



CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 3, 2024

Livestream & In-Person

10:00 a.m.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Ivan N. Herman

Click [HERE](#) to register your attendance

* GREETING ONE ANOTHER

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 19:7-10)

Terry Sakuda

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

People: The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

Leader: The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

People: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.

Leader: The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

People: They are more desirable than gold and sweeter than honey. Let us worship God!

* OPENING SONG

“More Than Amazing”

Lincoln Brewster & Mia Fieldes

You're the One who walked on water
And you calmed the raging seas
You command the highest mountains
To fall upon their knees.
You're the One who welcomed sinners
And you opened blinded eyes
You restored the brokenhearted
And you brought the dead to life
Forgetting all our sins, You remember all Your promises
You are amazing, more than amazing
Forever our God, You're more than enough. You are amazing
With authority You've spoken
And You've set the captive free
You're the King who came to serve
And You're the God who washed our feet
You're the One who took our burdens
And you bled upon the cross
In Your kindness and Your mercy
You became the way for us
Forgetting all our sins, You remember all Your promises
Oh, how marvelous! Oh, how wonderful! Oh, how glorious! You are amazing
Oh, how marvelous! Oh, how wonderful! Oh, how glorious You are!

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Terry Sakuda

Leader: Christ calls us to live lives in harmony with our God and neighbors. Even our best efforts fall short. Yet our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Trusting that abundant mercy, let us confess our sin together.

All: God of righteousness, we confess that we have not kept your commandments. We bow down before idols, declaring our allegiance to other powers and principalities. We take your name in vain, using it to justify our own prejudices and opinions. We do not make adequate time to rest and remember your goodness, nor to revel in the delight of family and friends. We look the other way in the face of violence and oppression, misogyny and sexual assault, land grabs and unjust economic practices. Our dishonesty and greed get the better of us. Yet you gave us commandments not for condemnation, but so that we might live in justice and joy. Purify us by your righteousness and enfold us in your grace. Sanctify our intentions and actions, that our lives may begin to reflect your Beloved Community.

Silence

Leader: Hear these words from the Apostle Paul: “God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.” The grace of Christ is sufficient for us.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

* RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE "Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)"

No. 581
Glory to God

Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the
Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin-ning, is
now, and e - ver shall be, world with - out
end. A - men, A - men.

TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

(All children are invited to the front of the church. Afterwards, they may return to their seats to participate in the remainder of worship and Communion.)

* HYMN

"Your Law, O Lord, Is Perfect"

No. 61
Glory to God

1 Your law, O Lord, is per - fect, the sim - ple mak - ing wise;
2 More to be sought than rich - es, your words are my soul's wealth;
3 My strength and my re - deem - er, law - giv - er and true light,
how pure are your com - mand - ments, en - light - en - ing my eyes!
their taste is sweet like hon - ey, im - part - ing life and health.
my words and med - i - ta - tions make wor - thy in your sight.

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words:

² I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹For six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹² Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ You shall not murder.

¹⁴ You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ You shall not steal.

¹⁶ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

SERMON

Playing by the Rules

Pastor Keith L. DeVries

* SONG

"Breathe"

Marie Barnett

This is the air I breathe; this is the air I breathe: Your holy presence living in me

This is my daily bread; this is my daily bread: Your very word spoken to me

And I, I'm desperate for You. And I, I'm lost without You

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Pastor: Come and be refreshed by the food and drink of this holy table.

People: We come seeking God's guidance.

Pastor: Come in spite of all the detours of your life.

People: We come, knowing that God will show us every day an oasis of safety and rest when we are escaping from dangers all around us. May God bless us on our Lenten journey which may take us to new places or new adventures.

Pastor: Come, for there is always a table waiting.

People: We come to share what strengthens us and to receive the gifts of others.

(If you are worshiping via live stream, place a plate with bread or crackers in your home worship space. Beside it set a cup with juice, wine, water, or other common beverage. With these elements we celebrate the shared presence of Christ that connects and nourishes our communion of faith.)

WORDS OF REMEMBERING AND GRATITUDE

Pastor: We remember that final evening with his disciples when Jesus shared a meal with friends, including a betrayer and a denier, in a borrowed room, under fear's shadow, in the Passover tradition. We give thanks for bread and wine redefined as a promise to us and to all who carry the baggage of life packed for every road – both the tourism of life's joys and the paths we take through sorrow. May this holy meal call us back to your way, opening our eyes to your solidarity of love. Give us strength and courage to rest our travel-weary souls in the deep and refreshing pool of your unconditional grace. May we be ready for your next chapter of hope for all who hunger and thirst for the loaf and cup of shalom. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION

(Wherever you are, in the Sanctuary or at home, you are invited to partake of the bread and the cup. If you are worshiping in person, please come down the center aisle to receive the communion elements; partake and return to your seat using the side aisles. Servers will bring communion to the seats of those who cannot come forward.)

* COMMUNION SONG

"Only You Satisfy"

Jami Smith & Janet Hubbell

Living Water, Bread of Life, satisfy us, satisfy us
Living Water, Bread of Life, satisfy us, satisfy us
Living Water, Bread of Life, satisfy us, satisfy us
Living Water, Bread of Life, satisfy us, satisfy us

Jesus, open up my heart

Jesus, open up my mind

Jesus, open up my life

Jesus, 'cause only you satisfy

You are the Christ, You are the blood

You are the Holy Spirit living in us

You are the truth, You are the life

You are the bread; only you satisfy

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: We thank you, O God, for welcoming us to your table. Teach us to be cooks and servers for the hungry in the world, those who are escaping tyranny, and those who just need a gift, a home, a community of belonging. Nourished at your table, we go forth to share your kindness, your wisdom, your open heart and resting place. Amen.

OFFERING AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY

“Aria for Lent”

Rick Schlosser

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Table-turning God, we praise you, for in taking on flesh and dwelling among us, you hallowed all human experience. We thank you for the gift of emotions – from joy to sorrow to anger. Help us to regulate our inclinations and impulses. May we always stay attuned to the guidance you give us through the feelings of our bodies, minds, and spirits.

God of holy traditions, we give you thanks for the rituals that shape our lives, give us meaning, and draw us closer to you. Enliven us and keep us from growing rigid in our sacred practices. Shake up our systems so that we may draw closer to you.

God of justice and righteousness, we pray for the healing of the nations. Guide rulers and citizens with your wisdom and compassion. Teach us to care for the poor and vulnerable. Drive out ignorance, hatred, and greed from all earth's peoples.

Lord Jesus Christ, whose body was and is God's own temple, we thank you for the variety of bodies you have made in your image. Keep us always appreciative of the delightful diversity of your people. We pray for bodies that are broken, sick, weary, or growing old. Send your loving presence to all who seek healing in body, mind, or spirit.

Comfort all who are afflicted, and with the generative fire of your Holy Spirit, lovingly afflict all who are comfortable. All this we pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray, saying:

All: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

(If you would like to privately share a concern, thanksgiving, or request for healing, please come to the Stephen Ministry banner on the east wall of the Sanctuary immediately following the service for individual prayer with a Stephen Minister.)

1 Lord, speak to me that I may speak in liv - ing
 2 O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wan - dering
 3 O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the pre - cious
 4 O fill me with your full - ness, Lord, un - til my
 5 O use me, Lord, use e - ven me, just as you

ech - oes of your tone. As you have sought, so
 and the wa - vering feet. O feed me, Lord, that
 truths which you im - part. And wing my words that
 ver - y heart o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and
 will, and when, and where un - til your bless - ed

let me seek your err - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
 I may feed your hun - gery ones with man - na sweet.
 they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.
 glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.
 face I see, your rest, your joy, your glo - ry share.

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE **“The Lord Whom We Love”**
Congregation may join hands

Kurt Kaiser

The Lord whom we love, whom we wor-ship and a-
dore, we will serve through - out this com-ing week. He it
is who binds us to- geth- er, and he it is who sends us a -
part, to be God's peo-ple, be God's peo-ple. A - men.

* POSTLUDE

“Bless God’s Holy Name (Psalm 103)”

Andraé Crouch
arr. K. Christopher

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

Liturgy by Gina Bairby © Presbyterian Outlook, 2024

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Audio/Video: Michael Gray and Noor Bitar

Music Director: Keith Atwater

Organist: Rick Schlosser

Piano: Gabe Bisho

Drums: Will Condrey

Guitar: Michael Schwab

Bass: Merlyn van Regenmorter

Vocalists: Debbie Berke, Karen Gray, Anita Lawson, and Laura Leek

