



Worship for the Lord's Day Third Sunday of Lent

March 23, 2025

9:30 am

Prelude

Suite #2 in d minor (Prelude), BWV 1008
Leonardo Altino, cello

J.S. Bach

Lighting the Christ Candle

Ty Skupien

Words of Welcome

Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

***Opening Words:**

One: Worship is a place to rest.

All: We breathe deeply here.

One: We still our aching bones.

All: We sit in the quiet.

One: We surround ourselves with music.

All: Worship is a place to rest.

One: Worship is a place to grow.

All: We listen for God's word.

One: We invite it to challenge us.

All: We lean in with curiosity.

One: We ask questions.

All: Worship is a place to grow.

One: So come into this space. Come rest and grow here.

All: For where two or more are gathered, God is always there.

Let us worship our gracious God.

Call to Confession

Michele Vickery

One: Friends, we carve out time for confession in worship because it is not enough to hear about God’s grace once. We need that reminder again, and again, and again.
So join me in speaking the truth of our lives, and join me in receiving God’s grace again.

Prayer of Confession

**All: Holy God, there are days when we fail to rest.
We stretch ourselves too thin. We say “yes” to every invitation. We run a million miles a minute. We ignore your command to rest.
There are also days when we fail to act.
We wait for someone else. We take the easy road. We find excuses and justify our inaction. God, forgive our imbalance. Remind us that birds rest, and they also fly.
Show us how to do the same. Amen.**

Assurance of God’s Grace

One: Family of faith, I have good news! Our God does not keep score. Our God does not hold grudges. Our God does not assume the worst about us. No, our God offers grace, and endless second chances, and boundless love. So join me in proclaiming the good news of the gospel:
**All: God’s grace is deeper than the ocean. God’s love is wider than the sky. We are seen. We are claimed. We are forgiven. May this realization change and inspire us.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

***Sung Response 551**

Lord, Have Mercy

LAND OF REST

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

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 go to Faith Formation class in LL6 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

Michele

Scripture Reading

Luke 13:6-9

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. This is the Word of the Lord!
All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Everything [in] between **rest & growth**

Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

***Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe in a God who loves and tends to us like a gardener.
We believe that like the trees, some seasons are for growth, and some seasons are for rest.
Some days require pruning, and some require planting.
Fortunately, we believe that our green-thumbed God sees us and cultivates the sweetest fruit.
So may we plant roots, reach for the sky, grow where we can,
and rest when we need,
for we believe there is holiness in the pruning and in the planting.
And we do not grow alone. Thanks be to God, amen.**

***Hymn 442**

Just as I Am, without One Plea

WOODWORTH

Offering Our Gifts to God



Invitation to Offering

Michele

Offertory

Wayfaring Stranger

Craig Courtney

Chancel Choir with Leonardo Altino, cello

QRCode for Giving

***Doxology** words 607, tune 606 *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDRETH

***Prayer of Dedication**

Church Tidings

use this QRCode to sign into the friendship pad



Beth

Joys & Concerns

God's People Pray / 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.**

***Hymn 649**

Amazing Grace

AMAZING GRACE

***Charge and Blessing**

***Postlude**

Amazing Grace ("New Britain")

arr. John Carter

* Please rise in spirit or body

All speak emboldened type

LITURGIST: Michele Vickery

ONLINE WORSHIP HOST: Brendan Cock

ACOLYTE: Ty Skupien

LITURGY & ART created by A Sanctified Art, used with permission, www.sanctifiedart.org

USHERS: Doug James, Erin James

AV: Fox Ali, Erich Kretchmer

LARGE PRINT hymnals are available from the ushers.

Next Sunday in Worship, March 30
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Luke 15:1-7

Everything [in] between *lost* & *found*



Guest Preacher: The Rev. Judy Hockenberry

Judy is a retired Presbyterian Minister. She served churches and retirement communities in Syracuse, New York, Louisville, Kentucky, and Arlington Heights, Illinois for close to 40 years. She and her husband have 3 adult children and twin grandsons. Her husband, Ken Hockenberry, works for the Presbytery of Chicago. In her retirement Judy enjoys guest preaching and volunteering at Northwest Community Hospital. She and their miniature labradoodle, Penny, take long walks when it is above 25 degrees outside! She has been passionate about the Chicago Cubs since the age of 9.



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.



Welcome Back:

LEONARDO GARCIA ALTINO – CELLIST

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.

This week at CPC:

Sunday, March 23

9:30 am — Worship

9:45 am — Faith Formation; LL Rm 6
9:45 am — Bible Explorers; Gathering Room
10:45 am — Adult Ed; Chapel / Zoom
5:00 pm — MS Cubes; LL Rm 8
5:00 pm — HS Cubes; LL Youth Lounge

Monday, March 24

7:00 pm — Deacons; Chapel / Zoom

Tuesday, March 25

9:15 am — PW Circle 1; Gathering Room
10:00 am — PW Circle 4; Oak Trace
1:00 pm — PW Circle 2; Gathering Room
1:30 pm — Staff Meeting; Chapel / Zoom
7:00 pm — A & P; Chapel / Zoom
7:00 pm — PW Circle 3; Gathering Room

Wednesday, March 26

6:30 pm — Contemplative Worship & Communion;
Gathering Room/Zoom
7:00 pm — Chancel Choir; Sanctuary

Thursday, March 27

9:00 am — Read * Share * Pray; Chapel / Zoom
7:00 pm — Clarion Bell Rehearsal; Sanctuary
7:30 pm — M E & O committee; Chapel / Zoom

Friday, March 28

Saturday, March 29

Sunday, March 30

9:30 am — Worship

9:45 am — Faith Formation; LL Rm 6
10:45 am — Adult Ed; Chapel / Zoom
No Youth Group



FAITH FORMATION CLASS

Join us this Sunday as we learn about the parable of the fig tree (Luke 13:6-9). The children will listen to the book *The Good for Nothing Tree* and discuss the importance of being patient with themselves and others. They will end their time by making a Tree collage.



NURSERY CARE

The Nursery will be staffed by our volunteers on **April 20**. 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

This Sunday & 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.

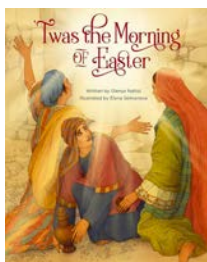


LENDING LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT~

The One Day House

Wilson dreams of all the ways he can help improve his friend Gigi's house so that she'll be warm, comfortable, and happy. One day, friends and neighbors from all over come to help make Wilson's plans come true. Everyone volunteers to pitch in to make Gigi's house safe, clean, and pretty. Inspired by a friend's volunteerism, author Julia Durango tells a story of community and togetherness, showing that by helping others we help ourselves.

Check out *The One Day House* in the Lending Library!



EASTER STORY WALK

Palm Sunday thru Easter Sunday

Take a walk through the garden at church on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday and read the story *Twas the Morning of Easter*.

Kids can collect Easter Eggs along the way and each family will receive a copy of the book at the end of the walk!



ADULT EDUCATION FOR LENT: *Turning Over Tables*

Sundays

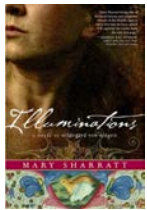
10:45 Chapel & Zoom

We continue our study of the book *Turning Over Tables: A Lenten Call for Disrupting Power*, by Kathy Escobar.

The daily readings discuss power – how we use it and how it influences us and others in the world in which we live together. We work through a chapter of the book on our own each week. Then we meet together on Sunday morning and discover more together. Please join us in this journey!

This week’s class will cover the chapter Week Two: **Lament**. Michele Vickery will be our leader this Sunday.

A few books are still available at the church. **Please pick up your copy and get started.** Then join us in the chapel or on Zoom at 10:45. NOTE: This is a new Zoom link specifically for Sunday morning Adult Education. [Zoom link](#)



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.

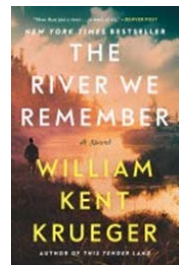
Circle of Voices: DATE CHANGE FOR APRIL MEETING

Wednesday, April 23

9:30 am

Gathering Room

Circle of Voices will meet on **Wednesday April 23rd** at 9:30am in the Gathering Room at CPC. Our book is *The River We Remember* by William Kent Krueger. All are welcome to join the discussion, even if you have not finished or read the book. The book will be available at the end of March at the Clarendon Hills Library. Traditionally we enjoy lunch together at a local restaurant. For more information, contact Barb Coop.



MEAL A MONTH COLLECTION

Food pantries are in desperate need. Fill a bag with non-perishable grocery items to be donated to Hinsdale Community Services.

The suggested menu is:

- Cereal and Pancake Mix Rice
- Mac & Cheese Canned Tuna or Chicken
- Peanut Butter & Jelly Salad Dressing
- Beans Paper Products



Any non-perishable items will be most welcome! Pick up a bag in the narthex or use your own and return to CPC. Thank you for your generous donations.



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.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING ~ FISH BANKS

March 5 - April 13

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.



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, Zacheaus 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 26, April 2, 9

6:30 - 6:55 pm

Gathering Room / Zoom

[Zoom Link](#)

Pausing for 25 minutes to listen to scripture and 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.



Lenten Devotion Books: FREE

Follow the rhythm of Lent through weekly writings that follow the scripture for each Sunday worship. Poetry, art, prayers and teachings will illuminate your personal study as you reflect and walk these days with Jesus.



EXODUS: CELEBRATION OF HOPE DINNER

Thursday, April 3

Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace

RSVP to Linda by TODAY

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.



**ALL INVITED TO JOIN PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
Road Scholar Adventure!
Tuesday, April 8
12:30 PM, Fellowship Hall**

We'll start with a scrumptious dessert and fellowship and then hear an educational lecture by Merrill Medansky of Road Scholar.

Road Scholar offers group travel experiences across the U.S. and around the world, ranging from four days to four months. Think of it as a “university of the world.” Road Scholar’s mission is to inspire adults to learn, discover and travel. Their learning adventures engage expert instructors, provide extraordinary access, and stimulate discourse and friendship among people for whom learning is the journey of a lifetime. Regardless of the topic, you will learn something with every Road Scholar program, and your curiosity will be piqued to learn and discover more! A zest for learning is a zest for life.



**KIDS' ACADEMY FUNDRAISER
Spring Flower / Plant Sale
Orders due Sunday, April 13**

Please order your Spring flowers and plants from the Kids' Academy (KA) sale! All proceeds benefit the KA Tuition Assistance Fund, ensuring all children have access to quality preschool and before / after school care for elementary aged children.

[Click here to order online.](#)



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