# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

11:00 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

## **GATHERING**

Prelude "I Love to Tell the Story" (Lani Smith) Rita Harmon

Call to Worship

Barbara Cope

The Lord is our shepherd.

We shall not want.

Day by day God leads us.

God leads us to green pastures and beside still waters. God restores our

Day by day God shows us the right paths to travel.

God restores our souls so that the name of God is glorified.

Day by day God is with us.

We are not afraid, no matter what kind of evil befalls us.

Day by day Jesus calls us

To pour out ourselves in service and to anoint the stranger with hope.

Day by day the Holy Spirit reminds us

That we are never far away from the goodness and mercy of God.

Day by day we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

Let us worship God.

\*Hymn of Praise #314

"Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness"

~~Please bring your Lenten Prayer Slips forward during this hymn~~

\*Call to Confession

Barbara Cope

\*Prayer of Confession

Holy Lord, our Shepherd, Messiah-

We call on you using many names.

And we say that because you are our shepherd we do not want.

But how often we are looking for more.

You give us the things we need,

But we see other pastures that seem greener than our own.

You lead us where you want us to go,

But we grumble and complain. Forgive us, we pray.

We claim that because you are our God we do not fear.

But we do fear sometimes. Forgive us, we pray.

Forgive us, Lord, that when trouble comes,

When adversity plagues us, we wonder where you are

and quickly forget that you are always with us.

May we feel your presence, your comfort, and your forgiveness anew.

Amen.

\*Assurance of Pardon

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ 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.

### THE WORD

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Sermon on the Steps Carrie Wyatt

"On A Hill Far Away" (Martin)

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross the emblem of suff'ring and shame; and I love that old cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain. So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my burdens at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rugged cross, rugged cross, and exchange it someday for a crown. Oh, that old rugged cross so despised by the world, has a wondrous attraction for me. For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above to bear it to dark Calvary. So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;

I will cling to the old rugged cross, rugged cross, and exchange it someday for a crown. To the old rugged cross I will ever be true, its shame and reproach gladly bear; then He'll call me some day to my home far way, where His glory forever I'll share. So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rugged cross, rugged cross,

and exchange it someday for a crown, and exchange it someday for a crown.

First Reading

1 Samuel 13:1-6 (Pew Bible OT p.255)

**Second Reading** 

John 9:1-41 (Pew Bible NT p.102)

The Word of God, for us, the people of God. Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit

"Someone Like Him"

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

Chancel Choir

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*Affirmation of Faith

(Heidelberg Catechism, 4.031 and 4.032)

31 Q. Why is Jesus called "Christ," meaning "anointed"?

A. Because he has been ordained by God and has been anointed with the **Holy Spirit** 

to be our chief prophet and teacher who fully reveals to us the secret counsel

and will of God concerning our deliverance;

our only high priest who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of his body, and who continually pleads our cause with the Father;

and our eternal king who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom he has won for us.

32 Q. But why are you called a Christian?

A. Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name,

to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a free conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for eternity.

Prayers of the People concluding with the Lord's Prayer

**Service of Giving** 

"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" (Wilson)

David Thompson

\*Doxology #606

Offertory

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

\*Hymn #649 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

\*Postlude "Sing to Jesus" (Prichard) Rita Harmon

\*Please stand, in body or in spirit.

The arrangement in worship today is given for the glory of God.

## Please remember in prayer:

Lea Wilson; Missy Wirthman; Friends & Family of Steve Beheler; Don Berry; Joy Clemmer; Buck Jolley; Wyatt Aiken; Emma June; Dave Newkirk; Carl Raleigh; Dan Painter; Dave Pingitore; Larry Vincent; Peggy Wyatt; Jenni, Ashton & Evaleigh Lail; Justina Eddy; Confirmation Class: Layla Lemmonds, Taylor Miller & Leah Miller; Confirmation Sponsors: Michelle Jolly, Hazel Hubbard, & Becky Wheeler.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Sunday School Offering for the 1st quarter will be donated to Smile Train.

## Next week's lectionary readings are:

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11: 1-45.

## **Prayer Slips**

During the season of Lent, you will find prayer slips in the bulletin. You are invited to write your prayer concerns and requests on those slips, come to the cross during the first hymn, and place your prayer on one of the nails in the cross. Our prayers will be gathered throughout the season.

## Wednesday Nights in Lent

Luke's gospel is often characterized as having "a preferential option for the poor." If you are reading through Luke this Lent, you'll read stories of the rich fool, the rich man and Lazarus, the unprofitable servant, the lost coin. This Wednesday, we'll consider this aspect of Luke's gospel a little more closely. Join us in the Family Life Center for supper at 6 p.m. and the program following.

#### **Resources for Lent**

Today's devotional writer in The Society of St. Andrew's Lenten devotional, "REDEEMED", writes Redemption, about her struggle to forgive herself for past mistakes and the futile regret. Jesus sacrificed all to forgive all our mistakes. Will you consider sacrificing today by giving to The Society of St. Andrew, a nationwide ministry with a vision to end physical hunger? Every \$3 provides 26 meals of nutritious, fresh food for the hungry!

We continue our big-picture look at the Bible this week with the Minor Prophets and the Gospels, with a brief nod to the intertestamental period. We meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday in the Family Life Center.

## An Odd Couple: Jonah and Ruth: A new class

We will begin a new adult study on Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:45. The class will use the Kerygma resource written by Carol J. Miller, a Methodist elder. We will explore "long ago and far away" stories of an unusual prophet named Jonah and of a faithful daughter-in-law named Ruth. What do Jonah and Ruth have in common? Why are they linked together in this study and called "an odd couple"? All are welcome to join us on Sunday mornings in the parlor at 9:45.

## THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY

**March 20, 687**: Death of Cuthbert, bishop of Lindisfarne, who had been a vocal supporter of Celtic church practices against Roman practices until the Synod of Whitby opted to adhere to Roman practices.

**March 22, 1758**: Death in New Jersey from smallpox of Jonathan Edwards, Christian pastor, theologian, scientist, and educator. Today Edwards may be best known for his sermon "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God." Edwards was the third President of Princeton University and the maternal grandfather of U.S. Vice President Aaron Burr.

**March 24, 1922**: First graduating class of what will become the Vellore Christian Medical Center. Founded in India in 1918 by Dr. Ida Scudder, missionary for the Christian Reformed Church, the school provided medical training for women. The school became co-ed in 1947.

Sharon Thompson, Music Director, Mozart1121@aol.com Carrie Wyatt, Director Children & Youth Ministries, carewyatt@gmail.com

# CALENDAR of EVENTS

## Sunday, March 19

9:45 AM Sunday School – Parlor 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room 11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live 12:30 PM Session Meeting – Conference Room

## Monday, March 20

5:30 PM Girl Scouts 5:45 PM Handbell Rehearsal – Handbell Room

#### Tuesday, March 21

6:30 PM Bible Study - FLC

#### Wednesday, March 22

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper - FLC

#### Sunday, March 26

9:45 AM Sunday School – Parlor 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:15 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room 11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live

### **Upcoming**

April 2 – Palm Sunday April 2-8 – Holy Week April 9 – Easter Sunday

## **NEXT STEPS**

☐ Make a reservation for Wednesday Night Supper	
Plan to be at Sunday School for the study of Jonah and Rut	h
☐ Pick up a hard copy of the LimeLight	
☐ Pick up your Lent Resources	

# Praying for Our Congregation

Karsyn Blanton Barbara Ross Camron Snuggs

QR code for electronic



WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF A LOVING GOD, GATHERING, GROWING, GIVING, AND GOING TO SERVE, TOGETHER

contributions:



Guy Rowe. **Samuel Anointing Saul.** for In Our Image: Character Studies from the Old Testament.



Antonio Gonzalez Velazquez. **The Anointing of David by Samuel.** 18th
century. Madrid, Spain: Royal Academy
of Fine Arts of San Fernando.

# STAFF

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