



March 12, 2023 – Livestream
Third Sunday in Lent

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunil Kotian

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

Fugue on "St. Anne"

J.S. Bach/H. Hopson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Mighty God is leading us with unshakeable hope.

People: Bread of Heaven, be our joy.

Leader: The Mighty God is guiding us with steadfast love.

People: Strong Deliverer, be our strength.

*OPENING HYMN #127

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;

feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;

let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;

be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;

death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee;

I will ever give to thee.

OPENING PRAYER

God of wonders,

who carries us through turmoil

and covers us with peace,

open the eyes of our hearts

to see your beauty,

that we may offer you

our deepest commitment

and our highest praise,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord is my Shepherd, I have all I need,
 she makes me lie down in green meadows,
 beside the still waters, she will lead.
 She restores my soul, she rights my wrongs,
 she leads me in the path of good things,
 and fills my heart with songs.
 Even though I walk, through a dark and dreary land,
 there is nothing that can shake me,
 she has said, she won't forsake me, I'm in her hand.
 She sets a table before me, in the presence of my foes,
 she anoints my head with oil, and my cup overflows.
 Surely goodness and kindness will follow me,
 all the days of my life, and I will live in her house, forever and ever.
 Glory be to our Mother, and Daughter, and to the Holy of Holies,
 as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE #758

Psalm 27

Brandon Wallace

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Leader: When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh,
 my adversaries and foes shall stumble and fall.

**People: Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
 though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.**

Leader: One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

**People: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
 to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in the Lord's temple.**

Leader: The Lord will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble,
 will conceal me under the cover of his tent, and will set me high upon a rock.

**People: And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies round about me,
 and I will offer sacrifices in the Lord's tent with shouts of joy;
 I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

Leader: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

People: 'Come,' my heart says, 'seek the Lord's face!' Your face, O Lord, I seek.

Leader: Hide not your face from me.

Turn not your servant away in anger, for you have been my help.

**People: Cast me not off, forsake me not, O God of my salvation!
 If my father and mother should forsake me, the Lord would take me up.**

Leader: Teach me your way, O Lord,
 and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

**People: Give me not up to the will of my adversaries,
 for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence.**

Leader: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

**People: Wait for the Lord;
 be strong, and let your heart take courage.
 Wait for the Lord!**

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 8:20-22

²⁰Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, and there he sacrificed as burnt offerings the animals and birds that had been approved for that purpose. ²¹And the Lord was pleased with the aroma of the sacrifice and said, "I will never again curse the ground because of the human race, even though everything they think or imagine is bent toward evil from childhood. I will never again destroy all living things. ²²As long as the earth remains, there will be planting and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAYER #117

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

***O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!***

***Under the shadow of thy throne, still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.***

***Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
from everlasting, thou art God, to endless years the same.***

***A thousand ages, in thy sight, are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night, before the rising sun.***

***Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all who breathe away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.***

***O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come;
be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Amy Sell

Leader: In honesty and humility,
let us confess our sins to God and one another:

**People: We confess
that we have complained more than rejoiced,
and we have worried more than prayed.
We have closed our eyes to the goodness of your creation,
and we have closed our hearts to the cries of the needy.
Forgive us and set us free to worship and serve you. Amen.**

Leader: The One who made you is merciful;
the One who calls you is faithful.
In the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**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, forever. Amen.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE #2275

Kyrie

***Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.
Christe, Christe eleison. Christe, Christe eleison.
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison, eleison.***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Brandon Wallace

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Secure

arr. C. Courtney
Cathedral Singers

A storm is raging Lord. The boat I sail is small and, oh so frail. The wind is blowing, Lord.
I cannot hold the course against the gale. The lightning strikes on every side, nowhere to run,
nowhere to hide. Your hand alone can hold the tide, Lord, rescue me.
I am sinking, Lord. The boat is taking water, going down. Part the waters, Lord.
I long to plant my feet on solid ground. Oh, Lord of earth and sky and sea, your hand is reaching out to me.
I know that you have heard my plea. My hope is sure. I am secure.

*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

Matthew 14:22-33

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

²⁸ Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' ²⁹ He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?'

³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Renewing Rituals, Part 3: Celebrating Rituals

Darren Cushman Wood

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #129

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

***Give to the winds thy fears; hope and be undismayed.
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears, God shall lift up thy head.***

***Through waves and clouds and storms, God gently clears thy way;
wait thou God's time; so shall this night soon end in joyous day.***

***Leave to God's sovereign sway to choose and to command;
so shalt thou, wondering, own that way, how wise, how strong this hand.***

***Let us in life, in death, thy steadfast truth declare,
and publish with our latest breath thy love and guardian care.***

*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

arr. J. Pethel

*The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and
in memory of Byron Stroh, Dick Hamilton, David Owen and Jon Walters, former pastors of North Church,
from Don and Gail Nelson.*

This week's worship leaders

Darren Cushman Wood, *Senior Pastor*
Sunil Kotian, *Pastor of Mission & Outreach*
Amy Sell, *Minister of Discipleship & Formation*
Brandon Wallace, *Minister of Youth & Young Adults*
John Hague and Eric Russell, *Audio Visual*
Mark Gilgallon, *Director of Music*
Heather Hinton, *Organist*

Upcoming Events

"Renewing Wednesdays"

Join us in Lent every Wednesday, 5:30 – 7pm, light meal included

March 15—Packing UMCOR kits for disaster relief (sponsored by the Mission and Outreach Team)

Book Study

"Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City" by Matthew Desmond

Tuesdays March 7-28, 6-7:30pm, in person and on Zoom

Extra Canonical Study with Perry Kea

Tuesdays March 7-28, 6-7:30pm, in person and on Zoom

Green Team Book Exchange

March 12, 9am -1pm in the Community Room

Spring Break Family Fun Day, Friday

March 31, 10am-2pm, Education Wing

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 1, North's Parking Lot

Indy Fuel Game

Sunday, April 2, 5pm, Indiana Farmers Coliseum