FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 9, 2025
11:00 AM

As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Rev. Timothy T. Boggess

PRELUDE *It is Well With My Soul* arr. Dr. Tom Andrews

CALL TO WORSHIP Floyd Churn

adapted from Psalm 51

Cleanse our hearts, O God,
and breathe new life into our spirits.
Hold us close,
and reveal your presence to us.
Refresh us with joy,
and renew us with hope.

***HYMN 39** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* FAITHFULNESS

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:
Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer,
We confess that we have tried to hide from you,
for we have done wrong.
We have lived for ourselves and apart from you.
We have turned from our neighbors
and refused to bear the burdens of others.
We have ignored the pain of the world
and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed.

In your great mercy forgive our sins
and free us from selfishness,
that we may choose your will
and obey your commandments;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.

(a moment for silent reflection)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

***SONG OF JOY 269** (v. 2) *Lead On, O King Eternal* LANCASHIRE

Lead on, O King eternal,
till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper
the sweet amen of peace;
for not with swords' loud clashing,
nor roll of stirring drums;
with deeds of love and mercy
the heavenly kingdom comes.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

MOMENT FOR DISCIPLESHIP - CARITAS FOOD PANTRY Alison Stottlemyer

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *Ain't Got Time To Die* Hall Johnson
(The Chancel Choir, with Matt Jarvis, soloist)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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SCRIPTURE READING Luke 10:25-37

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *An Inconvenient Truth* Rev. Boggess

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Floyd Churn

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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors:
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *At the Name of Jesus* Ralph Vaughan Williams

***DOXOLOGY 608** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* PRAISE GOD (Hopson)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

from *The Study Catechism* (1998)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Floyd Churn

Who are the needy?
The hungry need bread, the homeless need a roof,
the oppressed need justice, and the lonely need fellowship.
At the same time—on another and deeper level—
the hopeless need hope, sinners need forgiveness,
and the world needs the gospel.
On this level no one is excluded, and all the needy are one.
Our mission as the church is to bring hope
to a desperate world by declaring God's undying love—
as one beggar tells another where to find bread.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 757** *Today, We All Are Called to Be Disciples* KINGSFOLD

Today we all are called to be
disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free,
make plowshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first,
our ease and comfort last. *(continued next page)*

God made the world and at its birth
ordained our human race
to live as stewards of the earth,
responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud;
we sow not peace but strife.
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud
that threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down
as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town
to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for
a harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God
act out the living word,
and walk the road the saints have trod
till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be
disciples of the Lord.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Rev. Boggess

POSTLUDE Improvisation on *What Wondrous Love* Steven Phillips

The postlude concludes our worship today. It's the custom of this congregation to sit and enter into this moment with gratitude and celebration.

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