



“Now *this type of deep sorrow*, godly sorrow, is not so much about regret; but it is about producing a change of mind and behavior that ultimately leads to salvation. But *the other type of sorrow*, worldly sorrow, *often is fleeting and only brings death.*

2 Corinthians 7:10, The Voice

GATHERING

All silently gather.

Welcome and The Call to Worship

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Let us worship God. God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

God's love endures forever.

God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

God's love endures forever.

Come, let us worship God!

The Prayer of the Day (offered in unison)

Rev. Spencer

Let us pray.

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.

***Hymn of Praise No. 212**

Carol Manion, Piano

What Wondrous Love is This?

THE WORD OF GOD

The Prayer for Illumination (offered in unison)

Rev. Wes Allen

Let us pray.

God our helper, by your Holy Spirit open our minds, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth and be taught your will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading – Responsive

Rev. Allen

Psalm 51: 1-10 (Pew Bible page 520 OT)

Second Reading

Luke 19: 1-10 (Pew Bible page 79 NT)

Third Reading

Rev. Spencer

2 Corinthians 7: 9-11 (Pew Bible page 182)

Special Music

Carol Manion, Piano

Meditation for Lent

Herzliebster Jesu

Soloists: Naomi Gandy and Nadia Khalifa

Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

“The Art of the U Turn”

1. *When I wake up on Easter, Resurrection Sunday morning, how will I be different? What am I preparing for?*
2. *Is there a habit or sin in my life that repeatedly gets in the way of loving God with my whole heart or loving my neighbor as myself? How do I address that issue over the next 40 days?*
3. *What are some things in my life that I tell myself I need but I don't? Can I give one or two of them up for 40 days?*
4. *Is there a spiritual discipline—Centering Prayer, fasting, small group study, etc.—that I've always wanted to try? How might I alter my daily routine to include one of these disciplines? And how can I engage all my senses—sight, sound, taste, smell, touch—as I practice them?*
5. *How do I want Lent 2024 to affect not only the next 40 days but also the next 40 years?*

(adapted from Rachel Held Evans, Five Questions for Lent)

Invitation to the Observance of the Lenten Discipline

Rev. Spencer

*Prayer of Penitence

Let us pray.

Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We have not listened to your call to serve as Jesus served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness: The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

we confess to you, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people,

we confess to you, O God.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

we confess to you, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

we confess to you, O God.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

accept our repentance, O God.

For our waste and pollution of your creation and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

accept our repentance, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Special Music

Carol Manion, Piano

The Children's Prayer

Robert Powell

Soloists: Naomi Gandy and Nadia Khalifa

Imposition of Ashes

Rev. Spencer, Rev. Allen

The Pastors will walk down the center aisle. If you desire to receive ashes, stand in place in your pew and the pastors will come to you to administer.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Hymn of Preparation No. 213

Carol Manion, Piano

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Rev. Allen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe. You are our God, and we are the creatures of your hand. You made us from the dust of the earth, breathed into us the breath of life, and set us in your world to love and serve you.

When we rejected your love and ignored your wisdom, you did not reject us. You loved us still and

called us to turn again to you in obedience and in love. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND LORD'S PRAYER ('debts')

*COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

Music in Preparation for Service
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Carol Manion, Piano

Lowell Mason

***The Blessing and Charge**

Rev. Spencer

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Worship Ministry

Audio Technician: Harris Ransom
Live Stream: Jonathan Nawrocki
Ushers: John Miller, Jack Terry

- Pick up a copy of the Lent and Easter Activity Guide for this meaningful Lenten and Easter season detailing special activities and worship. Download your copy from the website or pick up a hard copy at church.
- During the Easter season, remember loved ones by purchasing assorted spring flowers to be placed in our two worship spaces on Sunday, March 31. Order forms will be available in *Connections* and online on **February 25, March 3** and **March 10**. Flowers will be \$15 each.
- **Maundy Thursday Drama and Communion** – Thursday, March 28 at 7:00 pm in Miller Commons; a series of monologues and duets for “At The Table.” We are looking for actors for various speaking roles and people who would like to be involved. There’s a place for you! Please contact Pastor Wes Allen or Alex Wilkie.
- **Good Friday Tenebrae Worship** – Friday, March 29 (7:30 pm), a service of light and darkness
- He is Risen! Celebrate the Risen Lord on **Easter Sunday** with three worship services: 6:30 am Sunrise Worship (at the Cemetery Cross); 9:00 am Traditional (Sanctuary) and 11:00 am Contemporary (Miller Commons). Invite someone to join you.