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Oarch 9, 2025

All Are Welcome in God's House

Warch 9, 2025

First Sunday in Lent

The Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

(Persons nearest the center aisle are asked to sign and pass the Act of Friendship pad toward the outside aisle. Please keep the cover open as the pad is returned.)

Prelude

Shepherd Me, O God

arr. C. Callahan

*Call to Worship

— from Psalm 103:8

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in love.

Let us worship God!

*Hymn 166

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Glorious God, your thoughts are not our thoughts, neither are your ways our ways.

You look at the ugliest soul and see, still unstirred, the wings of angels.

We scan the finest of our neighbors, anxious to find the flaw.

You view time in the context of eternity, and so find a place for waiting, for yearning, even for suffering, even for dying.

We demand instant results; and look for tomorrow before savoring today.

You know that only one who suffers can ultimately save,

that is why you walk the way of the cross.

We fear that vulnerability which defies our power; and so we cry for crucifixion.

Your thoughts are not our thoughts.

Neither are your ways our ways.

So we pray,

forgive in us what has gone wrong, repair in us what is wasted, reveal in us what is good.

(a moment for Silent Reflection and Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the Good News of the Gospel! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Congregational Response

Restore in Us, O God



*The Sharing of the Peace of Christ

The Peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you. And also with you.

Time with the Children

(After the message, children ages four through sixth grade may leave for Children's Worship Time.

Children will return to the service to share in Communion with their family.)

First Scripture Lesson: Romans 10:8-13
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Pew Bible, NRSV (NT), p. 160

Anthem

Pilgrims' Hymn Chancel Choir

Stephen Paulus

"Even before we call on Your name to ask You, O God, when we seek for the words to glorify You, You hear our prayer. Unceasing love, O unceasing love surpassing all we know. Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Even with darkness sealing us in, we breathe Your name, and through all the days that follow so fast, we trust in You; endless Your grace, O endless Your grace, beyond all mortal dream. Both now and forever, and I'm into ages and ages. Amen."

(Ushers will collect prayer request cards during this time.)

Prayer of Illumination

Second Scripture Lesson: Psalm 51

Pew Bible, NRSV (OT), p. 520

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Restore Unto Me the Joy..."

Rev. Dr. Mac Schafer

*Hymn

Gracious God. My Heart Renew

REDHEAD

Gracious God, my heart renew, Make my spirit right and true; in your presence let me stay, by your Spirit show the way; your salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

So shall sinners be restored and return to you, their Lord; Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing your love; touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

Offering of Our Gifts and Lives

(To give online or via text message, click the "Give" tab at the top of our website.)

Offertory

Create in Me

arr. Nick Strimple

Christina Cox, Mezzo-Soprano

*Congregational Response 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDREDTH Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Welcome to the Lord's Table

God loves you. We are loved by God.

God forgives you. We are forgiven by God.

Christ's Supper is ready. The Lord's table has a seat waiting for us.

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)

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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

(We will share in communion by intinction. You will be invited to come down the center aisle by an usher, receive a gluten free wafer, dip the wafer into the cup, eat as you return by the side aisle to your seat. If you unable to come forward, we will bring the elements to you.)

Prayer After Communion

*Hymn 53

O God, Who Gives Us Life

NOEL

*Benediction

Postlude

Praeludium in A Minor

J.S. Bach

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Assisting: Rev. Becca Bateman and Jamie Neal, Seminarian Lay Leader: Linda Rutkosky

New Life! The rosebud in the chancel today celebrates the birth of Brooks David Bayer, born on February 27, to Colleen and Matthew Bayer. The proud DPC grandparents are David and Kathy McQuate.

The **flowers** today are given in loving memory of Ann-Louise, Joyce, and Harold Haldeman by the family; and in loving memory of our parents and grandparents, Gomer and Jean Lewis by Nancy, David, Rachel, Jessie, and Nathan Craft.

Participating in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. All who come to the table are offered the bread and cup, regardless of their age or understanding." We encourage you to share in this meal of God's people with us.

Extended Communion. Your Deacons will be carrying Extended Communion to members of our Congregation who are no longer able to attend church services. We hold them in fellowship as they bring Scripture and the Communion Elements blessed this morning.

Join for coffee, tea, and refreshments on the bridge between worship services each Sunday.

Today's **Prayer of Confession** comes from Stages on the Way (Wild Goose Worship Group).







