

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 12, 2023

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Prelude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist

Welcome and Greeting in Jesus' Name Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

***Opening (Stand) # 501 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"**

CWM RHONDDA

***Call to Worship (Stand)**

O come, let us sing to the Lord.

Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

For the Lord is a great God

Who reigns supreme over all other gods.

O come, let us worship and bow down.

Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

For the Lord is our God,

And we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

O that today you would heed the voice of the Lord!

Do not harden your hearts as did the Israelites in the wilderness.

For their generation did not regard the ways of the Lord,

And they did not enter land of promise.

†Timothy Matthew Slemmons, "Lightening from the East: Liturgical Elements for Reformed Worship, Year A." ©2014. Cascade Books, Eugene, OR. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

***Opening Prayer (Stand)**

Song of Faith "All Are Thirsty" *Worship Team*

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Don Johnson

The First Reading Exodus 17:1-7

The Second Reading Romans 5:1-11

***The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ** John 4:5-42

***Responsorial (Stand) #270 "Oh How He Loves You and Me"**

***Greeting and Sharing Peace with Family and Neighbors (Stand)**

Children's Sermon (Kids 3rd Grade and Younger can walk to Children's Church)

Announcements & Prayers of the Community 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, the power, and the glory forever.

Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations - Worshippers are invited to give their tithes, gifts, and offerings to the Lord.



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Prayer of Dedication – God of the harvest, we have always thought of the harvest field as yielding food for us to eat; but to hear Jesus tell it, it is our labor in the fields that is the best food of all, when we reach out to others, according to your will, and share the truth about Jesus Christ with them. What is more, we have Jesus' testimony that the fields are ripening, and they await your laborers. Send out your laborers, therefore, O God, and if we are those laborers, then so be it. Lead us and inspire us--- our words, our will, and our work---- that our labor may indeed conform to your will, and that these gifts might be used to bring in a bountiful yield.

A Prayer of Illumination & The Message

The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH & SERVICE

Invitation to Faith and Fellowship – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God's forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to be a follower of Jesus in the waters of baptism or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

***Closing Hymn (Stand) # "God's Family"** *Worship Team*

***Spoken Benediction**

***Postlude** Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist

HOW TO BECOME A FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF JESUS

GOOD NEWS! God loves you and wants to rescue all people from the consequences of evil. The Bible teaches the way to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ:

1. **ADMIT** – Admit to God you have done wrong things (sinned) which have hurt God and others. Apologize to God and turn away from harmful behavior and start doing good things (See Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19).
2. **BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU AND GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD** – Accept and trust that Jesus is God's one and only Son who died on the cross in your place and give God the credit for raising Jesus from the dead (See Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31a; John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; John 14:6).
3. **CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD** – Make a religious commitment to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus by trusting Him to be your Rescuer and Redeemer (Savior) and Ultimate Leader (Lord). (See Romans 10:9 and 10; Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)
4. **DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO THE JESUS WAY** - Tell your family and friends about your new trust in Jesus Christ by coming to the front of the Sanctuary at the end of a worship service to publicly share your decision to be a follower of Jesus (Christian).

HOW TO JOIN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - COME FORWARD – Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and accepting the Baptist principles, practices, and the covenant of this church, may join this Christian church. Persons interested in affiliating should speak with the Pastor, Moderator, or come forward at a meeting of the congregation. A person may join by Believer's Baptism, Letter of Transfer from a previous Christian church with prior baptism, or a Satisfactory Statement of Christian Faith.



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