

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

SECOND SUNDAY IN  
LENT



March 16, 2025

# Second Sunday in Lent

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 16, 2025

10:30 A.M.

### **THE GATHERING**

PRELUDE

"Voluntary on Olivet"  
"Be still and know that I am God."  
(Please use this time to prepare for worship in silence.)

Gordon Young  
*Psalm 46:10*

WORDS OF WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PASSING THE PEACE      "...I was a stranger and you welcomed me."      *Matthew 25:35b*  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.      **And also with you.**  
(The people may greet each other in the spirit of Christ.)

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Genesis 15:5-6)

Liturgist

Look to the stars—filling the sky with light!

**God's word is a light, shining brightly in the darkness.**

Look to the stars—spread across the universe, farther than any eye has seen.

**God is ever present, even to the ends of the earth and the depths of the sea.**

Look to the stars—more than we even have numbers to count.

**God's grace is beyond language, beyond imagining, beyond comprehension.**

Look to the stars—signs of God's promise, shining through all generations.

**Let us worship our amazing God in whom we trust.**

OPENING PRAYER

THE LENTEN WREATH – THE SECOND CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED Rich and Marjorie  
Groenwald

On Sunday morning, for a brief space of time, we leave behind the world – the world where we have lists of things to do, activities in which to participate, and tasks to complete. We come to worship this morning seeking something else. We come here seeking a shift – from the ordinary to the sacred, from doing to being. I invite you to close your eyes. Let go of your lists. Recall that it is the season of Lent. Remember the parable of the Sower. The Sower throws the seed . . . and where it lands determines if it will grow or not grow. Think of it this way: Think of the season of Lent as the Sower, the time when seeds of faith are thrown with special intensity, as a time when God calls to us in a low, urgent voice. Listen. Jesus is being drawn to Jerusalem. (Silence.)

As we extinguish this light, we acknowledge the injury done to the Earth and its ecosystems. (A candle is extinguished.)

Let us pray:

**All: Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, open our hearts to your presence. Through Christ, give us the strength to make the changes needed in our lives and the courage to take on the work of transforming the world. Amen.**

\*HYMN 53

"O God, Who Gives Us Life"

NOEL

\*CONFESSION AND PARDON

If the Lord should number our sins, who could survive? But there is forgiveness with God for with God there is steadfast love and great power to redeem. Trusting in God's sure mercy, let us confess our sin together. Let us pray.

**O Lord our God, whose love is everlasting and whose grace endures forever, look with favor upon us as we confess our sin. You long to draw us close and keep us safe, but we turn away. Forgive us for spurning your love. You offer to lead us into deeper faith, but we resist. Forgive us for filling our life with everything except you. You desire to use us as instruments of your hospitality and justice, but we refuse. Have mercy on us for not welcoming the stranger or supporting the oppressed. Open your arms to us once more, Gentle God, and grant us courage to truly follow our Lord Jesus Christ, obeying your will and serving your world, till your kingdom comes. Amen.**

Silent Confession

\*KYRIE

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

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine. Friends, believe the good news. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

***THE WORD***

CHILDREN'S TIME

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

**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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not in to temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE HEBREW BIBLE READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM: 27 (Responsive)

The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
**whom shall I fear?**

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
**of whom shall I be afraid?**

When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh –  
**my adversaries and foes – they shall stumble and fall.**

Though an army encamp against me,  
**my heart shall not fear;**  
though war rise up against me,  
**yet I will be confident.**

One thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after:  
**to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.**

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;  
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;  
**he will set me high on a rock.**

Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,  
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;  
**I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!  
"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"  
**Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me.**

Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.  
Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!  
**If my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up.**

Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.  
Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,  
for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

**I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.**  
Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
**Wait for the Lord!**

These words are trustworthy and true.

**Thanks be to God!**

SPECIAL MUSIC

"The Peace May be Exchanged"

Dan Locklear

THE EPISTLE READING: Philippians 3:17-4:1  
Surely our salvation is at hand.

**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Citizens of Heaven"

***THE RESPONSE***

\*HYMN 177

"I Will Come to You"

YOU ARE MINE

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *The Theological Declaration of Barmen*)  
**Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture,**

**is the one Word of God which we have to hear  
and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death.**

**As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins,  
so in the same way and with the same seriousness  
is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life.  
Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance  
from the godless fetters of this world  
for a free, grateful service to his creatures. Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"Elevation"

Dom Paul Benoit

\*DOXOLOGY/Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (606)

**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.**

\*PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

### ***THE SENDING***

\*HYMN 314

"Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness"

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Prelude and Fugue in A Minor"

JS Bach

\*Those who are able, please stand.

(You are welcome to be seated for the postlude or to leave the sanctuary directly after the benediction. Because our worship is primarily toward God and in response to God's grace in Jesus Christ, we refrain from applause. In our culture, applause is how we show appreciation for a performance. However, in worship, we are the "performers" for God. Thus, our singing, the music played, a solo or any other musical offering is an offering to God.)

### **PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP**

Rev. Margie Osborn, Guest Pastor

Pat Sheafor, Liturgist

Dennis and Sally Keeney, Ushers

Mac and Marilyn Whisner, Judy McQuilkin, Greeters

Rich and Marjorie Groenwald, Lenten Readers

Tim Quist, Organist

## St. Patrick's Day Potluck Sunday March 16th

Immediately following Service in Edwards Hall.

Large Corned Beef Ryeben Casserole  
Fixings for Corned Beef Sandwiches will be  
supplied.

Today following Worship!



### **CHECK OUT A BOOK FROM THE BOOK NOOK**

#### BOOKS FOR LENT IN THE BOOK NOOK:

THE WILL OF GOD AS A WAY OF LIFE, Eugene Peterson, How to make every day decisions with peace and confidence.

LET'S START OVER, David McKechnie, Practical guide to spiritual renewal

SACRED RHYTHMS, Ruth Barton, Arranging our lives for spiritual transformation

HOLY SOLITUDE, Haverkamp, Lenten reflections

40 DAYS OF GRACE, Paul Tripp, Life changing power of grace

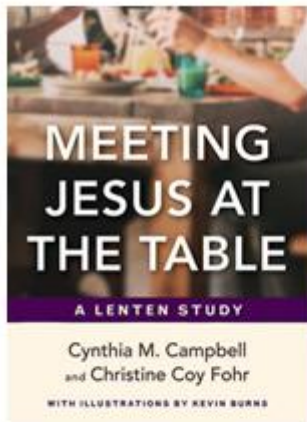
SIX HOURS ONE FRIDAY, Max Lucado, Three solid anchor points we can cling to

LIVING INTO LENT, Donald McKim, A Lenten journey

EASTER STORIES, multiple authors, Classic tales for the holy season

TREASURY OF EASTER CELEBRATIONS, Ideals





Join us during Lent as we discuss

# MEETING JESUS AT THE TABLE

by Cynthia M. Campbell and Christine Coy Fohr

Sundays at 9am



Our wonderful pianist,

**Polly Mauer,**

will be appearing at

St. Ambrose

Friday, March 21

5pm-8pm

She would love to see some familiar faces there!