



March 3, 2024
Third Sunday in Lent

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Welcome

Prelude

Over the Brook Kidron (John 18:1)

Hughes

*Call to Worship

Susan Whitman

O God of all ages and all generations, we come to worship you.

Women, men, youth, and children bow before you, the only wise God.

Our foreparents led the way for spiritual awareness and growth.

We try to follow in their footsteps recognizing you as God of all.

As we worship you, all your attributes of glory, mercy, and love show forth.

We humble ourselves in your holy presence, because you are awesome.

Holy, holy, holy is the name of the Lord.

*Opening Prayer

In this time of worship, help us to focus on you, O God,
as the priority of our lives.

Remind us of your steadfast love

revealed so clearly in the new commandment of love

which Jesus disclosed with his life and,

as we especially remember in this period of Lent, with his death.

Speak to us anew as we offer this prayer and our worship

in Jesus' name and for his sake. **Amen.**

* Opening Hymn

Fairest Lord Jesus

UMH 189

View words on last page

Passing the Peace of Christ

Susan Whitman

The one who lifts the lowly and brings down the mighty offers us a peace that passes all understanding. Claim the promise of this peace as you share greetings in Christ's name.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Understanding

All Praying

Please use Scripture to teach us, rebuke us, correct us, and train us in righteousness so that we can be completely equipped to do every good work you have prepared for us. Amen (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Scripture Reading

John 9:1-12

Susan Whitman

⁹ As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

³ "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶ After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷ "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means "Sent"). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

⁸ His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some claimed that he was.

Others said, "No, he only looks like him."

But he himself insisted, "I am the man."

¹⁰ "How then were your eyes opened?" they asked.

¹¹ He replied, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see."

¹² "Where is this man?" they asked him.

"I don't know," he said.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Now I Can See"

Pastor Larry

***Hymn**

As The Deer

TFWS 2025

View words on last page

Offertory Invitation

Susan Whitman

As forgiven and reconciled people, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

All I Need Is You

Adler

**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

Susan Whitman

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Pastor Larry

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING With Musical Response

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

Father Almighty (almighty God), creator of heaven and earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Musical Response)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection

you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,

and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

(Musical Response)

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (*God*), now and for ever.

(Musical Response)

Amen.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Liturgist:

Our Communion Hymn is "Precious Name" Words are on the monitors and on page 536 in your hymnal.

Communion Hymn

Precious Name

UMH 536

Prayer of Thanksgiving (All Praying)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the word in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

GOING FORTH WITH JOY

***Closing Hymn**

Amazing Grace

UMH 378

***Benediction**

Pastor Larry

Choral Benediction

Shalom to You

UMH 666

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**

Hark! My Soul

Dykes

FAIREST LORD JESUS

*Fairest Lord Jesus,
ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son,
thee will I cherish,
thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.*

*2 Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.*

*3 Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heaven can boast.*

*4 Beautiful Savior!
Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.*

AS THE DEER

*As the deer pants for the water,
So my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire,
And I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield;
To you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire,
And I long to worship you.*

PRECIOUS NAME

*Take the name of Jesus with you,
child of sorrow and of woe;
it will joy and comfort give you;
take it then, where'er you go.*

Refrain:

***Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.
Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.***

*2. Take the name of Jesus ever,
as a shield from every snare;
if temptations round you gather,
breathe that holy name in prayer.*

(Refrain)

*3. O the precious name of Jesus!
How it thrills our souls with joy,
when his loving arms receive us,
and his songs our tongues employ!*

(Refrain)

*4. At the name of Jesus bowing,
falling prostrate at his feet,
King of kings in heaven we'll crown him,
when our journey is complete.*

(Refrain)

AMAZING GRACE

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.*

*2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.*

*3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.*

*4. The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.*

*5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.*

*6. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.*