



March 9, 2025 – Livestream
First Sunday of Lent

GATHERING

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

SPOTLIGHT ON MINISTRY

Shoe Collection

Green Team

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

arr. J. Linker

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: People of God, who will be your ark in the flood?

People: Jesus Christ, the guardian of our souls.

Leader: People of God, who will be your manna in the wilderness?

People: Jesus Christ, the bread of life.

Leader: People of God, who will be your guide through this season?

People: Jesus Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

*OPENING HYMN #2220

We Are God's People

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,

born of the Spirit, established by the Word.

Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Christ we stand;

O let us live transparently

and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ, our Lord,

for we have known it, the love of God outpoured.

Now let us learn how to return the gift of love once given;

O let us share each joy and care,

and live with a zeal that pleases heaven.

We are the body of which the Lord is Head

called to obey Christ, now risen from the dead.

God wills us be a family diverse, yet truly one;

O let us give our gifts to God

and so shall God's work on earth be done.

We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,

formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace.

***We die alone, for on its own each ember loses fire;
yet joined in one the flame burns on
to give warmth and light and to inspire.***

OPENING PRAYER

**Faithful and Loving God,
who led Jesus through the desert trials,
lead us through these days of Lent.
Deepen our faith, raise our hope, and widen our love
through our devotion to Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SOLO (8:30)

Wondrous Love

arr. R. Walters
Amy Cuomo, soloist

What wondrous love is this. O, my soul. What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.
When I was sinking down, O my soul, when I was sinking down
He lay aside His crown for my soul.

CHORISTERS' ANTHEM (11:00)

Kyrie

R. Dwyer and M. Ellis
Eric Applegate, piano; Rosie Jordan, director

Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy upon us--mercy, peace and charity, love and honesty. Oh Lord, give us hope.

Kyrie eleison.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Isaiah 43:14-21

Leader: Thus says the Lord,
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
For your sake I will break down all the bars in Babylon,
and the shouting of the Chaldeans will be turned to lamentation.

**People: I am the Lord, your Holy One,
the Creator of Israel, your Ruler.**

Leader: Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,

**People: who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior;
they lie down; they cannot rise;
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:**

Leader: Do not remember the former things
or consider the things of old.

**People: I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?**

Leader: I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

**People: The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches,**

Leader: for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,

**People: the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.**

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 7:6-11

⁶For you are a people holy to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on earth to be his people, his treasured possession.

⁷ It was not because you were more numerous than any other people that the Lord set his heart on you and chose you—for you were the fewest of all peoples. ⁸It was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your ancestors, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, ¹⁰and who repays in their own person those who reject him. He does not delay but repays in their own person those who reject him. ¹¹Therefore, observe diligently the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that I am commanding you today.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAYER #605

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.

Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.

Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.

Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.

Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.

***God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,
one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.***

O how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!

To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!

We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.

By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jill Moffett

Leader: Our trespasses are killing us, and our passions have left us without hope.

Let us confess our sins and find our hope in the grace of God.

People: Merciful God, hear our prayer:

**We confess that we have traded the mercies of our baptism
for the meanness of this world.**

**We have erected dividing walls among us
and treated one another as strangers and aliens.**

**Rebuild us into your dwelling place with Christ as the cornerstone,
and renew us to be your people through the unity of the Holy Spirit
to do good work for the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: Hear the Good News: God, who is rich in mercy,

out of the great love with which God loved us

even when we were dead through our trespasses,

made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

MUSICAL RESPONSE #2127

Kyrie

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Greater Love Hath No Man

J. Ireland

Many waters cannot quench Love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death.
Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
Christ, himself bore our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified, in the name of the Lord Jesus;
ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness, into his marvelous light.
I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies,
a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

*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.***

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-12

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. ¹²Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Peculiar People, Part 1: The People of God

Darren Cushman Wood

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #413

A Charge to Keep I Have

***A charge to keep I have, a God to glorify,
a never-dying soul to save, and fit it for the sky.***

***To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill;
O may it all my powers engage to do my Master's will!***

Arm me with jealous care, as in thy sight to live,

and oh, thy servant, Lord, prepare a strict account to give!

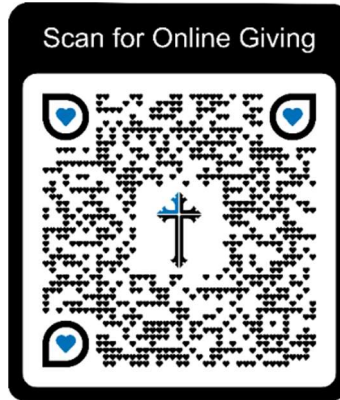
*Help me to watch and pray, and on thyself rely,
assured, if I my trust betray, I shall forever die.*

*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

arr. W. Wold



Upcoming Events:

- March 9 and 16, UWF Pie Sales
- March 12, Communion, 7:30am, Chapel
- March 12, Hymn Sing, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall
- March 18, LGBTQ+ Fellowship, 6:00pm, Garage Food Hall
- March 22, Earth Hour Worship, 8:30pm, Chapel
- April 4, Pacer Game, 7:00pm
- April 6, Children's Earth Day Fun Day Mission

This week's worship
leaders:

- Darren Cushman Wood
Senior Pastor
- Jill Moffett
Pastor of Community Formation
- Brandon Wallace
Minister of Christian Education
- John Hague, James Horton &
Allen McCormack
Audio Visual
- Mark Gilgallon
Music Director
- Heather Hinton
Organist

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