



## *"Forgive...As We Forgive"*

**Order of Worship  
March 27, 2022  
The Fourth Sunday in Lent  
10:00 AM**

*10:00 Online Worship  
YouTube Channel "Harmony UMCVA"*

### **Welcome**

#### **Prelude**

*Nature From Her Sleep Awakes*

Landon

*The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.*

#### **Invocation**

Susan Whitman

Open our hearts, O Lord, to receive your healing love.

**Restore us to life in which peace flourishes.**

Our spirits are weighed down by our guilt and fear

**Darkness surrounds us daily.**

Lord, in your mercy you have forgiven and restored us.

**Thank you, gracious God, for seeing the good in us and healing our lives.**

**Amen.**

**Hymn** (See last page)

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

UMH 560

**Children's Message**

Shelly Ballard

**Morning Prayer**

Pastor Debra

**The Lord's Prayer** (All Praying)

**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 as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Ministry of Music**

*Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

Susan Whitman

(See last page for words)

**Prayer for Illumination** (All Praying)

Susan Whitman

**Holy One, We are doubtful people and we need to hear the testimony of our ancestors in the faith. Open our hearts to hear their truth so that we may be filled with courage to spread the good news of your love and forgiveness. Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading**

*Micah 7:18-19*

Susan Whitman

Who is a God like you,  
who pardons sin and forgives the transgression  
of the remnant of his inheritance?  
You do not stay angry forever  
but delight to show mercy.  
You will again have compassion on us;  
you will tread our sins underfoot  
and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

**Psalms 103:8-12**

The Lord is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
9 He will not always accuse,  
nor will he harbor his anger forever;  
10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve  
or repay us according to our iniquities.  
11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

so great is his love for those who fear him;  
12 as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

### **Gospel Readings**

Susan Whitman

*Matthew 6:9-15*

“This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
<sup>10</sup> your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.

<sup>14</sup> For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. <sup>15</sup> But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

*Luke 23:32-34*

<sup>32</sup> Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. <sup>33</sup> When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. <sup>34</sup> Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

### **Sermon**

*Forgive...As We Forgive*

Pastor Debra

### **A Forgiveness Story**

Matthew West, Singer and Songwriter

**<https://youtu.be/n9J6xOT3Ldw>**

### **Forgiving Others Prayer**

*“Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive?”*

To receive forgiveness can be cheerful for us. We can feel great peace and joy, like walking out of jail! But forgiving others, not so easy. Lord, do not let us clutch wrath and anger so tightly. Please help us let them go, to forgive those who trespass against us, or against your people, or your planet. Jesus, please help us break those bonds of our refusal to forgive! Grant us your strength to

remove our shackles. Teach us to forgive others in the way that you forgive us. Forgive, and then forget. No strings attached.

**Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings**

Pastor Debra

*Offertory*

*A Spring Song*

*\*Doxology*

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*\*Prayer of Dedication* (All Praying)

Susan Whitman

“Please join me in prayer the prayer of dedication for our offering to God.”

**Holy One, we give because You beckon us to give. We give because You call us to be merciful. We give because you command us to love our enemies.**

**We give because we seek be Your followers who do good and expect nothing in return. May the offering that we place upon the altar humble us so that we do not judge or condemn but offer a posture of forgiveness and love. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn** (See last page)

*Freely, Freely*

UMH 389

**Benediction**

Pastor Debra

*Colossians 3: 12-14*

As God’s own, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, and patience, forgiving each other as the Lord has forgiven you, and crown all these things with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. Go in peace. Amen.

**Sung Benediction**

*Shalom to You*

**Shalom to you now, Shalom, my friends.**

**May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends.**

**In all your living and through your loving,**

**Christ be your shalom,**

**Christ be your shalom.**

## **Postlude**

### *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

#### ***Help Us Accept Each Other***

*Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;  
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.  
Be present, Lord, among us, and bring us to believe  
we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.*

*2 Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life  
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.  
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,  
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.*

*3 Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved  
in living situations to do the truth in love;  
to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart  
the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.*

*4 Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,  
who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread,  
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on;*

#### ***Freely, Freely***

##### ***Refrain:***

***He said, "Freely, freely you have received,  
Freely, freely give.***

***Go in my name, and cause you believe,  
others will know that I live."***

*God forgave my sin in Jesus' name,  
I've been born again in Jesus' name,  
and in Jesus' name I come to you,  
to share his love as he told me to. **Refrain***

*All power is given in Jesus' name,  
In earth and heaven in Jesus' name,  
and in Jesus' name I come to you,  
to share his power as he told me to. **Refrain***

***Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive***

*Forgive our sins as we forgive.  
You taught us, Lord, to pray;  
But You alone can grant us grace  
To live the words we say.*

*How can Your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart  
That broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?  
In blazing light Your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:  
How small the debts men owe to us, how great our debt to You!  
Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease;  
Then reconciled to God and man, our lives will spread Your peace.*

*Forgive our sins as we forgive.  
You taught us, Lord, to pray;  
But You alone can grant us grace  
To live the words we say.  
Our lives will spread your peace.*