

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
2nd Sunday in Lent

March 5, 202311:00 AM

Welcome and AnnouncementsRev. Dr. Lynn Miller

GATHERING

Prelude “All Creatures of Our God and King” (Williams) Handbell Ensemble

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 121) Barbara Cope
Look up to the mountains. Does our help come from mountains?
No. Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.
Will God let you stumble? Will God fall asleep while on watch?
No. God will neither slumber nor sleep.
God is your guardian – right beside you to protect you.
God shelters us by day and by night.
God guards our very lives.
God guards us when we leave and when we come home.
God guards us now and always.
Let us worship God!

*Hymn of Praise #192 “Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining”
~~Please bring your Lenten Prayer Slips forward during this hymn~~

*Call to ConfessionBarbara Cope

*Prayer of Confession
God of grace,
We confess that sometimes it’s hard
to hear the voice of Jesus or the whispers of your Spirit
over the noise we create.
Again and again you call us to believe, to act, to go,
but we choose not to hear.
You offer us freedom, but we’d rather have independence
and imagine that we are in control of our lives.
Forgive us, loving God.
Help us to believe more fully, to act more quickly,
And to go when you call us.
Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon
Where would we be if we had only our own thoughts and actions to save us?
No one could be saved because we have all fallen short of God’s glory. God
had a different plan – a plan to send Jesus Christ to do for us what we could
not do for ourselves: live a life in perfect accord with God’s law, yet bear the
sins of the world. 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 StepsCarrie Wyatt

Anthem “I Will Rise and Go to Jesus” (Folk Melody) Handbell Ensemble

First Reading Genesis 12:1-4a (Pew Bible OT p.10)
Second Reading John 3:1-17 (Pew Bible NT p.93)
The Word of God, for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit “Moving Away” Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith (Heidelberg Catechism, 4.001, 4.021, 4.032)
Q 1. What is your only comfort in life and in death?
A. That I am not my own, but belong—
body and soul, in life and in death—to
my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

Q 21. What is true faith?
A. True faith is not only a sure knowledge
by which I hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture;
it is also a wholehearted trust,
which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel,
that God has freely granted,
not only to others but to me also,
forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation.

Q. 32 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 evil 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

Offertory “Amazing Grace” (Kelsey) David Thompson

*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 of Dedication

*Hymn #490 “Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters”

*Charge and BenedictionRev. Dr. Lynn Miller

*Postlude “Choral Song” (arr. Martin) Rita Harmon

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\*Please stand, in body or in spirit.

The flowers for worship today are given for the glory of God.

Please remember in prayer:  
Carl Raleigh; Judy Stauffer; Dan Painter; Friends & Family of Ken Byers; Dave  
Pingitore; Larry Vincent; Peggy Wyatt; Jenni, Ashton & Evaleigh Lail; Justina  
Eddy; Henry Lewis; Nicholas Parker; Bobby Westmoreland; Anna Cox; Steve  
Beheler; Confirmation Class: Layla Lemmonds, Taylor Miller & Leah Miller;  
Confirmation Sponsors: Michelle Jolly, Hazel Hubbard, & Becky Wheeler.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Next week’s lectionary readings are:  
Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42.

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  
In Luke 11:27-32 Jesus talks about the 'sign of Jonah.' Do you remember the  
story of Jonah? The whole story...not just the whale part. Why would Jesus  
refer to Jonah? Join us this Wednesday to explore the entire story of Jonah.  
We'll look at ships and storms and whales and plants and Ninevites. Come be  
part of remembering the story that was remembered and singled out by Jesus.

Bible 101  
This week we will be looking at the Pentateuch (the first five books of the  
Bible...also called Law or Torah) and the books of history. Please join us on  
Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

Daylight Savings Time  
Don’t forget to “Spring” Forward next Sunday morning, March 12!

**Resources for Lent**  
In “**REDEEMED**”, our Lenten devotional booklet from The Society of St. Andrew, today’s writer of *Released from Captivity*, speaks about her failings being redeemed by the riches of God’s grace. What perceived failings in our lives could be redeemed to help heal a hungry, hurt and broken world? A donation of any amount to The Society of St. Andrew is a sacrifice that helps fill those broken hearts with hope, and a nutritious meal.  
We will be receiving an offering for the Society of St. Andrew on Sunday, March 12. You may bring the coin bank you received in worship or designate "Society of St. Andrew" on a check or through the QR code.

**Journey to Jerusalem...and elsewhere**  
From *The Odyssey* long ago to *The Martian* in the future when we can travel to Mars, writers and filmmakers tell stories about journeys. *The Straight Story* (1999, rated G) tells of a man who travels to see his ill brother and mend their relationship. Because he has no driver's license, he makes the journey from Iowa to Wisconsin on a lawnmower. Based on a true story, this might be worth watching during this Lenten season.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

**Sunday, March 5**  
9:45 AM Confirmation Class – Parlor  
9:45 AM Children’s Sunday School  
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live  
**Monday, March 6**  
5:30 PM Girl Scouts  
**Tuesday, March 7**  
6:30 PM Bible Study – FLC  
**Wednesday, March 8**  
6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper – FLC  
**Sunday, March 12 \*Daylight Savings Time\***  
9:45 AM Confirmation Class – 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**  
March 14 – Circle 1

NEXT STEPS

- ☐ Make reservation for Wednesday Night Supper
- ☐ Review a book from our Library
- ☐ Pick up a hard copy of the LimeLight
- ☐ Pick up your Lent Resources

THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY


**March 5, 1518:** Erasmus sends a copy of Martin Luther’s Ninety-Five Theses to Sir Thomas More, a vigorous opponent of the Protestant Reformation.  
**March 6, 1984:** Death of Lutheran pastor Martin Niemoller, a founder of Germany’s Confessing Church and an opponent of the Nazis, who imprisoned him for many years. A quote from Niemoller is on a wall at the end of the permanent collection of the US Holocaust Museum: *First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a socialist. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.*  
**March 10, 1747:** John Newton, a sailor on a slave ship, is converted to Christianity during a huge storm at sea. He eventually becomes an Anglican clergyman, the author of the famous hymn “Amazing Grace” and a zealous abolitionist. “That 10th of March is a day much to be remembered by me; and I have never allowed it to pass unnoticed since the year 1748. For on that day the Lord came from on high and delivered me out of deep waters.”

**STAFF**  
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QR code for electronic contributions:



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# LIMESTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC(USA)

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



H.O. Tanner. **Study for Nicodemus Visiting Jesus.** 1899. Private Collection



Henry Ossawa Tanner. **Nicodemus at Night.** 1899. Philadelphia: PA Academy of Fine Arts.



H.O. Tanner. **Study for Christ and Nicodemus on a Rooftop.** c. 1923. Smithsonian American Art Museum.



H.O. Tanner. **Nicodemus Before Christ.** 1927. Private Collection

Here are three versions of the same subject by the same artist. There are differences in the three pieces. As you hear the story read in worship, consider...which figure - Nicodemus or Jesus - is shadowed and which is in light? Is there something - like a halo - that sets Jesus apart as not-of-this-world? Why did the artist paint Jesus' back to the city? What does it mean that Nicodemus always looks at Jesus and sees the town in the background? Why - if Nicodemus is so afraid of being found out at visiting Jesus - is the meeting outdoors? What do the levels of the two heads tell us? Is Nicodemus way below Jesus or about level with Jesus? How do these compare with the story as you imagine it happening?