



# GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Protestant church in the worldwide  
Anglican Communion.

## The Fifth Sunday in Lent

*March 17, 2024*

*All are welcome to this service of communion;  
All are wanted at the table of the lord.*

*Before the Service — Speak quietly to God  
During the Service — Let God speak to you  
After the Service — Speak to one another*

### **TO JOIN SERVICES ONLINE OR BY PHONE**

To join the 8:30 service online, visit our website at [gracechurchmtclemens.org](http://gracechurchmtclemens.org) and follow the links.

To join the 8:30 service by phone, call 312-626-6799

8:30 am Service: Meeting ID: 881 8016 9300 Password: 246040

Follow the link on our website to watch the 10:30 livestream on YouTube.

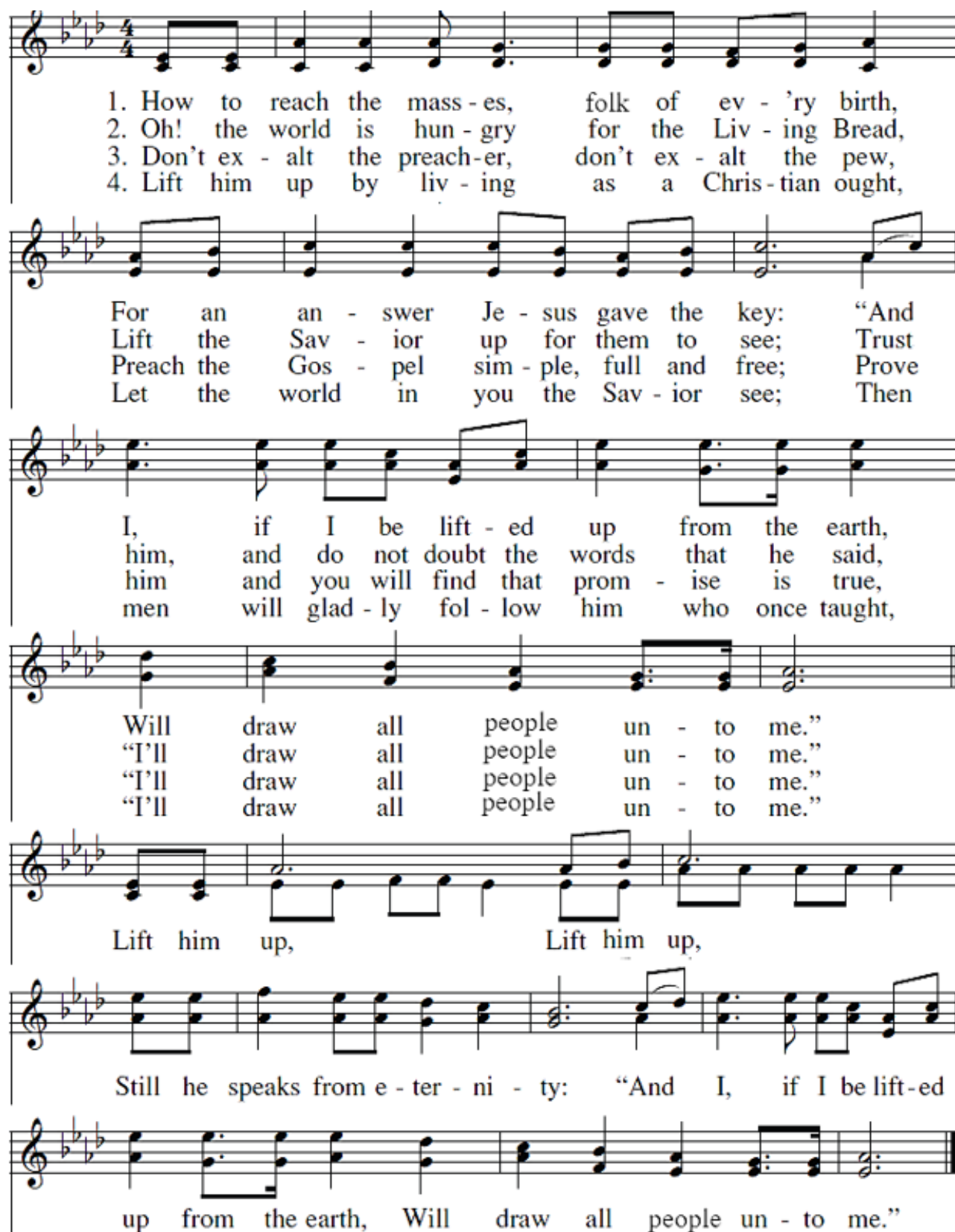
Officiant: The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik  
Cell: 203-641-2068

Clergy Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Betty Brogan  
Mr. Josh Dulin, Minister of Music  
115 South Main Street, Mt Clemens, MI 48043  
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Visit us on the web at  
[www.gracechurchmtclemens.org](http://www.gracechurchmtclemens.org)

# Opening Hymn: Lift Him Up!



1. How to reach the mass - es, folk of ev - 'ry birth,  
 2. Oh! the world is hun - gry for the Liv - ing Bread,  
 3. Don't ex - alt the preach - er, don't ex - alt the pew,  
 4. Lift him up by liv - ing as a Chris - tian ought,

For an an - swer Je - sus gave the key: "And  
 Lift the Sav - ior up for them to see; Trust  
 Preach the Gos - pel sim - ple, full and free; Prove  
 Let the world in you the Sav - ior see; Then

I, if I be lift - ed up from the earth,  
 him, and do not doubt the words that he said,  
 him and you will find that prom - ise is true,  
 men will glad - ly fol - low him who once taught,

Will draw all people un - to me."  
 "I'll draw all people un - to me."  
 "I'll draw all people un - to me."  
 "I'll draw all people un - to me."

Lift him up, Lift him up,

Still he speaks from e - ter - ni - ty: "And I, if I be lift - ed  
 up from the earth, Will draw all people un - to me."

## **WORD OF GOD**

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**God's mercy endures forever.**

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these. **Amen.**

## ***THE COLLECT OF THE DAY***

Celebrant: May God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## ***THE FIRST READING***

### **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ***THE RESPONSE***

### **Psalm 51:1-13**

#### **Miserere mei, Deus**

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

## ***THE SECOND READING***

### **Hebrews 5:5-10**

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church .  
**Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel Hymn: Tree of Life



### (Verses for Lent)

Vs. 1: Light of life beyond conceiving, Mighty Spirit of our Lord;  
Give new strength to our believing, Give us faith to live your word. Give us faith to live your word.

Vs. 2: From the dawning of creation, You have loved us as your own;  
Stay with us through all temptation, Make us turn to you alone. Make us turn to you alone.

Vs. 3: In our call to be a blessing, May we be a blessing true;  
May we live and die confessing Christ as Lord of all we do. Christ as Lord of all we do.

Vs. 4: Living Water of salvation, Be the fountain of each soul;  
Springing up in new creation, Flow in us and make us whole. Flow in us and make us whole.

Vs. 5: Give us eyes to see you clearly, Make us children of your light;  
Give us hearts to live more nearly As your gospel shining bright. As your gospel shining bright.

Vs. 6: God of all our fear and sorrow, God who lives beyond our death;  
Hold us close through each tomorrow, Love as near as every breath. Love as near as every breath.

## **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, John 12:20-33**

### **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

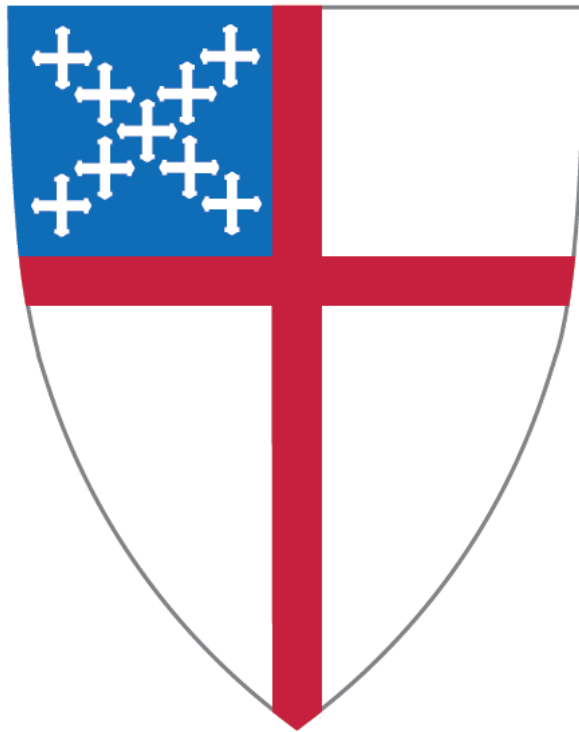
“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you Lord Christ**

### **The Homily: The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik**

*We observe a brief silence for reflection.*



## **The Affirmation of our Faith**

*At the early service:*

### **The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, The Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: By the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day, he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, And his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **At the later service:**

*Below is the Apostles' Creed, an ancient baptismal creed, but using the words, "I give my heart," a truer translation of the Latin word, "credo", than "I believe".*

**I give my heart to God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I give my heart to Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried, And descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I give my heart to the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic and apostolic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *The People stand or kneel.*

During this Lenten season of self-examination, repentance, fasting, prayer, self-denial, and almsgiving, we offer our prayers to God, saying:

***Lord, have mercy.***

We pray for the Christian church of God throughout the world, that all its members may turn to the Lord and keep a holy Lent.

***Lord, have mercy.***

We pray for all who are persecuted, shunned, neglected, or rejected because of racism, prejudice, fear or hatred; that they may find welcoming love in Christ.

***Lord, have mercy.***

We pray for the poor of the earth, for the victims of warfare, especially for all the people in Ukraine and Gaza, for refugees around the world, that their mourning may be turned into joy.

***Lord, have mercy.***

We pray for the nations of the world, that those in authority will hear, see and feel the love of God in their lives, and may they work toward peace and reconciliation with all people. ***Lord, have mercy.***

We pray for all who are in need of a safe place to live, for those who need food on the table, and for those who need protection and companionship.

***Lord, have mercy.***

We pray also for the sick, the suffering and the infirmed. We pray also for the disabled, those who are institutionalized, those who are grieving and those who are dying.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For our own needs and those of others, that God may be our hope and consolation.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For Michael Curry, our Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, that he may recover from his illness and return home to his normal routine.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***



For all those who have asked for our prayers:

**Nina, Barbara, Donna, Katherine, Karen, Jasmine, Allen, Tom, Sandy, Frankie, Sue, Lianne, Elliott, Connie, Charlotte, Jennifer, Joan, Elizabeth, Teresa, Carole, Gary, Sandy, Jeanne, Elizabeth, Joyce, Donna, Pamela, Rob, Bill, Mary Jo, Dennis, Mary, Linda, Dottie, Tom, Wayne, Michael, Kent, Pat, Tom, Darlene, Margaret, Sarah, Ronald, Chris, Gene, Sue, Gerry, Marianne, Linda, Jean, Carol, Jennifer, Angela, Noah, Ken, Tom, Randy, Sherie, Joan, Rob, Candy, Dan, Patti, Donna, Sharon, Andy.**

Leader: Are there others?

Bless, comfort and protect all those for whom we pray

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

### **CONCLUDING COLLECT**

God our creator, you are constantly and unconditionally loving us even when we stray from you. Hear our prayers and guide us into the way of your peace. **AMEN.**

### **LENTEN CONFESSION OF SIN**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

We bring the burden of our sins to you, O Christ, who bears the heavy load for us.

**All: We place upon you our excuses, our shortcomings, our anger  
and our disordered affections, knowing that you can forgive them and restore us to life.**

We confess that we have gone astray.

**All: We confess that we have not loved you fully  
And have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.**

**We confess that we have not fully loved even our very selves.**

**We are sorry; please forgive us.**

Help us to turn back to you.

**All: Restore what has been broken, Transform what has been twisted,  
Find what has been lost.**

**Make us again your living, loving image in this world. AMEN.**

*The priest announces God's forgiveness.*

Hear the Good News: Christ Jesus came into the world to reconcile us with God and each other. God is just, and may be trusted to cleanse us from every kind of wrongdoing.

By God's love I declare to you that your sins are forgiven you, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. If you would have the life God intends for you, go and forgive others as well.

**All: AMEN.**

## THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HOLY WEEK SERVICES

#### PALM SUNDAY

March 24 Regular Times 8:30 & 10:30

#### HOLY WEEK

Wednesday, March 27 – Stations of the Cross 6:00

Thursday, March 28 – Agape Meal & Hand Washing 6:00

- Optional 1 hour vigil in sanctuary after end of service

#### Good Friday, March 29

- Noon service no communion
- 1:00 pm Stations of the Cross
- 6:00 pm Service no communion

#### EASTER

March 31 Regular Times 8:30 & 10:30

Bring a flower to place in the cross

Festive coffee hour follows



### SAVE THE DATE – Saturday JUNE 22

#### Faith Day at Comerica Park

Pre-game program at 9:30 with on the field baseball presentation and 1:10 pm game between the Tigers and White Sox. Talk with some of the Detroit players who will share their Christian faith and how it impacts their lives and careers as professional baseball players.

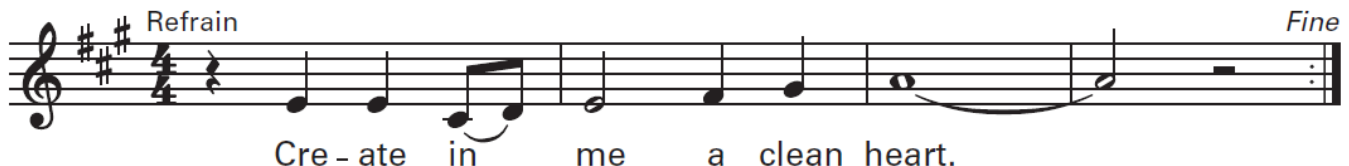
### Confirmation & Reception

If you would like to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church by Bishop Bonnie on Saturday, May 11th at 11:00am at St. James Episcopal Church on Grosse Isle, please contact Pastor Steve. We have two meeting dates on Wednesday April 3rd & April 10th at 6:00pm to discuss and prepare for the event!

## THE MINISTRY OF THE TABLE

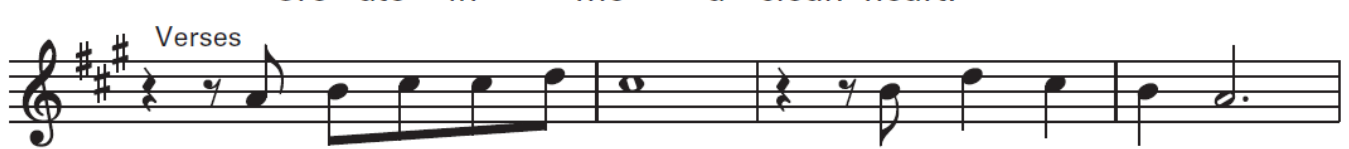
### The Offering Song: Psalm 51: Create in Me

**Refrain** *Fine*



Cre - ate in me a clean heart.

**Verses**



1. Have mer-cy on me, God, in your com-pas-sion.  
2. O pu - ri - fy my heart and teach me wis-dom;  
3. O give me back the joy of your sal - va - tion;

to Refrain



1. Re-move my sin. Wash me \_ from my guilt.  
2. then I shall be clean - er \_ than the snow.  
3. a will - ing spir-it & 7 sus-tain in me.

### Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
AMEN.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### SANCTUS:

8:30 Service

**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.**

10:30 Service

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow - er and might.

5  
Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

9  
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

### *Celebrant continues*

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Celebrant:* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

*At the 8:30 Service:*

**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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN**

*At the 10:30 Service:*

**Our Father in heaven, holy is your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. AMEN.**

## **BREAKING OF BREAD**

*Celebrant:* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People:* Therefore let us keep the feast.

*Celebrant:* The Gifts of God, for all of us, the holy people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

**Music for Communion: Come Just as You Are**

1. Come just as you are; Hear the Spir - it call.  
2. Come just as you are; Hear the Spir - it call.

Come just as you are; Come and see, come, re-ceive;  
Come just as you are; Come, re-ceive Christ, the King;

Come and live for - ev - er.  
Come and live for - ev - er - more.

Life ev - er - last - ing, and strength for to - day;

Taste the Liv - ing Wa - ter, and nev - er thirst a - gain.

1, 3 2, 4 last time Fine

D.C. al Fine (to stanza one)

**Choir Selection: Not My Will**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER:** *said by all, standing or kneeling*

**All:** During Lent we ask you O God, to renew us. With a gentle breath, blow from our lives the dust of sin, and make us your people again. Lift us from guilt, and shame, and regret, to repair all we've broken, and give us the gift of repentance. With the lengthening days, stretch our hearts, to be ready at Easter for your risen life in us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **BLESSING**

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love, make haste to be kind and may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, strengthen and sustain you this Lenten Season. **AMEN.**

## Closing Hymn: God, Beyond Our Ways of Knowing



*First, Last* God be - yond our ways of know - ing, you in -  
*Lent I* Faith - ful Christ, you nev - er leave me com - fort -  
*Lent II* If I choose to rise and fol - low, I must  
*Lent III* Oth - er gods de - mand de - vo - tion— mon - ey,  
*Lent IV* You came not for con - dem - na - tion but with  
*Lent V* Though my soul is sore and ach - ing, Je - sus,



vite us in - to grace, shep - herd us to  
 less or all a - lone though temp - ta - tion  
 seize up - on the cross— oth - er for - tunes  
 mar - kets, might, ac - claim, bus - y lives in  
 heal - ing for the earth, grant - ing this death -  
 I shall fol - low you— when my will is



guide our grow - ing, help us seek and  
 may de - ceive me, though my voice may  
 now ring hol - low, oth - er prof - its  
 end - less mo - tion, off - 'ring hap - pi -  
 bound cre - a - tion life re - vived through  
 weak and break - ing, you are work - ing



find our place: teach - ing us through Christ to  
 ache and moan; for the day the proph - ets  
 count as loss. Christ, come lift me when I  
 ness and fame. When my fev - ered striv - ings  
 sec - ond - birth. As the morn - ing breaks the  
 some - thing new— flow - ers crack the thirst - ing



live in the bless - ings that you give.  
 sought is ful - filled in what you taught.  
 fall, stumb - ling as I heed your call.  
 cease, you are still my source of peace.  
 night, so you fill the world with light.  
 sand in a dry and dy - ing land.



## DISMISSAL

*Priest:* As you leave the comfort of this church building, be aware of how much our tired and hurting world needs your strength and gladness, for there are deeds of compassion and courage that will never be done unless you do them; and words of hope and healing that will never be spoken unless you speak them. So go out into the world with the peace and surety that Christ is with you!

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

## The Prayers of this Congregation

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael B. Curry, our Presiding Bishop, Our Bishop, Bonnie Anne Perry, Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic, Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Presiding Bishop, Donald P. Kreiss, ELCA Bishop, SE Michigan Synod, Craig A. Satterlee, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod. Our retired bishop, Wendell Gibbs; our retired community, spouses and companions. Our diocesan household: Committees, commissions, ministries, agencies, priests, deacons, lay leaders, volunteers and staff persons, Mt. Clemens' Grace Church, Bonao, DR Church of the Pentecost.

For Nina DiGaetano, Barbara Davenport, Donna Hanes, Katherine Domienik, Karen Blackburn, Jasmine Gardner, Allen David Clay, Tom & Sandy Krell, Frankie Dion, Sue Schlanbusch, Lianne Neumann, Elliott, Connie Harvey, Charlotte Kalligeros, Jennifer Holland, Joan Walsh, Elizabeth Gage, Teresa Davidson, Carole Schwertman, Gary & Sandy Brown, Jeanne Nowak, Elizabeth Eckert, Joyce Bain, Donna Powell, Pamela Sherry, Bill Sobkowicz, Mary Jo Mundell, Dennis Fetter, Rob Long, Mary Williams, Linda Fields, Dottie Nowak, Tom Castonguay, Wayne Duda, Michael Woodard, Kent Schwandt, Pat Greenwood, Tom Hill, Darlene Dzerski, Margaret Monroe, Sara Mattocks, Ronald Steel, Chris Frangedakis, Gene Skladnowski, Sue Chapman, Carol Kulas, Gerry Lynne Chirgwin, Marianne Grenier, Linda Stevens, Jean Hitchcock, Jennifer Crowley, Angela Elkins, Noah Mattocks, Ken George, Tom Burns, Randy Dornall, Sherie Borsa, Joan Donald, Rob Haynes, Candy Dixon, Dan Fox, Patti Shelton, Donna Chapman, Sharon Krentz, Andy.

*Please note: Names will remain on the prayer list for one month.*

*In order to add someone or keep someone on the prayer list, please call the office.*

*Do you know someone who is ill? Please contact the office and we will add them to the prayer list.*

### The MINISTRIES of GRACE CHURCH

*Currently*

#### WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, in person & online 8:30 & 10:30 am. Visit our website for more information.

Bible Study: Sundays at 9:30 am at Grace

#### OUTREACH MINISTRIES

**Community Suppers:**

**Wednesdays at 4:00**

**Sunday Suppers: Sundays at 4:00, November-March**

**Food Pantry:**

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 am -12 noon, curbside pickup

*Serving from 250 - 350 people every month*

**Blessings in a Backpack:**

Tuesdays at 2:00 at Oakley Industries Plants #4

**All outreach ministries welcome volunteers,  
financial donations, or food and clothing donations.**

***Call the office to learn about helping or giving:***

***586-465-4573***

## Current Announcements

### Easter Flowers:

Please Sign up for Easter flowers on the bulletin board. **Free will donation!**



### COFFEE HOUR:

Please volunteer to host a coffee hour, the sign up sheet is in the hallway leading to the sanctuary. The host(s) makes and sets up the coffee and any snacks and then cleans up afterwards. You may also be reimbursed for any money you spend for snacks, just let Pastor Steve know! Thank you for sharing in the hospitality ministry of our parish!



### BIBLE STUDY:

Please join us on **Sundays at 9:30 am** in the **Guild Room** for our bible study. No preparation needed, just come, and listen and join in the conversation.

We learn a great deal about scripture, our faith, ourselves, and each other! Hope to see you there!



Lead me from death to life, from falsehood to truth;  
lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust;  
lead me from hate to love, from war to peace.  
Let peace fill our heart, our world, our universe.

Mother Teresa

Universal Prayer for Peace Taizé Service

*A Time to quiet oneself to hear God in the universe*

## LENTEN EDUCATION PROGRAM

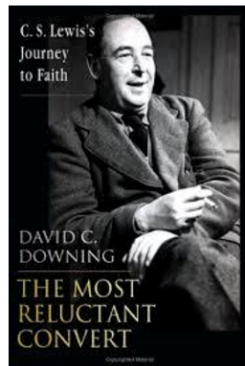
We were hoping to continue our Lenten showing of the CHOSEN on Tuesdays during Lent, but unfortunately, it is still at the theaters and will not be released for internet down-streaming or rental until after Easter.

Hence, we have come up with another plan for our Lenten study journey. We have decided to go with C.S Lewis and view a few movies based on his life and writings. There will be discussion around the Christian themes, motifs and symbols found in these movies and there will be some light reading prior to the March 11 meeting. Lewis was raised Protestant but became an atheist at an early age and then through several experiences he embraced an adult faith and became a prolific writer and defender of Christianity.

**We will meet on three Mondays in March at 6:00 pm  
for a movie and conversation.**

**March 18 – Shadowlands (1993)** 131 minutes *Biography, Drama, Romance*

C. S. Lewis, a world-renowned Christian theologian, writer and professor, leads a passionless life until he meets spirited poet Joy Gresham from the U.S.



# House of Bishops Meeting Summary

Around 125 bishops gathered for The Episcopal Church's House of Bishops annual spring retreat from Feb. 28 to March 4 at Camp Allen in Navasota, Texas. The Rt. Rev. Wendell Gibbs chaired the meeting while Presiding Bishop Michael Curry continued recuperating at home from recent health procedures. In preparation for the gathering, the bishops were given two questions to consider for deep discussion:

- What support in your ministry do you need from your bishop colleagues now?
- What are the marks of a healthy culture for the House of Bishops?

Themes that emerged in the discussion were needs for deepening friendships and fostering vulnerability within the house; studying Scripture together; greater transparency; and increased collaboration and information sharing on critical incidents within dioceses.

While the spring gathering of the House of Bishops traditionally emphasizes retreat, Sabbath, and relationship building, the bishops held a business meeting on Feb. 29. The Rt. Rev. Diane Jardine Bruce, bishop provisional of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Missouri and secretary for the House of Bishops, noted at the start of the meeting that when she became a bishop 14 years ago, only 10% of the bishops were women; now, 36% of bishops in The Episcopal Church are women.

The Rt. Rev. Ann Ritonia, bishop suffragan for Armed Forces and Federal Ministries, told the bishops that there are 104 Episcopal chaplains, including 94 in active military duty, seven ministering in Veterans Affairs, and three ministering in federal prisons. She emphasized the need to encourage vocations in military chaplaincy, particularly to ensure that LGBTQ+ service members have access to identity-affirming spiritual care. Ritonia also lifted up the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande as the pathway for chaplains from other denominations to become military chaplains in The Episcopal Church.

The House of Bishops has seen approximately 25% turnover since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, and this orientation provided an opportunity for bishops new to General Convention to learn more about House of Bishops procedures. The gathering concluded on March 4 with further reflection time and a closing reception.