

Order of Worship
RECOVERY SUNDAY & THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
9:30 am – March 3, 2024

Participating Live?

Text your prayer requests to 805-309-6867 before the end of the first hymn.

PRELUDE

Miriam Arichea

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Karen Flock, liturgist

There are times when we feel powerless, and our lives can become unmanageable.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

We believe that a power greater than ourselves can heal us.

Therefore, we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

We freely turn our will and our lives over to the care of God, as we understand God.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of it, it shall not be moved; God will help right early.

During this time of Lent, we are encouraged to make a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

We can admit to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

(Adapted from the first 5 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous and Psalm 46)

OPENING HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past (vs. 1,2,3,6)

UMH 117

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719. Public Domain.

Music: Attr. To William Croft, 1708; harm. By W.H. Monk, 1861. Public Domain.

1. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!
2. Under the shadow of thy throne, still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is Thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
from everlasting, Thou art God, to endless years the same.
6. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come;
be Thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 25: 4-7, 16-21 & Genesis 9:8-23

Karen Flock, liturgist

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT (Children and Youth come to the steps for a word from the pastor)

PREPARATION HYMN

Amazing Grace (vs. 1-4)

UMH 378

Words: John Newton, Public Domain; Music: 19th Century USA melody, harm. Edwin. O Excell, Public Domain

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

MESSAGE

Pastor Diane Rehfield

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Where Waters Flow

Ron Mallory

VFUMC Bell Choir; Deborah Fitzgibbons, interim director

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Lord, we ask for many things from you throughout our lives. Today we ask for healing and wholeness for all those who are affected by various forms of destructive addictions. May our offerings today be blessed by you to spread the word of hope and healing that can come through following Christ, and may we be blessed to your service as living witnesses of that healing. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we confess that sometimes we feel helpless, alone, and weak. We realize that we know only a little, and each time we try to do everything on our own, we fail. We need your power and grace. We want to rely on you daily to guide us to do the things that are necessary for abundant life. We want your strength to be ours, so that we can stand strong in your world. We need to be reassured that death to our old ways need not be feared and that true life is found in You. Amen

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In creation, we see God's power and majesty. In Jesus Christ, we see amazing grace and ultimate love for us in action. In the Holy Spirit, we receive ongoing encouragement and power every day. Our God is a great God! In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven. **In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven.** (The Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance are adapted from Presbyterians for Addiction Action (PAA) A ministry network of the Presbyterian Health, Education, & Welfare Association (PHEWA) www.pcusa.org/phewa)

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (found on p. 17 of The United Methodist Hymnal)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us lift up our hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

... As we proclaim the mystery of faith:

***Sung:* Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

... All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

***Sung:* Amen.**

(UM Book of Worship, The Methodist Publishing House, ©1972)

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LORD'S PRAYER

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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND RECEIVING OF THE ELEMENTS**

COMMUNION MUSIC

Miriam Arichea

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves to others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

SENDING HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

UMH 140

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923. Music: William M. Runyan, 1923. ©1923, renewed 1951 Hope Publishing Co. Song #01658.

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1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain**

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prayer Requests

Knollwood UMC—Pastor Kalesita Tu'ifua

First UMC of San Fernando—Pastor Teaira Parker

All those suffering from illness or loss of loved ones.