First Sunday of Lent

February 18, 2024

2. Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders. Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished; His dying breath has brought me life. I know that it is finished.

3. I will not boast in anything: no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ: his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: his wounds have paid my ransom.

Words and Music: Stuart Townend, © 1995 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Sending

LUYH 661

Sending Prayer

*Benediction

*Closing Song: "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

1. I am weak but thou art strong: Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.

Refrain: Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea; daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

2. Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. [Refrain]

3. When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more; guide me gently, safely o'er to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. [Refrain]

Words & Music: Anonymous

*Passing the Peace The peace of the Lord be with you and also with you.

Worship Participants

Pastor: Dr. Joel Kok ✦ Piano: Ryan Smit ✦ Violin: Amie Smit ✦ Bass: Ricky Rietveld Vocalists: Emily Eppinga, Jenna Hekman Sound: Nick Breems ✦ Video: Marty Vander Plaats ✦ CCLI #493458 ✦ OneLicense #A-721171

Hearing Assistance

An FM hearing assistance system is available for those who need it. Consult the sound operator for assistance.



Psalm 25:4, 10

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

⁺ The labyrinth is an ancient spiritual tool and was often used as a form of pilgrimage for those who couldn't go on a literal pilgrimage. By walking one or tracing one with their finger, many Christians use a labyrinth as a way to pray and meditate, asking God to guide them through the twists and turns of life, seeking Christ as the center.

Gathering

LUYH 142

Welcome & Prayer of Invocation

*Gathering Song: "We Are People on a Journey" 1. We are people on a journey, following where the Master walks.

We are people on a journey in the shadow of the cross. What compels? The face of Jesus! Who protects? Our faithful guide: he who treads the road of service, Christ the Lord, the crucified.

2. We are people on a journey, taking up the cross of Christ. We are people on a journey, moving on from death to life. We release the sin that tangles. We relinguish all acclaim. We receive the suff'ring Savior, he our glory, wealth, and fame.

3. We are people on a journey to the table of the Lord. We are people on a journey, fed by water and the Word. We remember, we remember how you wash disciples' feet; we remember on the last night gifts of wine and bread to eat.

4. We are people on a journey, rising up in life reborn. We are people on a journey, speaking peace, accepting scorn. We are walking toward a homeland, to a myst'ry yet unknown; to a kingdom coming quickly, to the light of God's own throne.

Words & Music: Gregg DeMey, © 2008, 2010 Re:Create Music, admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources

*God Greets Us, We Greet One Another

*Song: "Come, Holy Ghost"

LUYH 232:1.2.4

1. Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest, and in our hearts take up thy rest; come with thy grace and heav'nly aid to fill our hearts which thou hast made, to fill our hearts which thou hast made.

Refrain: Be not afraid. Where you go there I am with you. Be not afraid. Where you go there I am with you.

2. O Comforter, to thee we cry, thou heav'nly gift of God most high; thou fount of life, and fire of love, and sweet anointing from above, and sweet anointing from above. [Refrain]

Prayer of Consecration, concluding with the Lord's Prayer 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The Invitation

We invite you to come down the center aisle to the communion table. You may partake at the table or take it back to your seats. Gluten-free bread is available on the table.

Communion Song: "When I Survey/The Wonderful Cross" LUYH 175/176 1. When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride

Refrain: Oh, the wonderful cross, oh, the wonderful cross bids me come and die and find that I may truly live. Oh, the wonderful cross, oh the wonderful cross, all who gather here by grace draw near and bless Your name.

> 2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God! All the vain things that charm me most, *I sacrifice them through his blood.* [Refrain]

3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down. Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? [Refrain]

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small. Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Words & Music: Isaac Watts, Lowell Mason, Chris Tomlin, J.D. Walt, Jesse Reeves © 2000 worshiptogether.com songs/sixsteps Music

Communion Song: "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

1. How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of searing loss. The Father turns His face away as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

2. You have suffered great affliction and have borne it patiently, even death by crucifixion: our atonement full and free. Lord, you chose to be tormented, that our doom should be prevented; [Refrain]

3. Lord, for all that bought our pardon, for the sorrows deep and sore, for the anguish in the garden, we will thank you evermore. For the victory of your dying—sinful nature mortifying— [Refrain]

Words: Ernst C. Homburg; tr. Catherine Winkworth; Das grosse Cantionale, Darnstadt

Table

The Invitation

Dear friends, we are on the road to Jerusalem with Jesus. **He is our pardon, our healing, and our peace!** We will suffer the trial with him, resisting evil. **With him, we will walk the path to life.** But come first to the table where there is food for the journey. **With hearts full of joy we come,** giving thanks to God, our maker, **and offering our praise!** We are right to praise you, faithful God! You answer sin with grace; you guide our wayward steps toward home. You are mending for the broken, safety for the poor, belonging for the outcast, strength for the weak, and pardon for the sinner. You reveal your kindness in every sorrow, your mercy even in death. All your creatures see your works; they sing your steadfast love. We too declare your wonder and grace as with angels and saints we sing:

Song: "Trisagion (Thrice Holy)"

Holy God, holy and mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy, have mercy on us.

Words & Music: Fernando Ortega © 2004 Cerdo Verde Music; Curb Songs

The Institution: 1 Corinthians 11

Memorial Acclamation

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. Dying he destroyed our death. Rising he restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory. 4. Praise we the Lord: Father and Son, and Holy Spirit with them One; and may the Son on us bestow all gifts that from the Spirit flow, all gifts that from the Spirit flow. [Refrain]

Words & Music: from Veni Creator Spiritus, attr. Rhabanus Maurus, Bruce Benedict, Ray Mills, © 2006 Cardiphonia Music/Raymond G. Mills

Repentance & Renewal

Prayer of Confession (Psalm 25:6-8, 11, 16-18)	p.863
Assurance of Pardon (based on Psalm 25:10, John 8:12)	p.863, 1662

Invitation to Giving

Offering our gifts is an important part of our response to God—connecting our worship with a life of discipleship—and is a way to participate in the ministry of Covenant CRC here in this building and around the world. Offering boxes are available, or check your bulletin announcements for more ways to give.

Prayers for the Church and World



Children's Blessing: "Jesus Loves Me"

LUYH 709:1

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes. Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Words: Anna B. Warner; Music: William B. Bradbury

Children ages 3 years old through kindergarten are invited to a time of worship designed especially for young children. Our young guests are welcome to participate in this service.

through your suffering, death, and merit, life eter	nal we inherit;
Christ, for us yourself once giving to the darkest d	epths of woe:
1. Christ, the life of all the living; Christ, the death o	f death our foe;
*Song of Response: "Christ, the Life of All the Living"	LUYH 137
Message: "God Gives Us Words"	Pastor Joel Kok
Scripture Reading: Psalm 25	p.863

Refrain: thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you.