

Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—March 9, 2025



FIRST SUNDAY in LENT

Lent is the 40-day journey toward the cross and empty tomb. It marks a season of self-examination, repentance – a turning away from sin and establishing practices of righteousness and a commitment to the message of the cross. This year, we will be using the resource *“The Message of Jesus” by Adam Hamilton*. Copies of the book are available at the Atrium entrance area.

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 95:1-3, 6-7

- Leader: Come and sing to the Lord! Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- People: **Come into God’s presence with thanksgiving! Make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!**
- Leader: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
- People: **We worship and bow down; we kneel before the Lord, our Maker.**
- Leader: The Lord is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture, and the sheep of God’s hand.
- People: **Praise the Lord.**

*HYMN

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

#66 UMH

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
to the throne thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore God’s praises sing.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise the everlasting King.

Praise the Lord for grace and favor
to all people in distress;
praise God, still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glorious now God’s faithfulness.

Father-like, God tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame God knows;
mother-like, God gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Widely yet God’s mercy flows.

Angels in the heights, adoring,
you behold God face to face;
saints triumphant, now adoring,
gathered in from every race.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte (1834)

Music: John Goss (1869)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe Jesus Christ brought God’s Kingdom near,
calling all people to repent and believe the good news.**

We believe his death on the cross exposes both the reality of human sin and the depths of God’s selfless, sacrificial love. We believe his resurrection is God’s ultimate victory over sin, hate, evil, and death.

We believe that through the Holy Spirit, Jesus still calls us and all to repent and believe the gospel, yielding our hearts to God alone, embodying in our lives the justice, mercy, and love of God’s rule.

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SCRIPTURE

Psalm 99:1-4 (NRSVUE)

- ¹ The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble! God sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
² The Lord is great in Zion; God is exalted over all the peoples.
³ Let them praise your great and awesome name.
Holy is God!
⁴ Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

SINGING OUR FAVORITE HYMNS—8:20AM

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN—9:40AM

HYMN

He is Exalted
#2070 FWS

He is exalted, the king is exalted on high;
I will praise Him.
He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His name!
He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign;
Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

Words & Music: Twila Paris
© 1985 Straightway Music/Mountain Spring Music

CONFESSONAL PRAYER

Holy God, we confess we have failed to live as your holy people. We have cared for ourselves at others' expense. We have not answered your calls for justice and peace. We have harmed the creation you entrusted to our care and have ignored your image in our neighbors. In your mercy, forgive us. By your Holy Spirit, empower us to live as loyal subjects of your realm, and as more faithful followers of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

As we prepare to live as your disciples, hear us as we pray as you taught us to pray, saying:

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.

ASSURANCE

God has saved us from the power of darkness, bringing us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

HYMN

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I will praise Him.
He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His name!
He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign;
Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

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SCRIPTURE

Matthew 13:31-33 (NRSVUE)

³¹ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks Be to God.

GIVING

*RESPONSE

#95, UMH

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.

SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:14-15 (NRSVUE)

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks Be to God.

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Life in the
kingdom of God
is characterized by
humans who pursue
love: acts of kindness,
compassion, mercy,
goodness, and more.

THE MESSAGE OF JESUS

MESSAGE

The Kingdom of God Has Come Near
Rev. David W. Brown

*HYMN

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above
#126 UMH

Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled
and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

The Lord is never far away,
but through all grief distressing,
an ever present help and stay,
our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother's tender hand,
God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.

Thus, all my toilsome way along,
I sing aloud thy praises,
that earth may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,
both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory.

Let all who name Christ's holy name
give God all praise and glory;
let all who own his power proclaim
aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne,
for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.

Text: Johann J. Schütz (1675)
Translator: Francis E. Cox (1864)
Music: Maurice F. Bell (1906)

BENEDICTION

May the God who rules all things, Jesus Christ to
whom all knees shall bend, and the Holy Spirit who
spreads the Kingdom of Heaven bless you and keep
you, now and always. Amen.

*POSTLUDE

**Stand in body or in spirit*

Liturgist at 8:20 – Greg Bailie
Liturgist at 9:40 – Shelley Bamberger



*Gather for coffee and treats in the Atrium
following the 9:40am service!*

REGISTER YOUR
ATTENDANCE



ONLINE
GIVING



Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—March 9, 2024



SUPERCharge Event March 15

in the Worship Center

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Movie...*The Hill*,
Fellowship, Food, and Fun!

visit...armstrongchapel.org

Registration Open



Monthly Luncheon MARCH 12

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
National Exemplar
6880 Wooster Pike

RSVP to Niki Mitchell
nmitchell@armstrongchapel.org



CALLING ALL WOMEN

Guaranteed to help you
see God in any situation!

Featuring
**LAURIE POLICH
SHORT**

Come and be Our Guest
Invite a friend or family member
All ages welcome!

**INSPIRATIONAL TALK
AND LUNCHEON**
Starts at 11:00 am in the Worship Center
Followed by lunch in the Atrium

APRIL 5 DOORS OPEN
10:30 AM

RSVP by March 29 to Denise Scholtz dscholtz84@yahoo.com



Stay connected with

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