

FIRSTCHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF OAK RIDGE

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March 13th, 2022

Second Sunday in Lent

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Be Thou My Guardian and My Guide

arr. by: C. S. Lang

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.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Turn away from the calls of worldly success;
Repent, and turn back to God.

Turn away from the desire to have what everyone else has;
Repent, and turn back to God.

Turn away from greed and the race for power;
Repent, and turn back to God.

As we walk through this season of Lent,
may we turn back to God.
**May we seek self-awareness,
may we seek forgiveness,
may we seek healing,
may we seek wholeness.**

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN, NO. 422

Jesus, Thine All-Victorious Love

AZMON

1. Jesus, thine all-victorious love
shed in my heart abroad;
then shall my feet no longer rove,
rooted and fixed in God.

2. O that in me the sacred fire
might now begin to glow;
burn up the dross of base desire
and make the mountains flow!

3. O that it now from heaven might fall
and all my sins consume!
Come, Holy Ghost, for thee I call,
Spirit of burning, come!
4. Refining fire, go through my heart,
illuminate my soul;
scatter thy life through every part
and sanctify the whole.

†COLLECT PRAYER

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have ignored the path of Jesus and followed the ways of the world.

**We have been more concerned with maintaining our peace
than seeking justice for all your people.**

We have not sought what you desire, we have broken your heart,

**we have taken your love for granted, we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PSALM 27



The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
When evildoers assail me, uttering slanders against me,
my adversaries and foes, they shall stumble and fall.
Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. **R**

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.
For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent, he will set me high upon a rock. **R**

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies round about me;
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.
Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!
Thou hast said, "Seek ye my face." **R**

My heart says to thee, "Thy face, LORD, do I seek."
Hide not thy face from me.
Turn not thy servant away in anger, thou who hast been my help.
Cast me not off, forsake me not, O God of my salvation!
For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me up. **R**

Teach me thy way, O LORD; and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies. Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;
for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence.
I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!
Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; yea, wait for the LORD! **R**

FIRST LESSON

PHILLIPIANS 3:17-4:1

ANTHEM

The Beatitudes

by: Austin C. Lovelace

Refrain: Show us your ways, O Lord, and grant us your blessing. Blest are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heav'n. Blest are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blest are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. (*Refrain*) Blest are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blest are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Show us your ways, O Lord, and grant us your blessing. Blest are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blest are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blest are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake: the kingdom of heaven is theirs. (*Refrain*)

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 13:31-35

†HYMN OF PREPARATION

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

1 Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art.
Visit us with thy salvation; enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast.
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy life receive.
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore they temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish, then, thy new creation; true and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

SERMON

A Hen in the Fox House

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Creator, who made me and all things, who set me on my path in this world.

I believe in God the Savior, who is one with the Creator, who rescued me and all creation from the consequences of our self-centered choices, our harm of others, and our ignoring the divine call in our lives. This man, Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ, walked God's path through this world, taking on human form. He taught us a different way to live, died on a cross, and rose from the dead to open our pathway to eternal life.

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, my counselor and guide, who is one with the Creator and the Christ, who through the body and blood of Jesus brings me into communion with all people, past, present and future; who calls me to walk a sacred way of life through this world, caring for creation and the people I meet on the way, loving them, helping them, welcoming them without prejudice.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

OFFERTORY

Meditation on *O, For a Closer Walk with God*

by: Craig Phillips

†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.**

†HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP, TFWS No. 2170

vs. 1, 2, 4, 5

God Made from One Blood

ST. DENIO

1. God made from one blood all the families of Earth.
The circles of nurture that raised us from birth.
Companions who join us to walk through each stage,
of childhood and youth, adulthood and age.
2. We turn to you, God, with our thanks and our tears.
For all of the families we've known through the years.
The intimate networks on whom we depend,
of parents and partner and roommate and friend.

4. So, give, Lord, each family in conflict and storm,
a sense of Your wisdom and grace that transform.
Sharp anger to insight which strengthens the heart
and makes clear the place where rebuilding can start.

5. Then, widen that wisdom and grace to include,
the races and viewpoints our families exclude.
'Til peace in each home bears and nurtures the bud,
of peace shared by all you have made from one blood.

†BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Toccata on *ABERYSTWYTH*

by: David Bednall

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*
Members of the Parish Adult Choir

Floral arrangements were given to the glory of God by Ruth Maddigan & Ron Dobosy in honor of all Stephen Ministers—past, present, and future—with gratitude for all they do.

(Lyrics reprinted under CCLI #1524077)