



March 21, 2021  
Fifth Sunday of Lent

GATHERING		Heather Hinton
GREETING		Darren Cushman Wood
ANNOUNCEMENTS		Cory Unthank
PRELUDE	<i>Adagio molto espressivo</i>	J.C. Bach Marji Hanna, cello

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: With our words and with our work

**People: we confess Jesus the Messiah.**

OPENING HYMN #159

*Lift High the Cross*

**Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.**

***Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign. The hosts of God in unity combine. [Refrain]***

***Each newborn servant of the Crucified bears on the brow the seal of him who died. [Refrain]***

***So shall our song of triumph ever be: Praise to the Crucified for victory! [Refrain]***

CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION

AFFIRMATION BY THE CONGREGATION

Leader: Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**People: We do.**

Leader: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

**People: With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround these persons**

**with a community of love and forgiveness,**

**that they may grow in their service to others.**

**We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples**

**who walk in the way that leads to life.**

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
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,  
is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 32:1-4, 15-21

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*I Surrender All*

S. Potts

Marjorie Hanna, cello; Chancel Quartet

All to Jesus I surrender; all to him I freely give; I will ever love and trust him,  
in his presence daily live. All to Jesus I surrender; humbly at his feet I bow,  
worldly pleasures all forsaken; take me, Jesus, take me now.  
All to Jesus I surrender; make me, Savior, wholly thine; may thy Holy Spirit fill me,  
may I know thy power divine.  
All to Jesus I surrender; Lord I give myself to thee; heal me with thy love and power;  
let thy blessing flow on me.  
Where he leads me I will follow, I'll go with him all the way.  
All to Jesus I surrender; humbly at his feet I bow, worldly pleasures all forsaken;  
take me, Jesus, take me now.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Psalm 51:1-17

Cory Unthank

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy  
blot out my transgressions.

**People: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

Leader: For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.

**People: Against you, you alone, have I sinned,  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you are justified in your sentence  
and blameless when you pass judgement.**

Leader: Indeed, I was born guilty,  
a sinner when my mother conceived me.

**People: You desire truth in the inward being;  
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

Leader: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**People: Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

Leader: Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my iniquities.

**People: Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right spirit within me.**

Leader: Do not cast me away from your presence,  
and do not take your holy spirit from me.

**People: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

Leader: Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
and sinners will return to you.

**People: Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,  
O God of my salvation,  
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.**

Leader: O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.

**People: For you have no delight in sacrifice;  
if I were to give a burnt-offering, you would not be pleased.**

Leader: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;

**People: a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

HYMN OF PRAYER #354

*I Surrender All*

***All to Jesus I surrender; all to him I freely give;  
I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live.***

***Refrain: I surrender all, I surrender all, all to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.***

***All to Jesus I surrender; make me, Savior, wholly thine;  
let me feel the Holy Spirit, truly know that thou art mine. [Refrain]***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Darren Cushman Wood

Leader: Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it." Therefore, let us confess our sins.

**People: Lord Jesus, whose love is stronger than death  
and whose mercy is greater than our sins,  
we confess that we have rejected your way  
and we have refused to bear our cross.  
We surrender our lives to you, blessed Savior.  
Receive us.  
Rescue us.  
Revive us.  
Reform us.  
Amen.**

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;

that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
**People: Glory to God. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO MOURN FOR REV. DAVID OWEN

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LENTEN DOXOLOGY

***Praise God throughout these forty days. Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.  
And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.***

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 8:27-9:1

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Good Power: The Power to Surrender*

Darren Cushman Wood

HYMN OF DEDICATION #415

*Take Up Thy Cross*

***"Take up thy cross," the Savior said, "if thou wouldst my disciple be;  
deny thyself, the world forsake, and humbly follow after me."  
Take up thy cross, let not its weight fill thy weak spirit with alarm;  
his strength shall bear thy spirit up, and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.  
  
Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame, nor let thy foolish pride rebel;  
thy Lord for thee the cross endured, to save thy soul from death and hell.  
Take up thy cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down;  
for only those who bear the cross may hope to wear the glorious crown.***

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*Lift High the Cross*

arr. C. Hamlin

*The white carnation on the altar is in celebration of the life of  
Rev. David Owen, who passed away March 16<sup>th</sup>.*

Today's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood

*Senior Pastor*

Cory Unthank

*Minister of Youth & Young Adults*

John Hague, James Horton, & Dick Tiller-Luchtman

*Audio Visual*

Mark Gilgallon

*Director of Music*

Heather Hinton

*Organist*

Chancel Quartet:

*Kate Roberts, Amy Cuomo,*

*Nathanael Hein & Ron Berry*

**Palm Sunday Festival**

Sunday, March 28, 3-5 p.m.

North Church Parking Lots

Donkeys, palm branch waving, hymn singing,  
live music, and more.

**Maundy Thursday Service**

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Pre-registration required

**Living in the COVID Era**

Immunizations and COVID-19 Update video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jo8RR4jFJ0c>