

FIRSTCHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF OAK RIDGE

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March 6th, 2022

First Sunday in Lent

OPENING VOLUNTARY

What Wondrous Love Is This?

arr. by: Cynthia Dobrinski

The Trinity Chimes, the three chimes heard at the opening of the worship service, represent God our Creator, Jesus Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit who sustains us.

CHORAL INTROIT

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus Christ, in whose name we gather in worship today,
is the same Jesus who refused the temptation to worship the evil one.
Rather than receive the glorious kingdoms of this world,
he endured the shame of the cross and God highly exalted him,
giving him the name above every other name.
Now are gathered in him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge,
glory and power. With the saints of all ages we say,

**“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom,
strength and honor and glory and praise!”**

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN, TFWS NO. 2105

Jesus, Tempted in the Desert

EBENEZER

1 Jesus, tempted in the desert, lonely, hungry, filled with dread:
“Use your pow’r,” the tempter tells him; “Turn these barren rocks to bread!”
“Not alone by bread,” he answers, “Can the human heart be filled.
Only by the Word that calls us is our deepest hunger stilled!”

2 Jesus, tempted at the temple, high above its ancient wall:
“Throw yourself from lofty turret; angels wait to break your fall!”
Jesus shuns such empty marvels, feats that fickle crowds request:
“God, whose grace protects, preserves us, we must never vainly test.” *(cont.)*

3 Jesus, tempted on the mountain by the lure of vast domain:
“Fall before me! Be my servant! Glory, fame, you’re sure to gain!”
Jesus sees the dazzling vision, turns his eyes another way:
“God alone deserves our homage! God alone will I obey!”

4 When we face temptation’s power, lonely, struggling, filled with dread,
Christ, who knew the tempter’s hour, come and be our living bread.
By your grace, protect, preserve us lest we fall your trust betray.
Yours, above all other voices, be the Word we hear, obey.

†COLLECT PRAYER

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND PARDON

**God of grace, we confess that we have elevated
the things of this world above you.
We have made idols of possessions and people
and used your name for causes
that are not consistent with you and your purposes.
We have permitted our schedules to come first
and have not taken the time to worship you.
We have not always honored those who guided us in life.
We have participated in systems
that take life instead of give it.
We have been unfaithful in our covenant relationships.
We have yearned for, and sometimes taken, that which is not ours,
and we have misrepresented others’ intentions.
Forgive us, O God,
for the many ways we fall short of your glory.
Help us to learn to live together according to your ways
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

DEUTERONOMY 26:1-11

Once you have entered the land that YHWH, your God, is giving to you as your inheritance, and you have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the first fruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land that YHWH, your God, is giving to you, and put them in a basket. Take them to the place which YHWH, your God, will choose as a dwelling place for God’s Name and say to the priest in office at that time, “This day I declare to YHWH, our God, that I have come to the land YHWH swore to our ancestors to give us.” The priest will then receive the basket from you and will set it in front of the altar of YHWH. Then you will declare before YHWH, “My ancestor was a wandering Aramean who went down to Egypt with a small household and lived there as an alien. There they became a nation great, strong and numerous. When the Egyptians mistreated and oppressed us, imposing hard labor upon us, we cried to YHWH, the God of our ancestors, who heard our cry and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. YHWH brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand and outstretched arm, with terrifying power, with signs and wonders; YHWH gave us this land, a

land flowing with milk and honey. Therefore, I have brought now the first fruits of the products of the soil that you, O God, have given me." Then you must set them before YHWH, and bow down before YHWH. Then you all, along with the Levites, and the foreigner that live among you, will feast on all the good things that YHWH, your God, has given to you and your household.

PSALM 91:1-2, 9-16



You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High
and pass the night in the shadow of Shaddai,
say: "Adonai, my refuge and my mountain fortress,
my God in whom I trust!" **R.**

Because you have made me your refuge
and have me as your stronghold,
no evil will befall you,
and no disaster will come near your tent. **R.**

For I will command my angels to guard you wherever you go.
They'll carry you in their hands so you don't hurt your foot on a stone.
You'll tread on the young lion as easily as one does a cobra;
you'll trample down both lion and serpent. **R.**

Because you love me, I will deliver you;
I will rescue you because you acknowledge my Name.
You will call upon me, and I will answer you;
I will be with you in trouble; I will deliver you and honor you.
I will satisfy you with a long life
and show you my salvation." **R.**

SECOND LESSON

II CORINTHIANS 5:16-17, 20-21

And so from now on, we don't look on anyone in terms of mere human judgment. Even if we did once regard Christ in these terms, that is not how we know Christ now. And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old order has passed away; now everything is new! This makes us Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making the appeal directly through us. Therefore we implore you in Christ's name: be reconciled to God. For our sake, God made the One who was without sin to be sin, so that by this means we might become the very holiness of God.

†SEQUENCE HYMN, NO. 415

Take Up Thy Cross

vs. 1-3

GERMANY

1. "Take up thy cross," the Savior said,
"if thou wouldst my disciple be;

deny thyself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me."

2. Take up thy cross, let not its weight
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,
and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

3. Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,
nor let thy foolish pride rebel;
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,
to save thy soul from death and hell.

†GOSPEL READING

LUKE 4:1-13

Jesus returned from the Jordan filled with the Holy Spirit, and she led him into the desert for forty days, where he was tempted by the Devil. Jesus ate nothing during that time, at the end of which he was famished. The Devil said to Jesus, "If you are God's Own, command this stone to turn into bread." Jesus answered, "Scripture has it, 'We don't live on bread alone.'" Then the Devil took Jesus up higher and showed him all the nations of the world in a single instant. The Devil said, "I'll give you all the power and the glory of these nations; the power has been given to me and I can give it to whomever I wish. Prostrate yourself in homage before me, and it will all be yours." In reply, Jesus said, "Scripture has it: 'You will worship the Most High God; God alone will you adore.'" Then the Devil led Jesus to Jerusalem, set him up on the parapet of the Temple and said, "If you are God's Own, throw yourself down from here, for scripture has it, 'God will tell the angels to take care of you; with their hands they'll support you, that you may never stumble on a stone.'" Jesus said to the Devil in reply, "It also says, 'Do not put God to the test.'" When the Devil had finished all this tempting, Jesus was left alone. The Devil awaited another opportunity.

†SEQUENCE HYMN, NO. 415

vs. 4

4. Take up thy cross and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

SERMON

The Heart of Temptation

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

And Can It Be

arr. by: Dan Forrest

†LENTEN DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

**Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, Pg. 13

The Lord be with you. **And Also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...we join in their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Music at Communion: *It is Well*

†HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP, NO. 142

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

1. If thou but suffer God to guide thee,
and hope in God through all thy ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee,
and bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
builds on the rock that naught can move.

2. Only be still, and wait God's leisure
in cheerful hope, with heart content
to take whate'er thy Maker's pleasure
and all-discerning love hath sent;
we know our inmost wants are known,
for we are called to be God's own.

3. Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving;
so do thine own part faithfully,
and trust God's word; though undeserving,
thou yet shalt find it true for thee.

God never yet forsook at need
the soul that trusted God indeed.

†BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Fantasy on *EBENEZER*

by: Richard Purvis

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Rev. Mark Flynn, *Lead Pastor*
Liturgist: Rev. Jenny Caughman, *Spiritual Care Pastor*
Music: Rev. Seth O’Kegley-Gibson, *Pastor of Music & Worship*
Josh Sumter, *Music Associate & Organist*
Parish Adult Choir
Carillons Handbell Ensemble
King’s Cadence Quartet

*Floral arrangements were given to the glory of God by Mary Lou Auxier
in memory of John Auxier & Leonard Whitten.*

(Lyrics reprinted under CCLI #1524077)