### Third Sunday in Lent March 12, 2023

## Gathering God invites us to enter His presence

**Prelude** 

**Welcome & Announcements** 

**Preparation for Worship** (Time for Silent Preparation)

Call to Worship (Responsively)

Dan Obenschain

Let us worship God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ.

We are new creations; the old has gone, the new has come!

Let us worship God as Christ's ambassadors.

Through us and through our worship may we announce the good news to all.

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

Praise God! We are reconciled, redeemed, renewed!

Invocation (Responsively)

Dan Obenschain

Lord Jesus, we walk with you through the valley of the shadow of death.

Let us find our life in you, O Lord.

Banished from the Garden of Eden for our rebellion, we long for the garden of Paradise.

O Lord, you are the Christ.

Remember us in your kingdom.

We come to hear you speak of your love for us.

You have the words of eternal life. Amen.

#### Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed be Your name In the land that is plentiful Where Your streams of abundance flow Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name When I'm found in the desert place Though I walk through the wilderness Blessed be Your name

Pre-Chorus

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll Turn back to praise When the darkness closes in Lord Still I will say

Chorus

Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your name Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name When the sun's shining down on me When the world's all as it should be Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name When the sun's shining down on me When the world's all as it should be Blessed be Your name

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge (x2)
You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name

Chorus (x2)

## Confessing God invites us to be honest with Him

#### **Call to Confession**

Dan Obenschain

Remember that our Lord Jesus Christ is able to sympathize with us in our weaknesses. In every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Let us confess our sins to almighty God.

**Prayer of Confession** (Responsively)

Dan Obenschain

Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

#### Have mercy on us, O God.

We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us.

We have not been true to the mind of Christ.

We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

#### Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness:

the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

#### we confess to you, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people,

#### we confess to you, O God.

Our anger at our own frustration

and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

#### we confess to you, O God.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

#### we confess to you, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship

and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

#### we confess to you, O God.

Accept our repentance, O God,

for the wrongs we have done.

For our neglect of human need and suffering

and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

#### accept our repentance, O God.

For all false judgments,

for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,

and for our prejudice and contempt

toward those who differ from us,

#### accept our repentance, O God.

For our waste and pollution of your creation

and our lack of concern for those who come after us.

#### accept our repentance. O God.

Restore us, O God,

and let your anger depart from us.

Favorably hear us, O God,

for your mercy is great. Amen.

#### **Time for Silent Confession**

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

Dan Obenschain

Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

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 thankfulness we give in gratitude and joy.

With prayerfulness we give in sacrifice and love. With hopefulness we give in commitment to God.

Offering

Offertory I Just Came to Praise the Lord by Romero

(flute & piano duet)

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

We are not our own; we belong to you.
You have created us and given us life anew,
O God, our Creator, Savior, and Sustainer.
We extend our arms and open our hands
to present our offerings to you.
We make these gestures to display outwardly
our hearts' overflowing gratitude for all your gifts.
Receive these gifts from us, O Triune God,
and through them bring life and hope to many.
In the name of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Hymn 259 Breathe on Me, Breath of God

# Proclaiming God speaks to us through His Word

Children's Sermon God of the Impossible Susan Obenschain

#### **Scripture Reading**

Mark 10:17-31

- <sup>17</sup> As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up, knelt down before him, and asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- <sup>18</sup> "Why do you call me good?" Jesus asked him. "No one is good except God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: **Do not murder; do not commit adultery; do not steal; do not bear false witness; do not defraud; honor your father and mother.**"
- <sup>20</sup> He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these from my youth."
- <sup>21</sup>Looking at him, Jesus loved him and said to him, "You lack one thing: Go, sell all you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." <sup>22</sup> But he was dismayed by this demand, and he went away grieving, because he had many possessions.
- <sup>23</sup> Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!"
- <sup>24</sup> The disciples were astonished at his words. Again Jesus said to them, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God."
- <sup>26</sup> They were even more astonished, saying to one another, "Then who can be saved?"
- <sup>27</sup> Looking at them, Jesus said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God, because all things are possible with God."
- <sup>28</sup> Peter began to tell him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you."
- <sup>29</sup> "Truly I tell you," Jesus said, "there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for my sake and for the sake of the gospel, <sup>30</sup> who will not receive a hundred times more, now at this time —houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions —and eternal life in the age to come. <sup>31</sup> But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

#### Sermon

"The Rich Young Ruler" Rev. Tim Latham

## Responding We respond to God's Word



Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

Jesus I my cross have taken,
All to leave and follow Thee
Destitute, despised, forsaken
Thou from hence my all shalt be
Perish every fond ambition,
All I've sought or hoped or known
Yet how rich is my condition,

God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me
They have left my savior too
Human hearts and looks deceive me,
Thou art not like them untrue
Oh while thou dost smile upon me,
God of wisdom, love and might
Foes may hate and friends disown me,
Show thy face and all is bright.

Man they trouble and distress me, Twill but drive me to thy breast Life with trials hard may press me, Heaven will bring me sweeter rest Oh 'tis not in grief to harm me, While thy love is left to me Oh 'twere not in joy to charm me, Were that joy unmixed with thee.

Go then earthly fame and treasure, Come disaster, scorn and pain In thy service pain is pleasure, With thy favor loss is gain I have called thee Abba Father, I have stayed my heart on thee Storms may howl and clouds may gather, All must work for good to me.

Soul then know thy full salvation Rise o'er sin and fear and care Joy to find in every station, Something still to do or bear Think what Spirit dwells within thee, Think what Father's smiles are thine Think that Jesus died to win thee, Child of heaven, canst thou repine.

Haste thee on from grace to glory, Armed by faith and winged by prayer Heaven's eternal day's before thee, God's own hand shall guide thee there Soon shall close thy earthly mission, Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days Hope shall change to glad fruition, Faith to sight and prayer to praise.

## Profession of Faith (Heidelberg Catechism)

By Christ's power our old selves are crucified, put to death, and buried with him, so that the evil desires of the flesh may no longer rule us, but that instead we may offer ourselves as a sacrifice of gratitude to him.

### **Prayers of the People**

# <u>Commissioning</u> God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

Hymn 26 A Mighty Fortress

Benediction & Blessing

This morning's Prayer Partners are Carolyn Thompson, Don Titus

Postlude