

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

Mid-week Lenten Service

March 18, 2026

** 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: Psalm 102

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: "A Prayer for Help"

Rev. Mundell

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

Psalms 102: Prayer to the Eternal King for Help

A prayer of one afflicted, when faint and pleading before the LORD.

1 Hear my prayer, O LORD; let my cry come to you.

2 Do not hide your face from me in the day of my distress.

Incline your ear to me; answer me speedily in the day when I call.

For my days pass away like smoke, and my bones burn like a furnace.

4 My heart is stricken and withered like grass; I am too wasted to eat my bread.

5 Because of my loud groaning my bones cling to my skin.

6 I am like an owl of the wilderness, like a little owl of the waste places.

7 I lie awake; I am like a lonely bird on the housetop.

8 All day long my enemies taunt me;

those who deride me use my name for a curse.

9 For I eat ashes like bread, and mingle tears with my drink,

10 because of your indignation and anger;

for you have lifted me up and thrown me aside.

11 My days are like an evening shadow; I wither away like grass.

But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever; your name endures to all generations.

13 You will rise up and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to favor it; the appointed time has come.

14 For your servants hold its stones dear, and have pity on its dust.

15 The nations will fear the name of the LORD,
and all the kings of the earth your glory.

16 For the LORD will build up Zion; he will appear in his glory.

17 He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and will not despise their prayer.

Let this be recorded for a generation to come,

so that a people yet unborn may praise the LORD:

19 that he looked down from his holy height,

from heaven the LORD looked at the earth,

20 to hear the groans of the prisoners,

to set free those who were doomed to die;

21 so that the name of the LORD may be declared in Zion,

and his praise in Jerusalem,

22 when peoples gather together, and kingdoms, to worship the LORD.

He has broken my strength in midcourse; he has shortened my days.

24 "O my God," I say, "do not take me away at the mid-point of my life,
you whose years endure throughout all generations."

Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth,

and the heavens are the work of your hands.

26 They will perish, but you endure; they will all wear out like a garment.

You change them like clothing, and they pass away;

27 but you are the same, and your years have no end.

28 The children of your servants shall live secure;

their offspring shall be established in your presence.

*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.