

Sunday, March 9, 2025
We Gather to Celebrate God's Presence

Welcome
Family Life and Work
Family Celebrations
Lighting of the Christ Candle:
Acknowledgement of the Land:

Lenten Reading

Introit: Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary MV 18

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy tried and true ;
With thanksgiving, I'll be a loving sanctuary for you.**

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy tried and true ;
With thanksgiving, I'll be a loving sanctuary for you.**

Opening Hymn: Into the Unshaped Silence VU 305

- 1 Into the unshaped silence sings
 the sound of God's own voice.
 The darkness bows to light newborn,
 the moon and stars rejoice.**

- 2 Each day unfolds with wonders new,
 first grass, first tree, first bird!
 Plain, peak, and vale all take their place,
 each shaped by God's own word.**

- 3 The Word sings out with power once more,
 into the newmade earth;
 and in their Maker's image formed,
 woman and man know birth.**

- 4 A day of rest, and o'er the earth
 God's voice again is heard:
 a song of joy that celebrates
 the goodness of the world.**

- 5 God calls us all to join and sing
 the wonder of the earth
 and through our careful stewardship
 to guard creation's worth**

Scripture Reading: Luke 4: 1 – 13 Jesus' Tempted in the Desert

Children's Time: "We're on a Journey"

Gradual Hymn: Amazing Grace

VU 266 vs 1,2,3,5

- 1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
That calls me to be free!
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind, but now I see.**
- 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!**
- 3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
We have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.**
- 5. Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.**

We Listen

Meditation: "Led into the Wilderness"

We Respond

Musical Offering: Freely Given

Offertory: Give Thanks

**Give thanks, with a grateful heart,
Give thanks, to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ, His Son.
And now let the weak say, I am strong.
Let the poor say, I am rich because of what
The Lord has done for us.**

Offertory/Prayer of Dedication:

Communion Hymn: As We Gather at Your Table

VU 457

**1 As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's victory known.**

**2 Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.**

**3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.**

Celebration of Holy Communion

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, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe..... 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.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord..... With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service. Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving:

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ... Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

**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 trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen**

Closing Hymn: Forty Days and Forty Nights

VU 114

- 1 Forty days and forty nights
you were fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled.**
- 2 Sunbeams scorching all the day,
chilly dewdrops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about your way;
stones your pillow, earth your bed.**

3 Shall not we your trial share,
and from earthly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer,
strong with you to suffer pain?

4 If temptations, vexing sore,
flesh or spirit should assail,
you their vanquisher before,
grant we may not faint nor fail.

5 Keep, oh keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by your side;
that with you we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.

Benedictions and Commissioning

Choral Benediction: [Go Now in Peace](#)

by Besing

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**