

**First Sunday in Lent
February 26, 2023**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship *(Time for Silent Preparation)*

 **Call to Worship** *(Responsively)*

Celia Weber

Let us worship God, who has done great things.

**We rejoice in our God, who made a way
through the desert of this world.**


Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy
to flow in the wasteland.

**We are the people God has formed through Christ;
we worship him, and we rejoice!**

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

We praise God for the grace that has saved us.

Alleluia! We rejoice!

 **Invocation** *(Responsively)*

Celia Weber

O Christ, Savior, like the seed fallen to the ground,
you suffered death.

United to you, our lives will bear much fruit.

We praise you, Lord.

O Christ, you went down to the lowest point of the human condition;
you remain close to all who are abandoned.

We praise you, Lord.

In your love you took upon yourself our sins;
innocent, you accepted death to free us from death.

We praise you, Lord.

By your love you conquered evil and hatred,
and you live forever at the Father's side.

We praise you, Lord.

You listen to us in your goodness, and you visit us in our misfortune;
fill our hearts to overflowing by revealing to us the light of your face.

We praise you, Lord. Amen.



Hymn

O Love that Will Not Let Me Go

*O love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths in flow
may richer, fuller be.*

*O light that follow'st all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.*

*O joy that seekest me through pain,
I can not close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.*

*O cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.*

Confessing

God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Celia Weber

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Prayer of Confession

Celia Weber

If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.
I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope.
My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning. Almighty God,
our Redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers
of forgiveness and hope. Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Celia Weber

By grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.
A-men, A-men.*

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation With joy, we offer our gifts to God as a sign of our
deep devotion and covenant faithfulness.

Offering

Offertory "Air from Overture in D" *Bach*

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men*

Prayer of Dedication

Compassionate God, we offer you these gifts as signs of our
time and labor. Receive the offering of our lives and feed us
with your grace, that in the midst of death all creation might
feast on your unending life in Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn 43

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Proclaiming

God speaks to us through His Word

Children's Sermon *There is Power in Touch* *Celia Weber*

Scripture Reading Mark 5:21-43

²¹ When Jesus had crossed over again by boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the sea. ²² One of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet ²³ and begged him earnestly, "My little daughter is dying. Come and lay your

hands on her so that she can get well and live.”²⁴ So Jesus went with him, and a large crowd was following and pressing against him.

²⁵ Now a woman suffering from bleeding for twelve years²⁶ had endured much under many doctors. She had spent everything she had and was not helped at all. On the contrary, she became worse.²⁷ Having heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his clothing.²⁸ For she said, “If I just touch his clothes, I’ll be made well.”²⁹ Instantly her flow of blood ceased, and she sensed in her body that she was healed of her affliction.

³⁰ Immediately Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and said, “Who touched my clothes?”

³¹ His disciples said to him, “You see the crowd pressing against you, and yet you say, ‘Who touched me?’”

³² But he was looking around to see who had done this.³³ The woman, with fear and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before him, and told him the whole truth.³⁴ “Daughter,” he said to her, “your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be healed from your affliction.”

³⁵ While he was still speaking, people came from the synagogue leader’s house and said, “Your daughter is dead. Why bother the teacher anymore?”

³⁶ When Jesus overheard what was said, he told the synagogue leader, “Don’t be afraid. Only believe.”³⁷ He did not let anyone accompany him except Peter, James, and John, James’s brother.³⁸ They came to the leader’s house, and he saw a commotion—people weeping and wailing loudly.³⁹ He went in and said to them, “Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but asleep.”⁴⁰ They laughed at him, but he put them all outside. He took the child’s father, mother, and those who were with him, and entered the place where the child was.⁴¹ Then he took the child by the hand and said to her, “Talitha koum” (which is translated, “Little girl, I say to you, get up”).⁴² Immediately the girl got up and began to walk. (She was twelve years old.) At this they were utterly astounded.⁴³ Then he gave them strict orders that no one should know about this and told them to give her something to eat.

Sermon

*“A Tale of Two Healings”
Rev. Tim Latham*

Responding *We respond to God’s Word*



Hymn 97

All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name



Profession of Faith

**I believe that God, because of Christ’s satisfaction,
will no longer remember
any of my sins
or my sinful nature
which I need to struggle against all my life.
Rather, by grace
God grants me the righteousness of Christ
to free me forever from judgment.**

Prayers of the People

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses



Mighty to Save

*Ev'ryone needs compassion
Love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me
Ev'ryone needs forgiveness
The kindness of a Saviour
The hope of nations*

*Chorus
Saviour He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave*

*Take me as You find me
All my fears and failures
Fill my life again
I give my life to follow
Ev'rything I believe in
Now I surrender*

Chorus

*Bridge
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King
Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King*

Chorus



Benediction & Blessing

*This morning's Prayer Partners are
Barb Finch and Dan Obenschain*



Postlude

Note: As an added safety measure during worship, the downstairs entrance doors will be locked after the first hymn (approx. 10:40). Please plan your arrival time accordingly.