



# Service for the Lord's Day

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Please SILENCE ALL Personal Electronic Devices Before Worship.

## **We Gather as God's People**

***Welcome to our worship service. Take a moment to quiet yourself as we prepare ourselves for worship.***

Welcome and Preparation for Worship

Welcome to Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church! In this space, we invite you to bring all of who you are - your identity, your beliefs, your doubts, your questions, and your story wherever you are on your journey in life. Our prayer is that together we will experience God's presence.

**The Gathering Music** ..... "The Power of the Cross" Getty & Townend / arr. Koerts  
"Meditation on Kingsfold" arr. Albrecht

### **The Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude** ..... "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" arr. Whitworth

### **Call to Worship** [Responsive]

*One:* The Peace of Christ be with you.

***Many:* And also with you.**

*One:* As a deer longs for flowing streams, so longs my soul for You, O Beloved.

***Many:* My soul thirsts for the Beloved, for the Living Water.**

*One:* My hope is in the Beloved, my strength and my joy,

***Many:* O my soul, open the door to Love!**

*One:* O, send out your light and your truth;

***Many:* let them guide me,**

*One:* Let them lead me to the inner home of integrity, your holy sanctuary within me!

***Many:* Then will I know You, Heart of my heart, my exceeding joy;**

*One:* And I will praise You with song, O my Beloved, my Awakener..

***Many:* My hope is in the Beloved, my strength and my joy,**

*One:* O my soul, open the door to Love!

**The Opening Hymn** *PH* # 356 ..... "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

**Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace,  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise,  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above,  
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, Mount of Thy redeeming love.**

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, bought me with his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:  
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

### **The Opening Prayer** [Responsive]

*One:* Let us pray... Holy Watering One, Fount of Every Blessing, We come to you this morning, opening our parched places

**Many:** to receive the springs of living water You offer to us.

*One:* Most of the time, most of us don't even know we are thirsty.

**Many:** We don't know the deep dehydration that scours our bones and parches our hearts.

*One:* Sometimes, when our thirst pangs emerge, We draw from the enticing wells of the world's offering of power and profit,

**Many:** which leave us even more empty.

*One:* Still us, God, so we might listen to You

**Many:** speaking to us, knowing us, seeing us, loving us.

*One:* Fill us with your Living Water that will transform our spirits and souls into springs that burst forth

**Many:** with life and love for your people, for ourselves, and for our world. Amen.

**Two+** (A new way to share the peace of Christ and greet one another.)

*"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."* Matthew 18:20

*Question:* "How much water do you drink each day??"

## **We Listen for God's Word**

### **The Prayer for Illumination** [Responsive]

*One:* Let us pray... God, you reach into our lives not through instruction, but story.

**Many:** Open our hearts to be attentive: that seeing, we may perceive, and hearing, we may understand, and understanding, may act upon your word, that still lives and speaks to us. Amen.

### **The Scripture**

John 4:5-42

Readers Theatre

**Narrator:** So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water. His disciples had gone to the city to buy food, so Jesus said to her,

**Jesus:** 'Give me a drink.'

**Narrator:** The Samaritan woman said to him,

**Samaritan Woman:** 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?'

**Narrator:** Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans. Jesus answered her,

**Jesus:** 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.'

**Narrator:** The woman said to him,

**Samaritan Woman:** 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?'

**Narrator:** Jesus said to her,

**Jesus:** 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.'

**Narrator:** The woman said to him,

**Samaritan Woman:** 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

**Narrator:** Jesus said to her,

**Jesus:** 'Go, call your husband, and come back.'

**Narrator:** The woman answered him,

**Samaritan Woman:** 'I have no husband.'

**Narrator:** Jesus said to her,

**Jesus:** 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!'

**Narrator:** The woman said to him,

**Samaritan Woman:** 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.'

**Narrator:** Jesus said to her,

**Jesus:** 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.'

**Narrator:** The woman said to him,

**Samaritan Woman:** 'I know that Messiah is coming. When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.'

**Narrator:** Jesus said to her,

**Jesus:** 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

**Narrator:** Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,

**Samaritan Woman:** 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?'

**Narrator:** They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him,

**Disciples:** 'Rabbi, eat something.'

**Narrator:** But he said to them,

**Jesus:** 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.'

**Narrator:** So the disciples said to one another,

**Disciples:** 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?'

**Narrator:** Jesus said to them,

**Jesus:** 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.'

**Narrator:** Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman,

**Samaritan Villagers:** 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.'

**One:** For the Word of God in Scripture, For the Word of God among us, For the Word of God within us,

**Many:** We give thanks to God!

**The Reflection** ..... Rev. Brenda Lovick

## **We Respond to God's Love**

**The Prayer Hymn** *PH* # 404..... "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, help me stand;

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; Through the storm, through the night,

Lead me on the light; Take my hand, precious Lord, Lead me home.

When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near;  
When my life is almost gone, Hear my cry, hear my call,  
Hold my hand lest I fall; Take my hand, Precious Lord, lead me home.

## **The Pastoral Prayer** [Responsive]

*One:* Let us pray... God, like the Israelites in the wilderness, we too have known Your love, and experienced Your care and provision. You invite us to extend that love to the world around us—to care for others as deeply as we care for ourselves. And so we bring the needs of our world before You now. In Your mercy,

**Many: hear our prayer.**

*One:* We pray for the many who do not have enough: enough food to eat, or shelter to keep warm; enough employment, or money to pay their bills; enough medicine or medical care. Lord, in Your mercy,

**Many: hear our prayer.**

*One:* We also pray for those who have more than enough, but who still struggle to find meaning and purpose in life; who indulge in dangerous or self-serving activities to dull their pain or loneliness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**Many: hear our prayers.**

*One:* God, Your grace reaches out to all of us. You call us to live as citizens of heaven, working together with one heart and mind. Strengthen us to live in a manner worthy of the Good News we have received, offering our lives in service of Your kingdom, where the last are first, and the first are last, and there is grace enough for all. Lord, in Your mercy,

**Many: hear our prayer.**

*One:* In the name of Jesus Christ, who taught his disciples to pray, saying...

**ALL: 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 into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## **Offering of Our Tithes and Our Gifts to God**

### **We Depart to Do God's Will**

**Closing Hymn** ..... "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad,  
And there I found a resting place, where Jesus made me glad!

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one, draw near, and drink, and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I am redeemed.

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this lost world’s light,  
Look unto me; your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”  
I looked to Jesus, and I found my guiding Star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I’ll go till traveling days are done.**

**The Blessing of the Well** .....by Jan Richardson

If you stand at the edge of this blessing and call down into it, you will hear your words return to you.

If you lean in and listen close, you will hear this blessing give the story of your life back to you.

Quiet your voice quiet your judgment quiet the way you always tell your story to yourself.

Quiet all these and you will hear the whole of it and the hollows of it the spaces in the telling, the gaps where you hesitate to go.

Sit at the rim of this blessing. Press your ear to its lip, its sides, its curves that were carved out long ago by those whose thirst drove them deep, those who dug into the layers with only their hands and hope.

Rest yourself beside this blessing and you will begin to hear the sound of water entering the gaps.

Still yourself and you will feel it rising up within you, filling every hollow, springing forth anew.

**The Sending** [Responsive] ..... Rev. Brenda Lovick

*One:* Go now from this service of worship to the service of God’s people near and far, refreshed by the living water that Jesus offers to you. Listen for the parched voices of the least of these; search out the dry places and the arid souls, and become for them a spring of living water. And as you go, may the blessings of the God of life, the Christ of love, and the Spirit of grace be upon you this day and forevermore. And all God’s people said:

*Many:* Amen!

**The Sung Response** *PH* # 432 ..... “Song of Hope”

**May the God of hope go with us everyday, Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.**

**May the God of justice speed us on our way, Bringing light and hope to every land and race.**

**Praying, let us work for peace, Singing, share our joy with all,**

**Working for a world that’s new, Faithful when we hear Christ’s call.**

**Postlude** ..... “The Lamb” Coleman / arr. Floeter



The liturgy this morning is from: Call to Worship ~ Adapted from Psalm 42&43  
From *Psalms for Praying* © 2007 Nan C. Merrill; The Opening Prayer ~ written by  
Rev. Karla and posted on **RevGalBlogPals**; The Pastoral Prayer ~ Christine  
Longhurst, re:Worship; The Blessing ~ Jan Richardson @the Painted Prayerbook;  
The Sending ~ reWorship blog.

Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church is committed to using language in such a way that all members of the community of faith may recognize themselves to be included, addressed, and equally cherished before God. Seeking to bear witness to the whole world, the church struggles to use language which is faithful to the biblical truth and which neither purposefully nor inadvertently excludes people because of gender, color, or other circumstance in life. (Book of Order, W-1.2006)

### **Everyone is invited to stay for fellowship and refreshment following worship today.**

- Today we welcome our Guest Preacher Rev. Brenda Lovick. Brenda Lovick is a clergy person in the ELCA and a licensed marriage and family therapist at Cambridge's new Beloved Therapy LLC. Brenda is grateful for the opportunity to worship with you at OCPC.
- Our musician today is Karen Brunk.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS —**

- If you would like to be added to the mailing list for our newsletter, *The Good News*, please send either your email (preferred) or snail mail address to the church office. (Our addresses are listed on the last page of the bulletin.)

## **WORSHIP SERVICES UPDATE:**

**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT, MARCH 19 WORSHIP AT 10 AM** – In-person worship continues this Sunday in the sanctuary. We are still mindful of the presence of COVID along with the cold and flu. If you are not feeling well, we would encourage you to remain home and join us for worship on our Facebook Live-Stream. Masks are also available for those who would feel more comfortable wearing them for their own health and safety. We do encourage people to encourage people to get vaccinated and boosted. Thank you.

### **CAMBRIDGE FOOD PANTRY & RESOURCE CENTER – WISH LIST**

The Cambridge Food Pantry has been seeing a sharp increase in food insecurity among our neighbors, and like everywhere in America, the high cost of food and other household items is having an impact on our inventory.

With the growing number of neighbors in need and the low supply of food on our shelves, I am reaching out to ask for your help.

With the winter months ahead of us, the need will only increase, please consider helping your neighbors by donating to the food pantry.

**The food pantry is currently seeking donations of:** Soup (variety of canned soup), Corned Beef Hash, SpaghettiOs, Ravioli, other canned meals and pastas, Crackers (Saltines, Ritz, etc.), Baked Beans, Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Pancake Syrup, Shampoo and Conditioner, Men's and Women's Deodorant, Razors, Bath Soap, Laundry Soap, Toothpaste.

Monetary donations are always greatly appreciated!

For more information on how you can make a difference this holiday season, or to volunteer at the food pantry, please email: [foodpantry@cambridge.k12.wi.us](mailto:foodpantry@cambridge.k12.wi.us) or call Kerry at (608)423-8142.

The Cambridge Food Pantry website can be found at <https://cambridgecap.net/programs/nutrition/food-pantry/>

Thank you for your continued generous support!

Kerry Marren, Community Activities Program, Cambridge Food Pantry Coordinator

## PLEASE HOLD THESE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN PRAYER THIS WEEK —

Julie Anderson  
Barbara Baker (Judy Pearson's sister)  
Linda Johnson

Jan & Nancy Kristiansen  
Mardy Schilleman  
Marilyn Schuster  
Jenine Spack

The families of Lorin Fulton, Evelyn Reiner, Caleb Wipperfurth, (CHS graduate who has died of cancer), Jim Schilleman, Donald Hawkins and families who are grieving the loss of loved ones.

If you would like to be added to our weekly prayer list, please leave word in the church office or contact the pastor. Permission to be included in this publicly posted list has been obtained from those listed or their families.

## Church Schedule

**Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. Sunday

**Communion:** First Sunday of each month

**Pastoral Office Hours:** Generally 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Wednesday or by appointment

**Business Office Hours:** 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday  
(Church hours are approved by Session and posted on church entry doors.)

**Telephone/Fax:** 608-423-3001

**Email:** [Office@OCPChurch.com](mailto:Office@OCPChurch.com) or [Pastor@OCPChurch.com](mailto:Pastor@OCPChurch.com)

**Web:** [www.OCPChurch.com](http://www.OCPChurch.com)

**Mailing Address:** 313 E. Main St., Cambridge, WI 53523-9629



**Visit us on Facebook:** Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church

### CHURCH STAFF

**Music— Accompanists:** Karen Brunk, Marian Korth, Karen Tordera, Angie Williams,

**Business Manager:** Ruth Poole

**Pastor:** Pastor Scott Marrese-Wheeler: (608) 417-0231 cell;  
[Pastor@OCPChurch.com](mailto:Pastor@OCPChurch.com) Facebook: Scott Marrese-Wheeler  
Follow Rev. Scott on Twitter: @2revsScott

