

Welcome to Church of Christ
March 2, 2025 ~ Communion Sunday
We are honored to worship God with you today!

Prelude Anthem *O Sacred Feast* - H. Willan

Call to Worship (from Lavon Baylor) ~Jake Green

Leader: God's spirit is moving among us; give thanks! Our God is about to do a new thing in our midst.

All: How good it is to be chosen by God; we gather to sing our praises and thanks.

Leader: God has done great things for us; we are glad! Now God is pointing us toward new goals.

**All: We are waiting to hear what God would have us do;
we are ready to risk new behaviors to be faithful.**

Leader: Into the wilderness of our lives comes living water. Into the sorrow of our days comes reason for joy.

All: Forgetting what lies behind, we greet our future. We press on, responding to the upward call of Christ.

Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (trespasses/debts)

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 trespasses (debts), as we forgive those who trespass against us (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

Hymn 470 *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*
(Worship and Rejoice)

Vs 1 Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways! Reclothe us in our rightful mind; in purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise.

Vs 2 In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian Sea, the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word, rise up and follow thee.

Vs 3 O sabbath rest by Galilee! O calm of hills above, where Jesus knelt to share with thee the silence of eternity, interpreted by love!

Vs 4 Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace.

Vs 5 Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind and fire, O still small voice of calm!

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

All are welcome to partake. Grape juice, not wine, is served.

Invitation

Consecration and Service

Prayer of Gratitude (unison) – Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace. Amen

Scripture: Matthew 4: 1- 17 (NRSV)

~Jake Green

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you Satan! For it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him. Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles - the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

Sermon "The Temptation of Jesus"

~Rev. Betsy Mauro, guest

Hymn 136

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty (Worship and Rejoice)

Vs 1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessing Trinity!

Vs 2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.

Vs 3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see, only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.

Vs 4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea; Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessing Trinity!

Light of Service *She Leads Justice*

~Jane Williams

We have a chance to offer financial gifts in support of Spirit-led work. Undesignated gifts go to the recipient named above. Please use the white envelopes in the pews to designate giving otherwise. There is no obligation, and we always welcome prayers for our LOS recipients. Thank you!

Offertory *Walk in Peace* - S. A. Morris

Doxology (two versions are offered) Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen. OR: 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 of Dedication

Sharing Joys and Church Life Updates

Sharing Prayer Concerns

Silent Prayer and Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn 476 *I Need Thee Every Hour (Worship and Rejoice)*

Vs 1 I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord; no tender voice like thine can peace afford. I need thee, O I need thee; every hour I need thee! O bless me now, my Savior, I came to thee.

Vs 2 I need thee every hour, stay thou near by; temptations lose their power when thou art nigh. I need thee, O I need thee; every hour I need thee! O bless me now, my Savior, I came to thee.

Vs 3 I need thee every hour, in joy or pain; come quickly, and abide, or life is vain. I need thee, O I need thee; every hour I need thee! O bless me now, my Savior, I came to thee.

Vs 4 I need thee every hour, teach me thy will, and thy rich promises in me fulfill. I need thee, O I need thee; every hour I need thee! O bless me now, my Savior, I came to thee.

Our Common Commission

Let us go forth into the world in peace, being of good courage, holding fast to that which is good, rendering to no one evil for evil, strengthening the faint-hearted, supporting the weak, helping the afflicted, honoring all persons, loving and serving the Lord, and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Benediction

Postlude

Please remain seated to listen or depart quietly.

We gladly list these prayer concerns and ask you to keep us apprised of any updates so that we have the most current information. If you would like a pastoral visit please call or email Pastor Erick (860-303-0910, reverendole@gmail.com).

Members needing our prayers:

Patty Cammilletti
Steven, Tina &
Aaliyah Chausse
Linda Creedon
Bonnie Greenwood
Holly Kelsey
Will Kelsey
Arlene Patten
Dan Patten
Cindy Sinclair
John Thew

Those who are grieving, the families of:

Donna Aakjar
Robert Battis
Bonnie Ferrell
Stephen Getz
George Green
Jackie Hamad
Serena eLivingston
John Marinelli
Don Martin
Will Martin
Will Minton
Avery Nelson
Aaron Pelletier
Sue Pratt
Owen Simmons
Mary Sager

Ongoing concerns for our relatives and friends:

Annattie P.; Eric; Jo; Kelly
Andrew Anderson (Ruth Adotte)
Jay Atkinson
Andrea Blacklow (Kristin Mudge's friend)
Denis Combes (Jason Combes' father)
Nancy Foster (Tina Olsen)
John Funchion
Fran and Arnold Gellman (Tina Olsen)
Judy Green
Dennis Hannifin (Sally & Larry's son)
Olivia Howard (Ky Byrne's cousin)
Jim Korner (Liz Wilbur's brother)
Bethany Lee
Lynne Martin (Ruth Adotte)
Rick Martin (Ruth Adotte)
Jackie Nocotera
Bill Patrick (Lyn's husband) and family
Rev. Kenric and Debby Prescott
Ryan Sterba
Rob Thew
Sue Ellen Thomas (Pastor Erick's sister)
Dennis Watlington (Tim Hitchcock)
Judi Welch

In the wider community:

Leigh Cappabianca (missionary in Turkey)
Laura Smith (missionary in Venezuela)
The people of Haiti, Israel, Gaza, Ukraine -
and all enduring ongoing violence
The people of Syria, particularly the Christian
community