

Welcome to **OUR SAVIOUR'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
343 Scott Street, Ripon Wisconsin (920) 748-2544
www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com

Mid-week Lenten Service

April 2, 2025

** All who are able please stand*

L: Leader; P: People

PRELUDE

Accompanist: Nicole Burdick

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Let us worship God, for whom our souls' thirst and our bodies long.

P: Listen, listen to me, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.

L: We have come to hear the Word God has sent.

P: God's Word will not return empty but will accomplish through us his holy purpose.

L: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

P: Then we will go out with joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills will sing; the trees of the field will clap their hands.

*HYMN: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

R129/Insert

OPENING PRAYER

ALL: O God, in creation you fashion us in your image, in Christ you reveal to us your love, through the Holy Spirit, you welcome us into the fellowship of believers; we bow in gratitude before you. We constantly distort your image, but still, you restore it. We daily betray your love, but still, you extend it. We often disrupt fellowship, but still, you bless it. Come unto us at this time and in this place, O Lord, that your image in us might be revealed, your love for us returned, and our fellowship in Christ renewed. Amen.

WITNESS OF FAITH: 1 Timothy: 5:1-6:2a

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: God of compassion, you are slow to anger and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts. Receive in your loving embrace all who come home to you. Seat them at your bountiful table of grace, that, with all your children, they may feast with delight on all that satisfies the hungry heart. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,

our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. [Silent Reflection]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: The Lord God said: I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. Brothers and sisters: In Christ, all God's promises are "Yes." Hear the good news: Through Christ, our minds and hearts are cleansed, healed, and renewed!

P: Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION: "Duties Toward Believers"

Keith Mulder

HYMN: "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

R239/Insert

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

L: 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 amid death all creation might feast on your unending life in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

L: God of all times and places, as we leave this place of worship, help us to know that there is no place we might go that will separate us from you. With this sure knowledge, give us Spirit-inspired courage and imagination to discern faithful ways of responding to every person we will meet this week and to every situation we will encounter. May our Lenten vows of faithfulness lead us to joyful obedience all week long.

P: Amen.

BENEDICTION

L: May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL: Amen.

*Postlude

1 Timothy: 5:1-6:2a

Do not speak harshly to an older man, but speak to him as to a father, to younger men as brothers, to older women as mothers, to younger women as sisters—with absolute purity.

Honor widows who are really widows. If a widow has children or grandchildren, they should first learn their religious duty to their own family and make some repayment to their parents; for this is pleasing in God's sight.

The real widow, left alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day; but the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. Give these commands as well, so that they may be above reproach. And whoever does not provide for relatives, and especially for family members, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Let a widow be put on the list if she is not less than sixty years old and has been married only once; she must be well attested for her good works, as one who has brought up children, shown hospitality, washed the saints' feet, helped the afflicted, and devoted herself to doing good in every way. But refuse to put younger widows on the list; for when their sensual desires alienate them from Christ, they want to marry, and so they incur condemnation for having violated their first pledge. Besides that, they learn to be idle, gadding about from house to house; and they are not merely idle, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not say. So, I would have younger widows marry, bear children, and manage their households, so as to give the adversary no occasion to revile us. For some have already turned away to follow Satan. If any believing woman has relatives who are really widows, let her assist them; let the church not be burdened, so that it can assist those who are real widows.

Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching; for the scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain," and, "The laborer deserves to be paid." Never accept any accusation against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses. As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest also may stand in fear. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels, I warn you to keep these instructions without prejudice, doing nothing on the basis of partiality. Do not ordain anyone hastily, and do not participate in the sins of others; keep yourself pure.

No longer drink only water, but take a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.


The sins of some people are conspicuous and precede them to judgment, while the sins of others follow them there. So also good works are conspicuous; and even when they are not, they cannot remain hidden.

Let all who are under the yoke of slavery regard their masters as worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be blasphemed. Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful to them on the grounds that they are members of the church; rather they must serve them all the more, since those who benefit by their service are believers and beloved.

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Phil. 3:7-8
Isaac Watts, 1707

HAMBURG L.M.
Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1825



1. When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2. For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the
3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, Sor - row and
4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss, And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all.

*In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Gal. 6:14
John Bowring, 1825

RATHBUN 8.7.8.7.
Ithamar Conkey, 1851

1. In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tower - ing o'er the wrecks of time;
2. When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de - ceive and fears an - noy,
3. When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and love up - on my way,
4. Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, By the cross are sanc - ti - fied;

All the light of sa - cred sto - ry Gath - ers 'round its head sub - lime.
Nev - er shall the cross for - sake me: Lo! it glows with peace and joy.
From the cross the ra - diance stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.
Peace is there that knows no mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.