

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 26, 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) # 443 "Trust and Obey" TRUST AND OBEY

*Call to Worship (Stand)

The Lord said, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them:
O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord:

I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live.

I will lay sinews and cause flesh to come upon you,

And cover you with skin, and put breath in you,

And you shall live and know that I am the Lord."

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?"

Truly, Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

He, the crucified, lives again, and in Christ we too shall live.

Let us worship God!

*Timothy Matthew Slemmons, "Lightening from the East: Liturgical Elements for Reformed Worship,
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*Opening Prayer (Stand)

Song of Faith "Amazing Grace" Worship Team

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Don Johnson

The First Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Second Reading Romans 8:6-11

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ John 11:1-45

*Responsorial (Stand) 461 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" TRENTHAM

*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 – O God, you are glorified in so many ways, but never more wonderfully than when you take some small, lifeless token and make it live and breathe, flourish and sing. Toward that wonderful end, we offer these small gifts, that you might demonstrate our glory with them, and that we ourselves might live to glorify you anew, both this day and forever; in the name of him who is the resurrection and the life.

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) "Run to the Father" 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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