

March 9, 2025

Prelude and Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: In this season, we worship remembering Jesus' death in love for us and all people.

People: Lent is a time of tears.

Leader: But out of tears, joy is born – the joy of sin forgiven, hope reborn, and life restored.

ALL: We stand in awe of the God who brings joy out of tears, and life out of death. Let us worship with reverence. Amen.

***Hymn #439: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"**

***Passing the Peace**

Call to Confession

Standing beneath the cross of Jesus, as we observe the season of Lent, is a sobering experience, for the cross judges both our world and our individual lives.

Today, people are still killed by the same forces that destroyed Jesus. Today, each of us falls short of the resolve and dedication to God which Jesus exhibited by the way he lived and died.

So let us, as God's Beloveds who live in a twisted world and who are all too weak in spirit, join together in a prayer of confession.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Gracious God, you hold us, but in times of stress, we fear that we are all alone. We hunger for easy comfort, even knowing that our appetite will return. We aim for power over uncertainty, forgetting that control is an illusion. Forgive us for choosing distraction to escape from chaos. Bring our focus back to you, to your word, your presence, and your child Jesus. Amen.

Words of Grace

God reaches out to us, eagerly drawing us close, forgiving our sins through God's unending grace. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.

Scripture:

Luke 4:1-13

Carol Griffith

Anthem: Come, Great Deliverer, Come by Joe Glass

Time With Young Disciples:

Stacy Hindalong

Collect

Almighty God, your blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan. Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations. And, as you know the weakness of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Sermon: "Directions, please"

***Hymn #205:** "Forty Days and Forty Nights"

The Community at Prayer (*Joys and Concerns, Prayers for the People, Lord's Prayer, choosing to use debts/debtors, or trespass/trespases, or sins/sinners as is familiar to you*)

If you are watching online, type any prayer requests in the chat by the end of the sermon and we can voice them and get the names on the prayer list.

Prayer Response

Invitation to the Offering

(Opportunities to give for the ministries of this church are available through an offering plate during service, by mailing your gift to the church office, or by signing up for electronic giving through our website at <https://www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org/>)

Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Dear God, use these gifts, and our lives, to feed and nourish, spreading your love where it is most needed. Amen.

***Hymn #438:** "When Peace, Like a River"

*Commissioning and Blessing

*Choral Response

*Postlude

Famished: Service Prayers for the first Sunday in Lent was written by the Rev. Ruth Garwood, a transitional pastor in the Heartland Conference, a certified facilitator of Sacred Conversations to End Racism, and a certified InterPlay leader.