
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 21, 2021 | 10:15 AM



CONNECTING FAITH,
FRIENDSHIP, FAMILY

The Worship of God

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Come Down, O Love Divine

Charles Callahan

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Charles Callahan

GREETING

From our God who brings us out of captivity into freedom,
out of the wilderness into the promised land,
out of death into life:
grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.
And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Iona Community

Thanks be to you, O God,
that we have risen this day—

To the rising of this life itself.

Be the purpose of God
between us and each purpose—

The hand of God between us and each hand.

The pain of Christ
between us and each pain—

The love of Christ between us and each love.

O God, who brought us
to the bright light of this new day—

Bring us to the guiding light of eternity.

HYMN 475

NETTLETON

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 God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm 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,
interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, 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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Throughout the season of Lent, O God,
we have prayed for clean hearts and right spirits.
Forgive us, O Lord, if we have prayed with our words
but failed to pray with our actions.
Forgive us of what we have done
that has contributed to the suffering of another,
and forgive us of what we have failed to do
that could have lightened a neighbor's burden.
Forgive us, O God, and wash us in your mercy.
Forgive us, O God, and free us to try again.

SILENT PRAYER

Worshippers are invited to pause for a time of reflection, silent prayer, and meditation.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news:

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

God receives all those who turn in trust to him.

Thanks be to God!

MUSICAL OFFERING

Pie Jesu

Susan Voss, solo

Gabriel Fauré

CHILDREN'S TIME

Randi McNally

WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 31:31–34

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

The Holy Lamb of God

Chancel Choir

K. Lee Scott

When Christ, the Holy Lamb of God,
Was raised on Calvary's tree,
His sinless life to ransom paid
To set his people free,
The sun its brightness soon with-held;
The earth in fear did quake;
And all of heaven stood amazed
At love so deep, so great.

His body there was pierced and torn,
Abused, despised and slain;
He bled for sins that we have done,
God's judgement to restrain.

To us he brings his lasting peace,
With joy forevermore;
And by his bruises we are healed;
His death shall life restore.

O blessed Jesus, Lamb most pure,
You suffered much for me;
Though shamed, you opened not your mouth
Through bitter agony!
How can my voice in silence wait;
My heart in silence stand?
Now all the host of heaven sings
Your praise at God's right hand.

How can my voice in silence wait;
My heart in silence stand?
Now all the host of heaven sings
Your praise at God's right hand.

GOSPEL READING

John 12:20–33

The Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Wallace W. Bubar

By Heart

HYMN 688

MORECAMBE

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart (verses 1–3, 5)

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

RESPONSE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, we look to you:
Receive our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

debts/debtors

SENDING

HYMN 282

DOWN AMPNEY

Come Down, O Love Divine

Come down, O Love Divine;
seek out this soul of mine,
and visit it with your own ardor glowing.
O Comforter, draw near;
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming.
And let your glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling.
For none can guess God's grace,
till Love creates a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues

Robert A. Hobby

Upcoming Events

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 28 – 9:30 a.m. “Liturgy of the Palms.” All are invited to gather on the south patio at 9:30 a.m. for the “Liturgy of the Palms” processional. This 20-minute service will include the distribution and blessing of palm branches, a responsive litany, music, prayer, the proclamation of Jesus’ triumphal entry from the Gospel, the collection of *One Great Hour of Sharing* fish banks, and a festive procession around the block. Then everyone will have time to return home to watch the second part of the service, the “Liturgy of Passion,” online at 10:15 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 1 – 6:00 & 7:00 p.m. We will offer two outdoor Maundy Thursday services in the east courtyard with the possibility of adding an additional service if necessary. Each 30-minute service will include prayer, scripture, music, a short reflection, and communion. It will be necessary to register in advance: <https://tinyurl.com/central-maundy-thursday>

Good Friday, April 2 – 12:00–3:00 p.m. The sanctuary will be open and all are invited to come by at any time to participate in a *Stations of the Cross* prayer walk that traces the path of Jesus leading up to his crucifixion. This will be similar to the *Ash Wednesday* prayer walk, as you can make your way through these eight stations at your own pace. Enter through the south entrance.

Easter Sunday, April 4 – 10:15 a.m. We are planning an outdoor Easter celebration in Colby Park, 6900 School St., in Windsor Heights, a short 7-minute drive from the church. Colby Park offers a large pavilion with a covered stage and plenty of space to spread out, ample parking adjacent to the pavilion, restroom facilities, and a

playground. We will hold a traditional Easter service at 10:15 a.m., followed by an Easter egg hunt for children, and some tasty treats. It will be necessary to register in advance: <https://tinyurl.com/central-easter-sunday>. A full Easter service will also be available online, beginning at 10:15 a.m.

If you need help registering for Maundy Thursday or Easter Sunday, please call the church office at (515) 279-3658 or email Kimberly Sanford at ksanford@dmcp.org.

NOTE: masks and social distancing are required at all times for all in-person gatherings.

This Week at Central

Sunday, March 21

- 9:00 AM Lenten Book Study
- 10:15 AM Worship (online)
- 11:15 AM Virtual Coffee Hour

Monday, March 22

- 5:00 PM High School Youth Group
- 5:30 PM Session

Tuesday, March 23

- 10:00 AM Staff meeting

Wednesday, March 24

- 10:00 AM Bible Study
- 5:15 PM Central Kids
- 5:15 PM Middle School Youth Group

Thursday, March 25

- 7:00 PM How to Read (The Bible) class

Friday, March 26

- 12 Noon Church Office Closes

Sunday, March 28

PALM SUNDAY

- 9:00 AM Lenten Book Study
- 9:15 AM Palm Procession outdoors in-person, south lawn
- 10:15 AM Worship (online)

Monday, March 29

- 5:00 PM High School Youth Group

Tuesday, March 30

- 10:00 AM Staff meeting

Wednesday, March 31

- 10:00 AM Bible Study
- 5:15 PM Central Kids
- 5:15 PM Middle School Youth Group

Thursday, April 1

- 6:00 PM Maundy Thursday service – east courtyard
- 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday service – east courtyard

About Today's Service

Assisting in worship today:

Liturgist: Roger Dahl

Organist: Lois Harms

Audio: Ben Patzlaff

Music Director: Rich Dewein

Video: Matt Van Winkle

Anthem: Chancel Choir

Editing/Graphics: Kim Coulter

Musical Offering: Susan Voss

The flowers in the chancel are given by Lynda Pitts in loving memory of David Pitts.

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Music Director

Lois Harms

Organist

Mary Pohlmann

Children's Music Director

Sue Hudson

Morgen Bells Director

Mission Statement

We strive to be a Christian congregation
dedicated to a strong tradition of worship,
committed to spiritual inquiry and growth,
caring for one another,
and bearing witness to God's love in the world.



CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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