Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage;  
our greed has starved it; our despite has choked it.  
Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not destroyed it  
nor fire consumed it.
4. See how its branches reach to us in welcome;  
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye weary!"

Give me your sickness; give me all your sorrow;  
I will give blessing.

5. This is my ending; this, my resurrection;  
into your hands, Lord, I commit my spirit.  
This have I searched for: now I can possess it.  
This ground is holy.
  
6. All heaven is singing, “Thanks to Christ whose passion  
offers in mercy healing, strength, and pardon.  
Peoples and nations, take it; take it freely!”  
Amen! My Master!

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

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*\*Rise in body or spirit*

## LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

### PREACHING

*Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education & Mission*

### PRESIDING AT THE TABLE

*Dennis Jewett*

### ASSISTING

*Stephanie Dube, Director of Youth Ministries & Weekday School*

### MUSICIANS

*Patrick Ritsch, Organist  
Choral Scholars*