



THE THIRD SUNDAY IN
lent

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 12, 2023

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *God of compassion: you are patient with evil, and you care for the lost. Teach us to obey you, and to live our lives following the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

OPENING SENTENCES *(John 4:23-24)*

Rev. John White

One: But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.

ALL: *God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John White

*SILENT PROCESSION

PRELUDE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Dr. Terry McRoberts

arr. Martin

CHORAL INTROIT

Behold the Lamb of God
Chancel Choir

Hopson

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Psalm 42:1-2)*

Rev. John White

One: As a deer longs for flowing streams, so our souls long for you, O God.

ALL: *Our souls thirst for God, for the living God.*

*HYMN: 51 *To Abraham and Sarah*

LLANFYLLIN

PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. John White

As thirsty people wandering through this season of Lent, we seek God's forgiveness and grace in this moment of honest confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Rev. John White

Gracious God, as we wander through the wilderness this Lent, we are aware of our thirst for your presence, your love, your guidance on life's journey. Forgive us for turning away from you. Forgive our doubt and uncertainty that lead us to place our faith in worldly comforts that don't run deep enough and don't last. We come to your well today desperate and (continued)

thirsty for Christ's living water. Quench our thirst, we pray. Grant us your forgiveness and your grace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Rev. John White

One: Jesus said, "Those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty."
Come, drink deep, and know that you are forgiven.

ALL: *As water brings life to the wilderness, so our confession and God's grace bring life and hope to us. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.*

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: 437 You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!**

WAYFARING STRANGER

You are the Lord, giver of mercy! You are the Christ, giver of mercy! You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Rev. John White

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: *And, also, with you.*

THE WORD

ANTHEM

The Thorn Tree
Chancel Choir

arr. Hassell

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Libby Smith

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. John White

***HYMN: 441 Hear the Good News of Salvation**

NETTLETON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Diane Sklensky

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 17:1-7 (pg. 64)

Elder Diane Sklensky

One: This is the word of God for the people of God. **ALL:** *Thanks be to God.*

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 4:1-30 + 39-42 (pg. 94-95)

Je'Delle Ross + Perry Poole

One: This is the word of God. The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of the Lord endures forever. **ALL:** *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

Make It Rain

Rev. John White

RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Apostles' Creed*)

Elder Diane Sklensky

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

*(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew,
sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)*

**OFFERING
OFFERTORY**

Eternal Father, Strong to Save
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Rev. John White
Phillips

*Doxology (Tune: 606)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Dedicatory Prayer

Elder Diane Sklensky

SENDING

***HYMN: 65** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA

***CHARGE + BENEEDICTION**

Rev. John White

CHORAL BENEEDICTION

Let the Whole Creation Cry
Chancel Choir

Psalm 148

*(We request that you remain seated until after the Postlude and ask that you use the Postlude
as a time to reflect upon the scripture that was read in today's service.)*

POSTLUDE

The Joyous Trumpet
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Smith

**During this Lenten season, Dr. Terry McRoberts will be playing one selection each week related to the cross.*