

Sunday, 10 am – March 24, 2019
Third Sunday in Lent

* indicates stand as able

Words to Ponder: “Miracles were just second chances if you really thought about it—second chances when all hope was lost.”

— *Kaya McLaren*

We Gather to Worship God

Gathering Music: Thank God for the Promise of Spring – Gaither

*Though the skies be gray above me
And I can't see the light of day,
There's a ray breaking through the shadows,
And His smile can't be far away.*

Refrain:

*Thank God for the promise of springtime,
Once again my heart will sing;
There's a brand new day that is dawning,
Thank God for the promise of spring*

*Though the earth seems bleak and barren
And the seeds lay brown and dead,
Yet the promise of life throbs within them,
And I know spring is just ahead.*

CCLI lic# 11199365

**Opening Hymn:* In the Bulb There Is a Flower VU 703

Lighting of Christ Candle: Acolyte: Audrey Joy Anderson
Christ candle, burning bright,
Guiding our way in this season of Lent.
Christ candle, glowing light,
The blessing of God, giving new sight.

Welcome and Greeting/ The Life, Work and Mission of the Church

**Call to Gather:* Nicole Beaudry

God will surprise us with kindness.

Our lives will be carried beyond the horizons of human mercy and enrich us with overflowing love.

Pause, turn around on the Lenten road and see a new reality.

On this road we may find in faith, the gifts of God through Christ.

Then in celebration we will refresh the world,
with generosity beyond the ordinary.

Let us gather in the name of the One who offers second chances.

Sung Response: Don't Be Afraid MV 90 (Eng./Fr.)

Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,

My love is stronger than your fear.

Don't be afraid. My Love is stronger and I have promised,

Promised to be always near.

N'avez pas peur

Mon amour est plus fort

Il est plus fort que votre peur.

N'avez pas peur, mon amour est plus fort .

Je vous ai promis, promis d'être toujours là

Special Music: Miracle – Page (Bell Canto)

Time for the Young at Heart & the Prayer of Jesus Nicole Beaudry

* *Hymn:* Listen, God Is Calling MV 97

(Youth and Children may leave for programme)

We Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination (together) God of plenty and of open door, you feed the deep places in our spirits and speak the words that evoke turning for the good. Send your Spirit to illumine us with your Word of Life. Amen.

The Gospel: “Parable of the Fig Tree” Luke 13: 1-9

This passage is divided into two parts, verses 1-5 and verses 6-9. The first part mentions Pilate's mingling the blood of Galileans with their sacrifices that appears to refer to a massacre of a group of Galilean pilgrims in Jerusalem. In the second part, Jesus introduces a short parable about a fig tree that speaks of imminent judgment. What is the good news of this passage in today's listening?

Ministry of Music: Come, Peace of God - Butler

Sermon: "Figs and Second Chances"

*Hymn: There Is Room for All MV 62 (Eng./Fr./Eng.)

We Respond in Faith

Prayers of the People

Offering and Offertory Music: I Sing the Almighty Power of God – McCullough (3rd verse with congregation)

Congregation and Choir:

There's not a plant or flower be - low, but
makes thy glo - ries known; and clouds a - rise, and
tem - pests blow, by or - der from thy throne; while
all that bor - rows life from thee is ev - er in thy
care, and ev - 'ry-where that we can be, thou,
God, art pres - ent there.

I Sing the Almighty Power of God by Donald McCullough (CGA812)
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*Presentation of Offering and Offertory Hymn: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross VU 149 (vs. 4)

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small:
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.**

Offertory Prayer:

Loving God, may our offering of time, talents and resources help extend the shelter of your love in our community and in the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

We Depart in Peace

*Hymn: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah VU 651

Sending Forth:

Encouraged by the faithfulness of God,
inspired by the Word of God,
Challenged by the justice of God,
enfolded by the love of God,
we go from this place blessed by the peace of Christ. **Amen.**

Departing Music: The Lord Bless You and Keep You - Rutter

Thanks to Those Assisting with Today's Service:

Greeter/Ushers: Pat Stoate, Gloria McGaw, Grace Runions, Lyn Williams

Reader: David Stafford

Refreshments: Jeff Stoate & Doug Jones

Sound System: Bob Boynton