

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 3, 2024



Al-Maghtas, in the Jordan Valley, presumed site of Jesus' Baptism

“You are my child, beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Mark 1:11

Sunday, March 3, 2024
Third Sunday in Lent | First Sunday of Confirmation

Tolling of the Bells

Prelude *Holy Father, Cheer Our Way* *Beechey*

Call to Worship *Psalms 19:1-10*

*Opening Hymn *We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding*

Welcome & Announcements

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of desert times and holy contemplation, confront us again with your word. Jesus, we wish to answer your call. We want to follow you. Forgive us when we ignore the injured. Forgive us when we separate ourselves from the suffering and pain of this world. With your compassion link us together, heart to heart and shoulder to shoulder, that our common sense might be bold solidarity. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

Mark 1:9-11; Matthew 22:34-40

Blessing

Sermon *"Up Out of the Water"*

Choir Anthem *My Song Is Love Unknown* *Wood*

Pastoral Prayer & 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.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

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

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Meditation on "Land of Rest"* *Trad. American*

* As the Spirit guides you, we encourage you to rise in body or spirit.

Doxology

*Each week, we sing and sign an inclusive Doxology (ASL).
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God for all that love has done.
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.*

Holy Communion

Invitation

Opening Prayer

Responsive Consecration

Instructions

This morning, the bread is allergen free, so that we may all partake together. A Deacon will signal your pew when to come forward to receive the bread and cup. Bring both back to the pew with you, so that we may eat together. We would be happy to bring the elements to you; just let the Deacon know as they come by.

Communion Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

Closing Prayer

Precious Lord, for all that you give us and all that you beckon us toward, we give you thanks. Patient Jesus, for the daily bread that you offer us, and for sustaining us on the journey, we give you praise. Powerful Spirit, for the unity that you create, we lift up your name: Jesus Christ our Head, Amen.

*Closing Hymn

What a Covenant

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

Allegro

Schale



Following the Closing Hymn, we encourage the congregation to remain risen, in body or spirit, to receive the Benediction, which is both blessing and commission. You may sit for the Choral Response and Postlude in quiet contemplation.

All are invited to the Parish Hall for coffee, tea, and snacks. We understand it can be difficult to step into a room of strangers. We hope, with every cup and cookie, we can deepen our connections and learn a little more about each other each week.

* As the Spirit guides you, we encourage you to rise in body or spirit.

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

*Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36**Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1988*

1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the
 3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our

ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some
 flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the
 faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt-ing to re -

to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -
 heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with
 main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us

sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing
 won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet: Christ with
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our

like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
 gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.
 dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
 * 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

HOLY COMMUNION

My God, have mer - cy on me.

Deut. 33:27

Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887; alt.

1 What a *cov - e - nant, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -

last - ing arms. What a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine, lean - ing
 last - ing arms. Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean - ing
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Sav - ior near, lean - ing

Refrain

on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from
 on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

all a - larms; lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

*Or, "fellowship"

In a letter to two grieving friends, A. J. Showalter quoted Deuteronomy 33:27, "... underneath are the everlasting arms." Showalter then wrote this music and the refrain and sent them to E. A. Hoffman to provide the stanzas.

Tune: LEANING 5.5.9.D. with refrain
 Anthony J. Showalter, 1887

Bulletin Reminders

Each week, after worship, Rev. Morisse is available for conversation in the Parish Hall.

SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION NOW WEEKLY

A scripture discussion will now occur every Sunday, in the Parlor, beginning 30 minutes after the service. Weeks 1 and 3 will be led by Shari Van Hook, and weeks 2 and 4 by Meg Doucette. All are welcome.

THE POETRY OF MARY OLIVER

TODAY, March 3

Come celebrate the poetry of Mary Oliver, at Open Spirit, in Framingham, *TODAY*, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Enjoy a slide show, a writing exercise, and a discussion followed by refreshments.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Sunday, March 10

A pillar among the United Church of Christ's special mission offerings, this Lenten offering provides support to the disaster, refugee, and development ministries within Love of Neighbor ministries.

LENT/EASTER THROUGH JEWISH EYES

Sunday, March 10

Pilgrim Church, Sherborn

Rabbi Dr. Ruth Langer, Professor of Jewish Studies at Boston College, will give a talk during worship and conduct a workshop after a complementary luncheon. Register online by **March 4**. See *Wednesday Email* for registration link.

CWS HYGIENE KITS

We will be collecting items for CWS hygiene kits through Lent. This year, we need **hand towels, washcloths, nail clippers, soap, combs, and toothbrushes**. Please leave donations in the baskets near the lower elevator.

REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT FOSTER CARE Virtual Info Session: Last Wednesday of Every Month, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Join *Ascentria* online to learn about their unique programs serving unaccompanied refugee and immigrant youth, who currently have an urgent need for foster parents. For questions, email auwineza@ascentria.org.

EASTER CASCARONES ARE BACK

We could use any giftwrap tissue paper, in white or pastel colors. And those little circles left over from your hole puncher. Drop off in marked bin in Parish Hall.

TROOP 12 FRAMINGHAM

41ST ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, MARCH 16 7:30-11:30

PLYMOUTH CHURCH, 87 EDGELL RD

\$10/ADULTS, \$7/SENIORS, \$5/KIDS (5-11)

UNDER 4 AND CUB SCOUTS IN UNIFORM FREE



Mark March 10 as...
One Great Hour of Sharing Day

Join us in making a difference

How You Can Help:



*Mail checks to United Church of Christ, P.O. Box
71957, Cleveland, Ohio 44194 or give online via a secure
donation form or Text OGHS to 41444 and follow the prompts to
give securely.*

Your gifts toward this offering are welcome at any time.