



March 1, 2026 – Livestream
Second Sunday of Lent

GATHERING

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

PRELUDE

Lord, Who Through These Forty Days

arr. C. Callahan

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let the people rejoice for the forgiveness we have received through Jesus Christ.

People: To God be the glory!

Leader: Let the people rejoice for the new life we are receiving in Jesus Christ.

People: To God be the glory!

Leader: Let the people rejoice for the glory we will receive because of Jesus Christ.

People: To God be the glory! Amen!

*OPENING HYMN #98

To God be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things he hath done!

***So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.***

Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,

and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

***O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. [Refrain]***

***Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. [Refrain]***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 29:4-9

⁴ Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to

Babylon: ⁵ Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶ Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷ But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. ⁸ For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to your dreams that you dream, ⁹ for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Footsteps

C. Courtney
Voices in Accord

I see his footsteps in the way, and follow them through darkest night,
unafraid, I stumble not, in the glow of perfect light, I see.

I walk in footsteps of his love, and find his light leads on before,
then He gently turns to me, softly whispers, "Trust me more." I walk, I walk.

Then as I follow in his way, my path ahead will brightly shine,
for in his path of guiding light, I find his footsteps first, then mine.

*GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:1-5, 9-17

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." ³ Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit."

⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Turn to Hope, Part Two

Darren Cushman Wood

HYMN #433

All Who Love and Serve Your City

v. 1-4

***All who love and serve your city, all who bear its daily stress,
all who cry for peace and justice, all who curse and all who bless:***

***In your day of loss and sorrow, in your day of helpless strife,
honor, peace, and love retreating, seek the Lord, who is your life.***

***In your day of wealth and plenty, wasted work and wasted play,
call to mind the word of Jesus, "Work ye yet while it is day."***

***For all days are days of judgment, and the Lord is waiting still,
drawing near to all who spurn him, offering peace from Calvary's hill.***

PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

Jill Moffett

INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Leader: Our help comes from God,
the Creator of heaven and earth.
The Lord is our keeper by day and by night.
With confidence in the compassionate faithfulness of God,
let us confess our sins:

**People: O God, Our Mother
who gives us the new birth in Christ,
we confess that we have not trusted in your love to save us,
and we have not sought the welfare of our city.
We have settled for comfortable assumptions about you.
Unsettle us with your challenging presence and surprising hope.
Forgive our sins and give us new life
that we may seek and secure your peace for the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: God loves the world with more love than we ask or imagine,
and everyone who believes in Christ will not perish but will have eternal life.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Agnus Dei

J. Rheinberger
Cathedral Singers

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi miserere nobis, dona nobis pacem.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

*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.***

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Darren Cushman Wood

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God...
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ....
And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and cup....
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

*BREAKING THE BREAD

RECEIVING THE BLESSING

As persons are sharing the bread and cup in the sanctuary, extend your hands to receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit. If you would like to receive communion from today's service please contact the church to schedule for a pastor to bring it to your home this week, nricketts@northchurchindy.com

COMMUNION HYMN #427

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

***Where cross the crowded ways of life, where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of man.***

***In haunts of wretchedness and need, on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed, we catch the vision of your tears.***

***From tender childhood's helplessness, from woman's grief, man's burdened toil,
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress, your heart has never known recoil.***

***The cup of water given for you still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view the sweet compassion of your face.***

***O Master, from the mountainside make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide; O tread the city's streets again,***

***Till all the world shall learn your love and follow where your feet have trod,
till, glorious from your heav'n above, shall come the city of our God!***

PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #433

All Who Love and Serve Your City

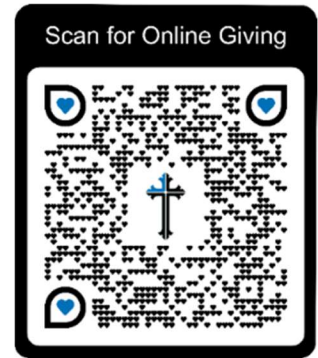
Risen Lord, shall yet the city be the city of despair?

Come today, our Judge, our Glory, be its name, "The Lord is there!"

v. 5

*THE BLESSING

*The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God
in anticipation of Elizabeth Bowman's birthday on March 9, 2026.*



Upcoming Events:

- Lenten Communion Service, Wednesdays, 7:30am
- Book Exchange, March 8, 9:00am – 1:00pm
- Immigration and the Legal System, March 8, 9:45am Fellowship Hall
- Youth Lenten Retreat, March 13-15, Teter Farms, Noblesville

Scan to sign up for our newsletter:



Sermons are now available on Spotify.

Today's worship leaders:

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