

FIRSTCHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF OAK RIDGE

1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike • Oak Ridge, TN 37830 • fumcor.org • 865-483-4357 *phone* • 865-483-4391 *fax*

March 20th, 2022

Third Sunday in Lent

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Adoration

by: Florence Price

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

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;

In your great compassion blot out my offenses.

Wash me thoroughly from self-centeredness,

And cleanse me from my sin.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,

And renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence,

And take not your Holy Spirit from me.

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN, NO. 340

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

RESTORATION

1 Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
full of pity, love, and power. (*cont.*)

Refrain:

I will arise and go to Jesus;
he will embrace me with his arms;
in the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

2 Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
true belief and true repentance,
every grace that brings you nigh. (Refrain)

3 Come ye weary, heavy laden,
lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better,
you will never come at all. (Refrain)

4 Let not conscience make you linger,
nor of fitness fondly dream;
all the fitness he requireth
is to feel your need of him. (Refrain)

†OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, you created us in your image and breathed life into us: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, 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 failed to be an obedient church.
We have failed to live as you desire.
We have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
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.

ANTHEM

From the End of the Earth

by: Alan Hovaness

Hear my cry, O God; From the end of the earth will I cry unto Thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For Thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy. I will trust in the covert of Thy wings.

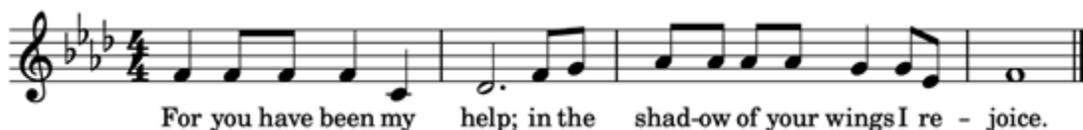
FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my

thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

PSALM 63:1-8



O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water.
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. (*cont.*)
For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise.
So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. **R**

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy.
On my bed I remember you; on you I muse through the night.
For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. **R**

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

†HYMN OF PREPARATION, NO. 381

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

BRADBURY

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

2. We are thine, thou dost befriend us,
be the guardian of our way;
keep thy flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Hear, O hear us when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Hear, O hear us when we pray.
3. Thou hast promised to receive us,
poor and sinful though we be;
thou hast mercy to relieve us,
grace to cleanse and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
We will early turn to thee.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
We will early turn to thee.
4. Early let us seek thy favor,
early let us do thy will;
blessed Lord and only Savior,
with thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

SERMON

Lenten Questions

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who created and is creating,

who came in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the Spirit. (*cont.*)

Jesus taught us a different way to live,

and stays with us in the Spirit,

renewing the love we have for one another,

inviting us to find joy in this moment, and calling us to live in peace.

We are being molded into a kind, patient, and generous community,

faithful with the truth,

gentle with our neighbor's concerns,

and demonstrating emotional self-control.

If life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

OFFERTORY

Erhalt uns, Herr (*"Preserve us, Lord"*)

arr. by: Johannes Matthias Michel

†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, NO. 413

A Charge to Keep I Have

BOYLSTON

1. A charge to keep I have, a God to glorify,
a never-dying soul to save, and fit it for the sky.
2. To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill;
O may it all my powers engage to do my Master's will!
3. Arm me with jealous care, as in thy sight to live,
and oh, thy servant, Lord, prepare a strict account to give!
4. Help me to watch and pray, and on myself rely,
assured, if I my trust betray, I shall forever die.

†BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Variations on *EIN FESTE BURG*, mvmt. I

by: Naji Hakim

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 Suzie Asher in honor of her mother, Grace Snyder's birthday and by Linda Martin in honor of the Parish Adult Choir.

(Lyrics reprinted under CCLI #1524077)