

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

February 28th, 2021

2nd Sunday in Lent

MUSICAL PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP AND COUNTDOWN

MINI MOVIE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

PRELUDE A Celtic Set for Lent

T. Keesecker

CHORAL INTROIT Jesus Loves Me (Children) *William B. Bradbury, 1862*

GREETING L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are invited to walk with God.

We are welcomed by God as people of the covenant.

How awesome to stand in the presence of our Creator!

We bring our praise to glorify God.

God calls us by name and gives us new names.

We are summoned to faithfulness and fruitfulness.

God not only speaks to us but also listens.

God hears our cries and meets our need.

Let the ends of the earth remember and turn to God.

Let the families of all nations worship the Creator.

We will pay our vows to the One who calls us.

We praise the God of all nations and all peoples.

MORNING PRAYER (read by Lay Reader)

In trust and confidence, we call on your name, almighty God, eager to know you more fully and serve you more faithfully. We have heard your amazing promises given to our ancestors in the faith. We seek your word for us in our day, for we want to grow strong in our faith as our ancestors did in theirs. As they gave you glory and praise, we gather to do the same. As they passed on their faith to new generations, we seek to teach and live in such a way that our children and their children will be drawn to minister in your name.

Amen.

*HYMN Lift High the Cross *verses 1, 3, 4*

#229

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of our ancestors, we come to you, confessing that we have set our minds on human things. We have sought to gain the world - so many things to buy, so many things to do. Yet we are not satisfied. Life's meaning eludes us. Your ways seem out of date; your promises appear as the hopes and dreams of a past generation. But in our hearts we sense an eternal design which is for all generations, a way of life more satisfying than we have allowed ourselves to explore. O God, we confess our need for you.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's face is not hidden from those who truly seek. God does not withhold love from us when we go our own way. When we open our eyes to see God's works, when we open our ears to hear God's word, when all our senses are alert to God's leading, we will realize how we have been blessed by an unseen hand, forgiven and restored to wholeness. God offers us the opportunity to live as one in tune with the universal, filled with hope, upheld in love, dwelling in covenant.

*GLORIA PATRI

#805

CHORAL ANTHEM Without His Cross

Joseph M. Martin

CHILDREN'S CHAT Rev. James Deters

*HYMN My Faith Looks Up to Thee *verses 1, 2, 3*

#552

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 (p.12); Romans 4:13-25 (p. 1027) & Mark 8:31-38 (p.919)

MESSAGE Rev. James Deters

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

On insert

PERIOD OF GUIDED PRAYER Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

OFFERINGS OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY Interlude

John Carter

*DOXOLOGY

#809

*OFFERTORY PRAYER (unison)

Glorious God, we dedicate these gifts as an expression of our faith. You alone know how much we share and how much we withhold. You know the extent of our trust and the depth of our commitment. May this act of giving draw us closer to you and extend a blessing to all who are helped through our sharing. Amen.

*HYMN Take Up Thy Cross

On insert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Dare this week to follow where Jesus leads.

Dare to love the unlovable and care about others.

We want to follow in the footsteps of Christ.

We want the poor to eat and be satisfied.

Do not be ashamed to challenge values of our culture.

Dare to question all that denies God's reign.

We want to live with faith, hope, and love.

We want to extend God's rule to all people.

The promises of God are for you and for all.

God will make you exceedingly fruitful.

We will trust the promise of God.

We go out to live as covenant people.

Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE TO BENEDICTION** God Be With You

POSTLUDE Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

*All those who are able, please stand.

ORGANIST Nancy Dufek

CHOIR DIRECTOR Diana Mann

SINGERS Becca Nelson, Lynn Adams, Tim Delnay, Bill Handy

VMIX Jenny Delnay **SOUND** Chuck Gottschall

PRODUCER Lynn Adams

TECH SUPPORT Ernie Bliss

Church office hours Monday--Friday from 8:15 a.m. to noon

Rev. James Deters, Pastor upccpastor@gmail.com

Kate Bernardo, Administrative Assistant kate.uppc@gmail.com

Church office phone 715-682-3093

Website: <https://upcchurch.org>

Like us on Facebook at United Presbyterian Congregational Church

Join our Facebook group at UPCC Connection

#840

John Carter



United Presbyterian/Congregational Church

214 Vaughn Ave, Ashland, Wisconsin 54806

PASTOR: Reverend James Deters

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 am

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 am

Illustration by Ben Cogger

AFFIRMATION

**Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God,
the Lord alone.**

**You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your might.**

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Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

p.12

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

15-16

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her and, moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Romans 4:13-25

p. 1027

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he

believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Mark 8:31-38

p.919

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

ACTIVITIES

3/2 3:00 pm Virtual Facilities & Grounds meeting

BIRTHDAYS

29 Roxanna Turner, Mercedes Torres & Thomas Sanders
2 Nancy Dufek, Chuck Gottschall
3 Sherry Hanson & Ayden Zifko
5 Price Wickman & Joe Schultz

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In an effort to keep the congregation informed of events and activities of interest to the church family, please submit announcements for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. The submission deadline is noon every Tuesday. Please send your information to the church office via email to info@upcchurch.org.

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Lift High the Cross 229

"And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." Jn. 12:32

Unison

(Ref.) Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

Fine

1. Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod, our
 2. All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied bear
 3. O Lord, once lift - ed on the tree of pain, draw
 4. Let ev - ery race and ev - ery lan - guage tell of
 5. So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: praise

King vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 on their brows the seal of him who died.
 all the world to seek you once a - gain.
 him who saves our souls from death and hell.
 to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

D.C.

552 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith . . . Heb. 12:2

1. My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2. May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3. While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,
 4. When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
 shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love, fear and dis -

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
 love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
 trust re - move; O bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

WORDS: Ray Palmer, 1830
 MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1832

OLIVET
 6.6.4.6.6.6.4.

Take Up Thy Cross

415



1. "Take up thy cross," the Sav - ior said, "if thou wouldst
 2. Take up thy cross, let not its weight fill thy weak
 3. Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame, nor let thy
 4. Take up thy cross and fol - low Christ, nor think till



my dis - ci - ple be; de - ny thy - self, the
 spir - it with a - larm; his strength shall bear thy
 fool - ish pride re - bel; thy Lord for thee the
 death to lay it down; for on - ly those who



world for - sake, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."
 spir - it up, and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.
 cross en - dured, to save thy soul from death and hell.
 bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.



WORDS: Charles W. Everest, 1833 (Mt. 16:24-25; Mk. 8:34-35; Lk. 9:23-24)
 MUSIC: William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

GERMANY
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