

Liturgy for the Third Sunday in Lent

Zion United Church of Christ, Lowden

March 7th, 2021

9:30 a.m.

BOLD PRINT = congregation

*Indicates those who are able may stand.

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP WITH US

Preparing ourselves for Worship

Create a place where you can be still, & let go of everything else. Silence anything that might distract you & set it aside.

We pause to light candles in the sanctuary and in our homes, to remind us that the Light of Christ is with us always – whether we are together or apart.



RINGING OF THE BELL

FAITH IN ACTION – Announcements, Joys & Concerns

PRELUDE

"Cwm Rhondda"

by Charles Callahan

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Come follow Christ.

Who bids us empty ourselves, so we might know the fullness of His love.

Come walk the way of the cross.

The message of the cross is foolishness to the world, but power to those being saved.

God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom,

God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

ALL: COME, LET US WORSHIP THE LORD OUR GOD!

*HYMN

Lift High the Cross

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*EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,

Grant your servants understanding, and we shall keep Your law:

**I am the Lord Your God. You shall have no other gods before me.
You shall not make for yourself an idol.
You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
Honor your father and your mother.
You shall not kill.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
You shall not covet your neighbor's house, or spouse, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

Silence for personal reflection...

Jesus said the first and greatest commandment is this: The Lord our God, the Lord is one; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second commandment is like it: you shall love your neighbor as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these.

Silence for personal reflection...

Let us pray:

**You, O merciful God, are the source of all holy desires and all just works.
Open our hearts to treasure Your Word,
so that in all things we may love and serve You. Amen.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

WELCOME THE CHILDREN

Children are excused to go to their Christian Education classes.

EPISTLE (*Letter to the Church*) 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

GOSPEL John 2:13-22 NRSV

REFLECTION OF FAITH

HYMN

Lord I Lift Your Name on High

Rick Founds, ©1989

Lord, I lift Your name on high, Lord, I love to sing Your praises!
 I'm so glad You're in my life, I'm so glad You came to save us.
 You came from heaven to earth to show the Way;
 From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
 From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the skies,
 Lord, I lift Your name on high!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BRINGING OUR TITHES & OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"Woodworth"

by Charles Callahan

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below
 Praise God above ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost!

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION



*INVITATION

Jesus said: "I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table with joy and thanksgiving to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, Creator of us all, your face is turned towards your world. In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and death. Your Word goes out to call us home to the city where angels sing your praise. We join with them in heaven's song:

*SANCTUS (*spoken*):

**Holy, holy, holy God of mercy, giver of life;
earth and sea and sky and all that lives,
Declare Your presence and your glory!
Hosanna in the highest!**

Congregation may be seated.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

*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 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 and ever. Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD & THE CUP

All those wishing to know the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ are welcome at His table. We receive the bread and the cup together in the sanctuary or across the miles. The distance we keep for the health and safety of each other is dissolved in the unity given by our Lord. Please wait until all have been served, and we will receive the elements together.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*unison*)

by Erin Cox-Holmes

Christ Jesus, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross so that everyone might come within the reach of Your saving embrace: So clothe us in Your Spirit that we may reach out our hands in love. Give us grace to befriend the lost, to serve the poor, to reconcile our enemies, and to love our neighbors so we may honor Your name. Amen.

*HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory

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*BENEDICTION

. . . Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. AMEN!

*POSTLUDE

Fanfare in C

by Henry Purcell

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Songs & Scriptures for the Third Sunday in Lent

Lift High the Cross

vss. 1 – 3

Author: George William Kitchin, 1827-1912
(revised: Michael Robert Newbolt)

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim;
Let all adore His sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow
where our Savior trod,
the Lamb victorious, Christ,
the Son of God. [Refrain]

Each newborn servant of the Crucified
bears on the brow
the seal of Christ who died. [Refrain]

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
your death has brought
us life eternally. [Refrain]

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Lift High the Cross

*George William Kitchin (1827-1912)
Rev. by Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916; alt.*

John 1:29-34; Rom. 5:6-11; 6:3-8; Rev. 7:9-17; 22:1-5

Refrain, in unison

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim; Let

Last time, end

all a-dore and praise that sa-cred name.

Stanzas, in harmony

1 Come, Chris-tians, fol-low where our Sav-ior trod, the
2 Each new-born ser-vant of the Cru-ci-fied bears
3 O Christ, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree, your
4 Set up your throne, that earth's de-spair may cease, be-
5 So shall our song of tri-umph ev-er be: praise

to Refrain

Lamb vic-tor-ious, Christ the Child of God.
on the brow the seal of Christ who died.
death has brought us life e-ter-nal-ly.
neath the shad-ow of its heal-ing peace.
to the Cru-ci-fied for vic-to-ry.

Since its first inclusion in a U.S. hymnal in the 1970s, this hymn has become enormously popular. G. W. Kitchin and M. R. Newbolt were Church of England ministers. Sydney Nicholson was organist of Westminster Abbey.

Tune: CRUCIFER 10.10, with refrain
Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916

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God of Grace and God of Glory, vss. 1 – 3, 5

1 God of grace and God of glory,
 on thy people pour thy power;
 crown thine ancient church's story;
 bring its bud to glorious flower.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 for the facing of this hour,
 for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us
 scorn thy Christ, assail thy ways!
 From the fears that long have bound us
 free our hearts to faith and praise.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 for the living of these days,
 for the living of these days.

3 Cure thy children's warring madness,
 bend our pride to thy control;
 shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
 rich in things and poor in soul.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 lest we miss thy righteous goal,
 lest we miss thy righteous goal.

5 Save us from weak resignation
 to the evils we deplore;
 let the search for thy salvation
 be our glory evermore.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 serving thee whom we adore,
 serving thee whom we adore.

MISSION AND WITNESS

God of Grace and God of Glory 464

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3. Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4. Set our feet on loft - y pla - ces; fill our lives that
 5. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

1. pour thy power; crown thine an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
 2. sail thy ways! From the fears that long have bound us,
 3. thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 4. we may be strength - ened with all Christ - like gra - ces
 5. we de - plore; let the search for thy sal - va - tion

1. bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 2. free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 3. rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 4. pledged to set all cap - tives free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 5. be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

1. for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 2. for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 3. lest we miss thy righ - teous goal, lest we miss thy righ - teous goal.
 4. lest we fail our call from thee, lest we fail our call from thee.
 5. serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

WORDS: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
87.87.877

Alt. tune: REGENT SQUARE

EPISTLE (“*Letter to the Church*”) **1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise?

Where is the scribe?

Where is the debater of this age?

Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

For Jews demand signs

and Greeks desire wisdom,

but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks,

Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

GOSPEL**John 2:13-22**

NRSV

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-17

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;

You shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

. . . You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.

Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Thank you to our Worship Leaders

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|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Organist: | Carter Horman |
| Liturgist: | Terry Lasack |
| Videographer: | Julie Hoffmeier |
| Power Point: | Diane Esbaum |
| Council Ushers: | Janice Strackbein / Diane Esbaum |
| Acolytes: | Tucker and Ellie Coppess |
| Ministers: | All believers |
| Pastor: | Rev. Susan Schneider-Adams |