



March 8, 2026 – Livestream  
Third Sunday of Lent

GATHERING

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

*Lead Us, O Father, in the Paths of Peace*

arr. J. Spong

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Insiders and outcasts,  
friends and foes,  
disciples and disputers  
in the name of Jesus,

**People: welcome to the house of peace.**

Leader: Searchers and strangers,  
skeptics and sinners,  
dreamers and doubters  
in the name of Jesus,

**People: welcome to the home of grace.**

\*OPENING HYMN #2236

*Gather Us In*

***Here in this place new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away,  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings,  
brought here to you in the light of this day.***

***Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.***

***We are the young, our lives are a mystery,  
we are the old who yearn for your face,  
we have been sung throughout all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.***

***Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.***

*Here we will take the wine and the water,  
here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well and teach us to fashion,  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.*

*Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away,  
but here in this place the new light is shining,  
now is the kingdom, now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever,  
gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bones.*

OPENING PRAYER

**Merciful God, the fountain of living water,  
quench our thirst for peace with the truth and love of Jesus Christ.  
In your Spirit, unite us with believers in every nation  
to proclaim your hope and praise your name,  
through Jesus our Messiah. Amen.**

ANTHEM

*Depth of Mercy*

D. Rasbach  
Cathedral Singers

Depth of Mercy! Can there be mercy still reserved for me?  
Can my God his wrath forebear, me, the "Chief of Sinners" spare?  
There for me the Savior stands holding forth his wounded hands.  
God is Love! I know, I feel Jesus weeps and loves me still.

\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Psalm 95:1-7

Leader: Come, let us sing to the Lord!

**People: Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation.**

Leader: Let us come to the Holy One with thanksgiving.

**People: We will sing songs of praise to the Lord.**

Leader: For the Lord is a great God,  
a great ruler above all gods,

**People: whose hands hold the depths of the earth  
and the mightiest mountains.**

Leader: The sea belongs to God who made it.

**People: The Lord's hands formed the dry land, too.**

Leader: Come, let us worship and bow down.

Let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

**People: We are the people God watches over,  
the flock under God's care.**

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb;  
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid;  
 the calf and the lion will feed together,  
 and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze;  
 their young shall lie down together;  
 and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
 and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain,  
 for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
 as the waters cover the sea.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN OF PRAYER #480

*O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

*O Love that wilt not let me go,  
 I rest my weary soul in thee;  
 I give thee back the life I owe,  
 that in thine ocean depths  
 its flow may richer, fuller be.*

*O Light that followest all my way,  
 I yield my flickering torch to thee;  
 my heart restores its borrowed ray,  
 that in thy sunshine's blaze  
 its day may brighter, fairer be.*

*O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
 I cannot close my heart to thee;  
 I trace the rainbow thru the rain,  
 and feel the promise is not vain,  
 that morn shall tearless be.*

*O Cross that liftest up my head,  
 I dare not ask to fly from thee;  
 I lay in dust life's glory dead,  
 and from the ground there blossoms  
 red life that shall endless be.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: God is searching for you  
 with a love that will not let us go.  
 Come and fall into the arms of mercy.  
 Come and give your brokenness to God.

**People: Forgive us, Lord,  
 for our traditions of hatred and our habits of selfishness.  
 We are destroying ourselves. We are weak and worn down.  
 Deliver us from the sin within us and the evil around us.  
 We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

Leader: Jesus said, "No one who drinks the water I give will ever be thirsty again.  
The water I give will become in that person a flowing fountain that gives eternal life."  
In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven and your hope is secure.

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jill Moffett

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

MUSICAL RESPONSE #2277

*Lord, have Mercy*

***Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*None Other Lamb*

arr. D. Forrest  
Voices In Accord

None other Lamb, none other name, none other hope in heav'n or earth or sea,  
None other hiding place from guilt and shame, none beside Thee.

My faith burns low, my hope burns low, only my heart's desire cries out in me,  
By deep thunder of its want and woe, cries out to Thee.

Lord, Thou art Life, tho' I be dead; love's fire Thou art, however cold I be;  
Nor heav'n have I, nor place to lay my head, nor home but Thee.

\*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

John 4:5-26

<sup>5</sup> So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' <sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship

the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Turn to Hope, Part 3*

Darren Cushman Wood

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION #2212

*My Life Flows On*

***My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.***

***I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.***

***Refrain: No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.***

***Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?***

***Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.***

***It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]***

***What though my joys and comforts die? I know my Savior liveth.***

***What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. [Refrain]***

***The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!***

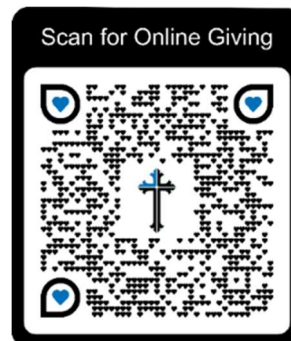
***All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]***

\*THE BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*O Love Divine and Golden*

arr. J. Spong



*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.*

### Upcoming Events:

Lenten Communion Service, Wednesdays, 7:30am

Book Exchange, Today, 9:00am – 1:00pm

Immigration and the Legal System, Today, 9:45am Fellowship Hall

Youth Lenten Retreat, March 13-15, Teter Farms, Noblesville

Earth Hour Worship, March 28, 8:30pm

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

James Horton

*Audio Visual*

Kathleen Hacker

*Interim Director of Music*

Heather Hinton

*Organist*