

INTER-FAITH CHAPEL WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM

March 3, 2024 Third Sunday in Lent

SILENT MEDITATION

Welcome to this third step on our Lenten journey. We come with great hope and expectation as we walk the way of Christ. The Lenten journey may be a challenge, but it is a wondrous challenge. Let us travel together.

PRELUDE

Awake, Thou Wintry Earth

Birchwood

Dr. Holly Oberle, Director of Music

WORDS OF WELCOME

Dr. Woodie Rea

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

INTROIT

Beyond the Beauty and the Awe Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come with us on this Lenten journey to the Temple.

ALL: The Temple is the great House of the Lord.

One: Let no person hear in this place, "You are not welcome."

ALL: Let no person say in this house, "I do not belong."

One: We gather as God's people in a world divided and distressed.

ALL: We gather as one people, united by God.

One: We gather as God's people, journeying to Jerusalem.

ALL: We gather as one people, traveling together.

Together, let us worship God.

INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. Ramonia Lee

KYRIE



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

UNISON

Patient Lord, we have cluttered the temples of our lives with so many unnecessary things. We have filled our tables with so many items laying claim to our lives, our interests, and our spirits. Jesus, cleanser of temples and souls, look deep within our hearts and our lives, and clear away all that holds us back. May our minds, spirits, and bodies be a temple that is open to your presence, and may our words and actions be a reflection of your love and truth. Hear us as we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

† Please rise as you are comfortable. *Music used by permission, CCLI #1683224*

In the Cross of Christ I Glory



Like Isaac Watts's "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (nos. 223, 224), this hymn is a reflection on Galatians 6:14, but this text is more abstract and devotes no attention to the person hanging on the cross. The tune is named for a soloist in the composer's Connecticut choir.

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the dead and life everlasting. Amen.

† GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; World without end. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 2: 13-22

ANTHEM

For All the Blessings of the Year
Chancel Choir

Larson

SERMON

"Table Tantrum"

Dr. Woodie Rea

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Bless Us Now, Dear Lord We Pray

Moore

Dr. Holly Oberle, Director of Music

† DOXOLOGY

(Tune: Old Hundreth)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

COMMUNION HYMN

One Bread, One Body



This Lord's Supper text is based on various Scriptures (1 Corinthians 10:16–17, Galatians 3:28, and 1 Corinthians 12:1–31) as well as imagery from the *Didache*, a significant Christian document from the early 2nd century, about scattered grain united in the eucharistic bread.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Dr. Rea: Through Jesus, we confirm that God knows us, cherishes us, and loves us.

Dr. Lee: Through Jesus, we believe that God is faithful and true.

Dr. Rea: Let us come to this table, not because we must, but because we may.

Dr. Lee: Let us sit together in humility and harmony, rather than in pride or with anger.

Dr. Rea: Let us come, not that we are strong, but that we are needy.

Dr. Lee: Let us partake, not that we have any claim on Christ, but that he invites us to

receive his grace and experience his presence.

Dr. Rea: Let us worthily eat of this meal, that Christ may be made known to us in the

breaking of the bread and discovered to us in the sharing of the cup.

COMMUNION PRAYER

UNISON

With thanksgiving, we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the grace of Jesus' life, and the great mystery of the resurrection of our Lord. Receive our offerings of praise. Send us your Holy Spirit, that this meal may be holy and your people may become one. Unite us with love, inspire us with courage, and embolden our faith, that we may receive Christ who is revealed to us in this holy banquet. Hear us as we continue to pray...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SUNG BY ALL

Our Father which 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion is served in the PEWS on the LEFT SIDE of the sanctuary facing the cross. Wafers and individual grape juice cups will be passed in trays among the congregation.

Communion is served by INTINCTION on the RIGHT SIDE of the sanctuary facing the cross. Communicants will come forward and receive a wafer to dip in the chalice of <u>wine</u>.

Gluten-Free Communion is available from the ministers upon request. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask an usher for assistance.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

UNISON

O God, may the blessing and gift of Jesus Christ, which we have received at this table, give us the energy and vitality we need to be your faithful people. As we continue our Lenten journey, help us to use these days so that in all we say, in all we do, in who we are; your message of justice, mercy, and love will ring through. In Christ's name. Amen.

† CLOSING HYMN

What Wondrous Love Is This

† BENEDICTION

One: As you have be

As you have been fed, go to feed the hungry.

ALL: As we have received, let us also give.

One: As you have been set free,

Go to set free those who are imprisoned in so many shapes and ways.

ALL: As we have heard,

Let us commit to proclaiming the Gospel in all that we say and do.

One: And may the blessings which you have received from the

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Creator, Christ, and Comforter,

Be always with you. Amen.

† BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.

In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever. Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."

† POSTLUDE

Ever Faithful, Ever Near

Ritter

Tune: Ar Hyd Y Nos

Dr. Holly Oberle, Director of Music

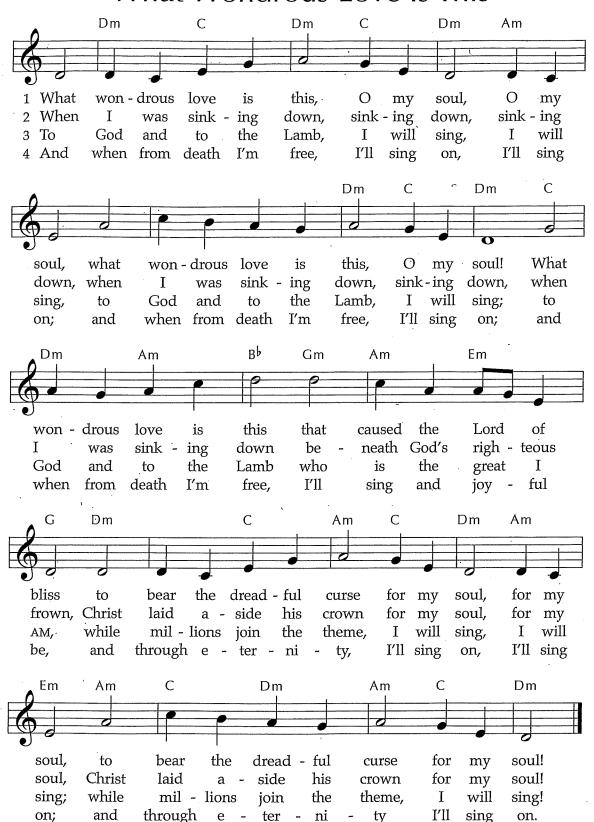
PARTING THOUGHT

Rejoice! Lent is a great adventure and a journey of transformation.

Beware! Lent holds the power to change and to radically enrich your way of thinking, loving, and believing. Let us make each of these forty days and nights significant.

- Edward Hays, The Lenten Labyrinth

What Wondrous Love Is This



With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us today! The Inter-Faith Chapel is committed to providing "A House of Prayer for All People." We are seeking to share the love of God through caring, outreach, study, and worship.

We extend a special welcome to our visitors. We invite you to sign our *Visitor Register* (and don't forget to pick up an IFC coffee mug as our welcome gift). As you are comfortable, please introduce yourself to one of our ministers and we hope to see you again real soon!

NEW MEMBERS / AFFILIATES

If you are interested in joining The Inter-Faith Chapel, or would like more information about this vibrant faith community, please let us know by signing the *Member / Affiliate Register* (located in the Narthex on the desk next to the coat room). We enjoy talking with others about The Chapel and would love to be in conversation with you.

Our next Sunday for receiving new members will be March 17th. We would love for you to consider being a part of this service.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Dr. Lee continues to lead a six-week study of Amy-Jill Levine's book *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week* on **Tuesdays through Lent at 1:30 PM** in our Fellowship Hall. The class is exploring and discussing the biblical texts and characters surrounding the Passion story and the last week of Jesus' pre-resurrection life. Call The Chapel Office for more information.

LENTEN MID-WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

We hope that you will join us for one of our special Mid-Week Worship Services being offered on <u>Wednesdays at 12:00 Noon during the Lenten season</u>. Each week will feature special music along with a guest minister bringing a Lenten message on one of the "*Prayers of the Passion*." Rev. Barbara McKenzie will be our guest preacher this Wednesday and this week's message will be "*Jesus Remember Me*."

LENTEN LUNCHEON

The Outreach and Fellowship Committee invites you to a special Lenten Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the Mid-Week Worship service on <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>March 13th</u>. Come join us and enjoy some healthy homemade soup and salad! A freewill offering will be received to help cover costs for the meal. Please RSVP this week by calling the Chapel Office at 301-598-5312.

LENTEN CENTERING PRAYER

Don't let the Lenten season pass without taking advantage of a unique prayer and learning opportunity being offered on <u>Wednesdays during Lent from 6:00 – 7:00 PM</u>. Join us as we gather together for a time of guided centering and quiet, reflective prayer and meditation. Each session will be led by Spiritual Director, Bertie Knisely. Please register by calling the Chapel office at 301-598-5312 or by emailing Bertie at <u>bertiek@moravian.edu</u>.

LENTEN RESOURCES

Lenten material and devotional guides with daily scriptures and reflections are available in the Narthex for your personal reading and prayer time. A devotional book, *In Jesus' Name*, offers prayers that focus on the different names of Jesus.

SWEATER DRIVE

The Inter-Faith Chapel Missions Committee is sponsoring a Sweater Drive on **Thursday**, **March** 7^{th} **from** 10:00 **AM** -2:00 **PM** in front of The Chapel. You may drive up and drop off your new or gently used sweaters for men, women, and children under the portico. All sweaters will be donated to Interfaith Works, a support and resource agency that serves over 35,000 Montgomery County residents each year.

PRAYER REQUESTS

The Inter-Faith Chapel Intercessory Prayer Group is a team of dedicated individuals that are committed to praying for the specific concerns of this congregation. You may let them know of your personal prayer needs by submitting a prayer request card in the prayer box located in the Narthex. The box is checked on weekly basis and requests are then shared with the intercessory prayer group. You may also submit your prayer requests electronically by going to "How Can We Pray for You?" at www.inter-faithchapel.org

USHER VOLUNTEERS

Our usher ministry is seeking additional individuals to help serve during our Sunday morning worship services. The primary duties involve welcoming parishioners and distributing bulletins, collecting the offering, and serving Communion during select services. This is a meaningful way to be of service to The Chapel with very little time commitment required. Please call The Chapel Office (301-598-5312) or contact Heidi Bender (240-418-1518).

THE INTER-FAITH CHAPEL 3680 South Leisure World Blvd. Silver Spring, MD 20906

301-598-5312

www.inter-faithchapel.org

CHAPEL OFFICE HOURS
9:00 AM − 3:00 PM • Monday − Friday

Rev. Dr. Woodie Rea, Senior Minister
Rev. Dr. Ramonia Lee, Minister of Congregational Life
Rev. Dr. Robert Perry, Minister Emeritus
Dr. Holly Oberle, Director of Music
Bonnie Bonner, Chapel Administrator
Joy Dufour, Administrative Assistant
Steve Buck, Gary Carpenter, Video Technicians and Sextons