



February 25, 2024 – Livestream Second Sunday of Lent

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

Were You There?

arr. J. Krug

Cathedral Ringers

Kelley & Jeff Warbinton, directors

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord,

People: that Jesus may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.

*OPENING HYMN #428

For the Healing of the Nations

***For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.***

***Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase,
fear will die and hope increase.***

***All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span,
may we hallow life's brief span.***

***You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service earth its destiny may find,
earth its destiny may find.***

OPENING PRAYER

**Living Lord,
whose justice is our peace,
overturn the complacency in our hearts
and steady our hands to do your will,
to the glory of Jesus our Redeemer. Amen.**

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy.
Grant us peace. Adonai (*Lord*). Amen.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE #792

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Sunil Kotian

Leader: Let God arise, let God's enemies be scattered;
let those who hate God flee!

**People: As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;
as wax melts before fire,
let the wicked perish before God!**

Leader: But let the righteous be joyful;
let them exult before God;
let them be jubilant with joy!

**People: Sing to God, sing praises to God's name;
lift up a song to the One who rides upon the clouds;
exult before the One whose name is Lord!**

Leader: In the holy habitation, God is father of the orphans
and protector of widows.

**People: God gives the desolate a home to dwell in;
and leads out the prisoners to prosperity;
but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.**

Leader: O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,

**People: the earth quaked, the heavens poured down water,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

Leader: Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad;
you restored your heritage as it languished;

**People: your flock found a dwelling in it;
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.**

Leader: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.

**People: O Rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
God's voice goes forth, a mighty voice.**

Leader: Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel,
and whose power is in the skies.

**People: Wondrous is God in the sanctuary,
the God of Israel,
who gives power and strength to the people.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Christine Rembert

FIRST LESSON

James 2:1-8

¹ My spiritual siblings, do not claim the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ of glory while showing partiality. ² For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³ and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here in a good place, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit by my footstool," ⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my beloved kindred: has not God

chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the realm promised to those who love God? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor person. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into the courts? ⁷ Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? ⁸ If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAYER #430

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

***O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.***

***Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.***

***Teach me thy patience; still with thee in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong;***

***In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way,
in peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Amy Sell

Leader: You who have been baptized in the name of Jesus,
come and confess your sins
to the fierce and tender God,
whose work is righteousness and whose delight is mercy:

**People: We confess that we have not believed or acted
as if your reign will come on earth as it is in heaven.**

Leader: We confess that we have tolerated the spiritual forces of racism.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: We confess that we have accepted the evil power of war.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: We confess that we have benefited from the exploitation of workers.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: We confess that we have ignored the destruction of creation.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Give us the freedom to resist evil, injustice and oppression
in whatever forms they present themselves.

**People: Give us the power to rebuild the world
with goodness, beauty, and peace.**

Leader: Give us the joy to be a church
whose worship is your realm
and whose work is your ever-coming reign.

People: Amen. Amen. 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 #482

Lord, Have Mercy

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Sunil Kotian

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Adagio for Strings

S. Barber/arr. J. Warbinton

Cathedral Ringers

Kelley & Jeff Warbinton, directors

*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 21:12-17

¹² Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves. ¹³He said to them, 'It is written,

"My house shall be called a house of prayer";
but you are making it a den of robbers.'

¹⁴ The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. ¹⁵But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, 'Hosanna to the Son of David', they became angry ¹⁶and said to him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?' Jesus said to them, 'Yes; have you never read,

"Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies
you have prepared praise for yourself"?' ¹⁷He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Who Do You Say That I Am (Part 2): Jesus the Revolutionary

Darren Cushman Wood

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #425

O Crucified Redeemer

***O crucified Redeemer, whose life-blood we have spilt,
to you we raise our guilty hands, and humbly own our guilt.
Today we see your passion spread open to our gaze;
the crowded street, the country road, its Calvary displays.***

***We hear your cry of anguish, we see your life out-poured
where battlefields run red with blood, our neighbors' blood, O Lord;***

*and in that other battle, the fight for daily bread,
where might is right and self is king, we see your thorn-crowned head.*

*The groaning of creation wrung out by pain and care,
the anguish of a million hearts that break in dumb despair;
O crucified Redeemer, these are your cries of pain;
O may they break our selfish hearts, and love come in to reign.*

*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

The God of Abraham Praise

arr. P. Decker

The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and in memory of Karen Kay Leonard, honoring her birthday on February 18th by Jack Leonard and Jacqueline Blackwell Leonard.

Throughout Lent, the Justice and Advocacy Team invites us to pray for peace around the world. The olive tree on the altar is a visual prayer for peace. After each service, you are invited to kneel or stand at the altar and offer your prayers for peace.

This week, we offer prayers for all people involved in the conflict in Gaza. The QR Code will take you to the official UMC Justice web site Action Alert.

Action Alert



<http://tinyurl.com/yuasy4u9>

Upcoming Events

Wednesdays During Lent
Communion in the Chapel, 7:30am
Renewing Wednesdays, 5:30-7:30pm
February 28: Short films
Light dinner, fellowship, and shared experience
February 27, Women of Lydia, 7:00pm
February 29, LGBTQ+ Fellowship Duckpin Bowling, 6:00-8:00pm
March 1-3, Youth Lenten Retreat
March 2, Children's Lenten Retreat, 10:00am-2:00pm
March 15, Indy Fuel Game, 7:00pm

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
Christine Rembert
Liturgist
Eric Russell and James Horton
Audio Visual
Mark Gilgallon
Music Director
Heather Hinton
Organist