

By Rev. Shawna Bowman

Worship for the Lord's Day

First Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025

9:30 am

Prelude

What Wondrous Love is This

arr. John Carter

Lighting the Christ Candle

Emily Jaycox

Words of Welcome

Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

***Opening Words:**

One: Jesus began his ministry to the world in the wilderness.

As we enter the wilderness space with Christ,

let our worship be:

**All: a wilderness space with room enough for our hunger and doubt,
a wild place where we might face failure and temptation
and claim the courage to begin again,
a desert place that won't let us hide in comfortability or turn away in fear,
a disrupting place that requires us to seek and find
the nourishing strength of a wilderness God.**

One: Let us worship together.

***Hymn 166**

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

Call to Confession

Warren Ali

One: Are you reluctant to enter the wilderness places?
The places where we are confronted with our true selves?
The places where we must go hungry?
The places where we face our own sorrow and pain?
The places where we learn from stillness?
The places where we must relinquish our desire to control every detail of our lives?
The places where the Wild, Holy Spirit sets our hearts free to dance and play?
Can we resist the temptation to use our power
to protect ourselves instead of one another?

**All: When we are reluctant to enter these wilderness places O God,
give us strength, give us courage, give us grace.**

Prayer of Confession

[silence is kept]

Assurance of God's Grace

One: God invites us into the wilderness, not to test us, but to honor the truth of our human predicament: one foot in the world as it is, and one foot in the kin'dom of love and liberation. We can only live fully into this kin'dom by returning again and again to God. In the midst of the wilderness, God loves us and wraps us in the grace of a thousand blessings in the face of our fear. In God's embrace we will find the strength to heal and let go of our need to control all things. Lift up your heads and return to the God who has come near to us, embodied in the love of Christ who nourishes us and shows us the way.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Sung Response 551

Lord, Have Mercy

LAND OF REST

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Rev. Alicia Reece

One: As a sign of our reconciliation with God and with one another, let us share the peace with one another. The Peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

*Sung Response 414 sing twice

Be Still and Know That I Am God

PSALM 46

Growing with God

Kristin Duy

*Following Growing with God, all children are invited to return to Grace Space,
or sit in the pews with their families.*

Sung Response 414 remain seated, sing once

Be Still and Know That I Am God

PSALM 46

Prayer for Inspiration

Warren

Scripture Reading

Luke 4:1-13

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. This is the Word of the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Wilderness Disruptions

Jessica Vazquez Torres

*Hymn 783

When We Are Tested

ANGELS OF HEALING

Offering Our Gifts to God

Invitation to Offering

Warren

Offertory

O Taste and See

John Bell

Chancel Choir

*Doxology words 607, tune 606

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

Warren



QRCode for Giving

use this QRCode to sign into the friendship pad



Minute for 30 Hour Famine

Holy Communion

Beth, Jessica, Alicia

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: (prayer continues) ...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing:



One: (prayer continues) ...Great is the mystery of faith:



The Lord's Prayer (using "sins")

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

The Breaking of the Bread Communion of the People

*Ushers will invite you to come forward for the receiving of communion.
 All are invited to come to the table using the center aisle and return via the outside aisles.
 The center station offers allergen-free wafers and prepackaged communion elements.
 The other two stations offer bread and grape juice.*

Communion Music

Just As I Am

arr. Joel Raney

Prayer After Communion (unison)

Gracious God, you have gathered us at this table with all the company of your people in heaven and on earth. In your mercy we have been nourished by the living bread, Jesus Christ, and we have been empowered by your Holy Spirit. Let us go out as disciples of our Lord, following in his way, proclaiming his truth, and living his love for the world. Amen.

*Hymn 100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

*Charge and Blessing

*Postlude

O Perfect Love

Joseph Barnby, arr. Lloyd Larson

* Please rise in spirit or body

All speak emboldened type

LITURGIST: Warren Ali

USHERS: Fox Ali, Geneva Ali

ONLINE WORSHIP HOST: Wendy Cook

AV: Erich Kretchmer, Liz Monson

COMMUNION SERVERS: Sam Dammers, Alicia Reese, Larry Schulz, Jessica Vazquez Torres, Michele Vickery

ACOLYTE: Emily Jaycox

Portions of liturgy written by the Rev. Shawna Bowman

Portion of liturgy by Sanctified Arts, <https://sanctifiedart.org>

LARGE PRINT hymnals are available from the ushers.

TODAY'S GUEST PREACHER & WORSHIP LEADERS



Jessica Vazquez Torres

Jessica is a proven leader with over 20 years of experience in antiracism, anti-oppression, and cultural competency workshop development and facilitation. Jessica is deeply committed to addressing social structures and cultural dynamics that marginalize and minoritize communities, limiting their access to the resources needed to thrive not just survive. A 1.5-generation ESL Queer Latina of Puerto Rican descent, Jessica holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Central Florida, a Master of Divinity from Christian Theological Seminary, and a

Master of Theological Studies from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. She lives with her spouse Laura and their 80-lb dog Maggie.



Rev. Alicia Reese

Alicia Reese joined Crossroad's organizing and facilitation team in November and also serves as an on-call hospital chaplain. She received her Master of Divinity from McCormick Theological Seminary and is ordained PC(USA). Alicia lives in the Uptown neighborhood of Chicago with her spouse and three fur babies.

Next Sunday in Worship, March 16

Second Sunday of Lent

Luke 10:38 - 42

Mary & Martha: *faith & works*



VISITING CPC? WELCOME!

We believe feeling welcome is foundational for members and visitors to be open to the journey of lifelong faith formation and growth. If you've felt a sense of welcome at CPC and are curious in learning more about us, reach out to Erin James, Community Connector, to chat by email erinjames1@comcast.net or by phone at (630) 649-0151.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

PC(USA) Special Offering

March 5 - April 13

Gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing support efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Fish banks for children and adults are available in the narthex. We continue to share updates about how the PC(USA) distributes and supports many different initiatives through this special offering. We will dedicate these donations on Palm / Passion Sunday, April 13.

This week at CPC:

Sunday, March 9
Communion

Daylight Savings Time Starts

9:30 am — Worship

NO Faith Formation - children remain in worship

10:45 am — Trouble the Water; Chapel

11:30 am — 30 hour Famine Ends

Monday, March 10

7:00 pm — Session; Chapel & Zoom

Tuesday, March 11

1:30 pm — Staff Meeting, Chapel / Zoom

Wednesday, March 12

6:30 pm — Lenten Meditative Worship & Communion;
Gathering Room

7:00 pm — Chancel Choir; Sanctuary

7:00 pm — Manse Task Force; Chapel

Thursday, March 13

9:00 am — Read * Share * Pray

7:00 pm — Clarion Bell Choir rehearsal; Sanctuary

Friday, March 14

Saturday, March 15

Sunday, March 16

9:30 am — Worship

9:45 am — Faith Formation; LL Rm 6

10:45 am — Adult Ed: Chapel/ Zoom

5:00 pm — HS & MS Cubes; LL

NURSERY CARE

The Nursery will be staffed by our volunteers **this Sunday**. The Nursery is located across from the church office on the main floor and is always open for use, even when not staffed by our volunteers.



BIBLE EXPLORERS

March 23 & April 27

During Sunday worship service

All kids in 4th - 6th grade are encouraged to participate in our Bible Explorers group.

These sessions will be exciting and engaging. Kids will get a chance to interact with their friends and their Bibles in ways that equip and inspire them to read their Bibles regularly at home.



LENDING LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT~

The Good for Nothing Tree

A tiny fig tree needs time to grow. But how much time? All four seasons go by . . . and there are no figs. The seasons pass again. Still no figs! Is the fig tree good for nothing?

Inspired by the parable of the Barren Fig Tree, *The Good for Nothing Tree* reminds us that the sweetest figs, like many other things, are worth waiting for. Not every tree—and not every child—grows at the same pace. Yet patience, care, and love can change everything, making what may appear “good for nothing” very good.

***The Good For Nothing Tree* is available in the Lending Library...check it out!**



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING ~ FISH BANKS

March 9 - April 20

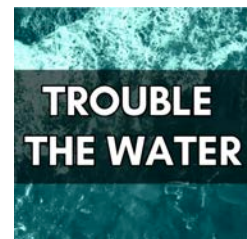
Fish banks are available for anyone wanting to participate in the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering. You can pick up a fish bank and a Sharing Calendar in the Narthex. Each day read the Sharing Calendar and reflect on the questions. You can then place a gift in your fish bank. We will collect the banks and celebrate your generosity on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

ADULT EDUCATION TODAY

Trouble the Water

10:45 - Noon, Chapel & Zoom

We gather for the concluding session of ***Trouble the Water*** led by Jessica Vazquez Torres and Alicia Reese, leaders from Crossroads Antiracism Organizing and Training. Even if you were unable to attend the first three sessions, we encourage all to participate in this session. All are welcome!





ADULT EDUCATION FOR LENT: *Turning Over Tables*

Starts March 16

10:45 - Noon, Chapel & Zoom

Starting March 16, Sunday morning classes will be based on the book *Turning Over Tables: A Lenten Call for Disrupting Power*, by Kathy Escobar.

This book has daily readings throughout Lent and Easter. It asks us as individuals to consider how we can challenge power when it is appropriate as Christians to do so.

For the study to be most effective and satisfying, each of us will work through the book on our own each week. Then we will meet together on Sunday morning and discover more together. Please join us in this journey!

Books are available in the narthex. Please pick up your copy and get started. Our first class on March 16 will cover the first three chapters of the book.

Season of LENT

**Everything [in] Between:
Meeting God in the midst of extremes**

This Lent, we study Jesus' journey to Jerusalem as told through the stories of Luke; stories we know: Mary and Martha, the fig tree, Zacheus and more. In each of these is an example of the dichotomy of life. For example, in the Mary and Martha story we have work and rest; the Good Samaritan: stranger and neighbor, etc.



In the logo, the two hands reaching toward each other represent our longing for connection despite the politics, assumptions, beliefs, and narratives that divide us. The hands look as if they are reaching in for a handshake, but they are paused just before they connect. The negative space in between the hands creates the shape of a doorway, symbolizing hospitality or a pathway forward. The doorway invites us to look for God in the spaces in between. This Lenten Season, may we meet God in the midst of extremes.



CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP AND COMMUNION

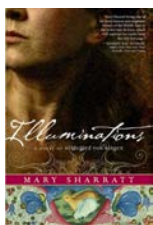
Wednesdays in Lent

March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9

6:30 - 6:55 pm

Gathering Room / Zoom

Pausing for 25 minutes to listen to scripture, poetry, examine and ponder art and share in communion may be just what you need this year. Open yourself to the Spirit and trust you will meet God in the midst of the extremes of our everyday life.



READ*SHARE*PRAY

Thursdays

9:00 - 10:30 am

Chapel / Zoom

Join us on Thursday mornings for a book discussion on the novel entitled *Illuminations*, a novel of the life and spiritual journey of Hildegard von Bingen.



EXODUS: CELEBRATION OF HOPE DINNER
Thursday, April 3
Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace
 5:00-6:00 pm Check-In & Reception
 6:00-8:15 pm Complimentary Dinner & Program

You're invited to a joy-filled evening in support of welcoming refugees!

On April 3, join with fellow church members at Drury Lane for *Celebration of Hope*. Our friends at Exodus World Service will share inspiring stories of refugees and their connections with the volunteers who welcome them. There will be exciting updates on new ways to welcome, as well as an opportunity to partner with Exodus to help give refugees practical help and hope as they rebuild their lives. Register and learn more at exodusworldservice.org. Contact Linda Cirillo at lcirillo2@comcast.net with questions.



SUNDAY MARCH 23
LEONARDO GARCIA ALTINO – CELLIST
Worship Music

We are excited to welcome back cellist Leo Altino to worship at CPC. Brazilian-American cellist Leonardo Garcia Altino has performed with leading orchestras, including the Boston Symphony and Odense Symphony. By fourteen, he had already appeared as a soloist with every major orchestra in Brazil. A winner of the Viña del Mar International Cello Competition, he has performed across the Americas, Europe, and Asia. Praised by *The Strad Magazine* for his “exceptional musical intelligence and an exceptionally cultivated sound,” he is currently a faculty member at the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music.



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