

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 13, 2024

** All who are able please stand*

L: Leader; P: People

PRELUDE

Accompanist: Nicole Burdick

WORDS OF WELCOME

L: Holy and loving God, as we worship you today, we long for your Spirit to both comfort and challenge us, to help us become more holy and more loving. In a world that does not understand repentance, we pray for new understanding, humility, patience, and discipline that will help us die to sin and live for Jesus.

P: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The trumpet of the Lord sounds, calling us to examine our souls, for we have not only met temptation, we have felt its grip.

P: The trumpet of the Lord sounds, calling us to mend our ways, for we have not only committed sin, we have felt its sting.

L: The trumpet of the Lord sounds, calling us to rend our hearts, for we have not only witnessed forgiveness, we have felt its power.

P: O come, let us worship the Lord!

*HYMN: "At the Name of Jesus" R69/Insert

*INVOCATION

ALL: Journey with us, O holy God, as we begin [continue] our way to the cross. Sharpen our focus, that our attention may center more on you than ourselves. Lead us through the shadows of darkness and prepare our hearts, that we might be a people of prayer, ready to perceive and respond to your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ. In his name we pray. Amen.

WITNESS OF FAITH: Matthew 25:14-30

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: During his whole life on earth, but especially at the end, Christ sustained in body and soul the anger of God against the sin of the whole human race. In response to his sacrifice, let us confess our sins to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Almighty God, you despise nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts,

that, truly repenting of our sins and acknowledging our brokenness, we may obtain from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Receive the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

P: Thanks be to God!

HYMN: "Sunset to Sunrise" R132/Insert

MEDITATION: "The Talents" Rev. Kevin Mundell

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN: "Ah, Holy Jesus" R128/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 25:14-30**

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time, the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so, I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return, I would have received what was my own with interest. So, take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

At the Name of Jesus

R69

Phil. 2:5-11

Caroline M. Noel, 1861

KING'S WESTON 6.5.6.5.D

R. Vaughn Williams, 1925

1. At the name of Je-sus Ev-ery knee shall bow, Ev-ery tongue con-fess him King of glo-ry now: 'Tis the Fa-ther's plea-sure We should call him Lord, Who from the be-gin-ning Was the might-y Word.
2. Hum-bled for a sea-son, To receive a name From the lips of sin-ners, Un-to whom he came. Faith-ful-ly he bore it, Spotless to the last, Brought it back vic-to-rious, When from death he passed.
3. Bore it up tri-umphant, With its human light, Through all ranks of crea-tures, To the central height, To the throne of God-head, To the Fa-ther's breast; Filled it with the glory of that per-fect rest.
4. In your hearts en-throne him; There let him subdue All that is not ho-ly, All that is not true. Crown him as your cap-tain In temp-ta-tion's hour; Let his will en-fold you In it's light and power.

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. Ah, Ho-ly Je-sus, how hast thou of-fend-ed, That man to judge thee hath in hate pre-tend-ed? By foes de-rid-ed, by thine own re-ject-ed, O most af-flict-ed!
2. Who was the guilt-y? Who brought this upon thee? A-las, my trea-son, Jes-us, hath un-done thee! 'Twas I, Lord Je-sus, I it was de-nied thee; I cru-ci-fied thee.
3. For me, kind Jesus, was thy in-car-na-tion, thy mor-tal sor-row, and thy life's ob-la-tion; Thy death of an-guish and thy bit-ter pas-sion, For my sal-va-tion.
4. There-fore, kind Je-sus, since I can-not pay thee, I do a-dore thee, and will ev-er pray thee, Think on thy pit-y and thy love un-swerv-ing, Not my de-serv-ing.