

Welcome to **OUR SAVIOUR'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
343 Scott Street, Ripon Wisconsin (920) 748-2544
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Mid-week Lenten Service March 20, 2024

** All who are able please stand* *L: Leader; P: People*
PRELUDE Accompanist: Terri Wilke

WORDS OF WELCOME

L: Lord God, in this season of Lent we look forward to our remembrance of Jesus' death and our celebration of his resurrection. We pray that your Spirit will renew in us today our anticipation for these events and our awareness that Jesus' death and resurrection are a sure source of hope and life. In the power of Jesus' name we pray.

P: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Let us worship God, for whom our souls thirst and our bodies long. Listen, listen to me, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.

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

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

P: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth. 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: "God of Grace and God of Glory" R198/Insert

*INVOCATION

ALL: God of all hope, we gather today so deeply aware of the world's grief and pain—and our own. Comfort us, we pray, with the sure knowledge that our Lenten journey culminates in Easter joy. Amen!

WITNESS OF FAITH: Matthew 25:31-46

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree that we might die to sins and live for righteousness. By his wounds we are healed.

Let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Most merciful God whose Son, Jesus Christ, was tempted in every way, yet was without sin, we confess before you our own sinfulness; we have hungered after that which does not satisfy; we have compromised with evil;

we have doubted your power to protect us. Forgive our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness. Restore in us such trust and love that we may walk in your ways and delight in doing your will. Amen.

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!

HYMN: "Father, Eternal Ruler" R145/Insert

MEDITATION: "The Sheep and the Goats" Rev. Kevin Mundell

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" R129/Insert

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

L: Mighty God and Father, you overwhelm us with your great mercy. At the time of our greatest need you surprised us with your wondrous love. Jesus offered his life for us to remove our dreadful curse. As you draw us into this renewing relationship of love, may we respond with gratitude as we offer the substance of our souls to continue the ministry of Christ. For his name and glory we pray and present our gifts.

P: Amen.

*LENTEN BENEDICTION

L: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

P: Amen.

*Postlude

Scripture: **Matthew 25:31-46**

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

God of Grace and God of Glory

R198

CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930

John Hughes, 1907

1. God of grace and God of glo-ry, On thy peo-ple pour they power; Crown thine an-cient church's sto-ry; Bring her bud to glo-rious flower. Grant us wis-dom, Grand us cour-age, For the Facing of this hour, For the fac-ng of this hour.
2. Lo! The hosts of e-vil round us Scorn thy Christ, as-sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us, Free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis-dom, Grand us cour-age, For the liv-ing of these days, For the liv-ing of these days.
3. Cure thy chil-dren's war-ring mad-ness; bend our pride to thy control; Shame our wan-ton self-ish glad-ness, Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis-dom, Grand us cour-age, Lest we miss thy king-dom's goal, Lest we miss thy king-dom's goal.
4. Set our feet on loft-y pla-ces; Gird our lives that they may be Ar-mored with all Christ-like gra-ces In the fight to set men free. Grant us wis-dom, Grant us cour-age, That we fail not man nor thee, That we fail not man nor thee.
5. Save us from weak res-ig-na-tion To the e-vils we de-plore; Let the search for thy sal-va-tion Be our glo-ry ev-er-more. Grant us wis-dom, Grant us cour-age, Serv-ing thee whom we a-dore, Serv-ing thee whom we a-dore.

Sunset to Sunrise

R132

Clement of Alexandria, c170-220
Para. By Howard C. Robbins, 1938

WARHAM L.M.
William Knapp, 1738

1. Sun-set to sun-rise chang-es now, For God doth make his world a-new; On the
Re-deem-er's thorn-crowned brow The won-ders of that dawn we view.
2. E'en though the sun with-holds its light, Lo! A more heav'n-ly lamp shines here, And
from the cross on Cal-v'r's height Gleams of e-ter-ni-ty ap-pear.
3. Here in o'er-whelm-ing fi-nal strife The Lord of life hath vic-to-ry; And sin is slain, and
death brings life, And sons of earth hold heav'n in fee.

Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended

R128

Johann Heermann, 1630
Issac Watts, 1707

HERZLIEBSTER JESU 11.11.11.5.
Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1825

1. When I sur-vey the won-drous cross On which the Prince of glo-ry died, My rich-est gain I count my loss, And pour con-tempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that charm me most I sac-ri-fice them to his blood.
3. See, from his head, his hands, his fee, Sor-row and love min-gled down! Did e-er such love and sor-row meet, Or thorns comp-ose so rich a crown?
4. Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tri-bute far too small; Love so a-maz-ing, so di-vine, De-mands my soul, my life, my all.