

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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Email at *Office@firstumcrochester.org*

March 10, 2024

*FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT*

*(\*) The congregation is invited to stand as able  
(BOLD-FACED TYPE) Congregation responds*

THE CHURCH GATHERS

*SILENT PRAYER AND TIME FOR CENTERING*

PRELUDE: Improvisation *Kevin G. Lindsay*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP \*\*\*

Creator God,

in the beginning you said,

“Let there be light.”

**We come into the light of your glory.**

Loving Christ,

your judgment is the light of mercy and grace.

**We come into the light of your love.**

Holy Spirit,

by your grace in us we are light for the world.

**We come into the light of your presence.**

**Fill us, that we may always live in your light. Amen.**

# \*HYMN OF PRAISE

## Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 103

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
3. To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
4. Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,  
all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

WORDS: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867 (1 Tim. 1:17)  
MUSIC: Welsh melody from *Canaidau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. by John Roberts

ST. DENIO  
11 11.11 11

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**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION \*\*\***

**Eternal God,**

**we confess that we do not love you perfectly,  
nor do we love our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We confess that our sin is hidden from us,  
and that only by your grace do we see truly.**

**Forgive our sin, heal our hearts,  
and bring us into the light of your Spirit,  
that by your grace**

**we may see ourselves clearly and live honestly,  
so that we may be light for the world  
in the name of Christ. Amen**

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE \*\*\***

**God, rich in mercy,**

**out of the great love with which God loves us,  
even when we were dead in our sin,  
made us alive together with Christ.**

**By grace we have been forgiven!**

**Thanks be to God!**

**\*Passing the Peace of Christ**

**THE CHURCH HEARS THE WORD OF GOD**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:**

**[Numbers 21:4-9](#)**

**(Pg. 122) \*\***

*Renew me, O eternal Light,  
and let my heart and soul be bright,  
illumined with the light of grace  
that issues from your holy face.*

*Remove the power of sin from me  
and cleanse all my impurity,  
that I may have the strength and will,  
temptations of the flesh to still.*

*Create in me a new heart, Lord,  
that gladly I obey your Word.  
Let what you will be my desire  
and with new life my soul inspire.*

*Grant that I only you may love  
and seek those things which are above,  
till I behold you face to face,  
O Light eternal, through your grace.*

*Words: Joseph F. Ruopp (1672-1708) Public Domain; Music by David  
Ashley White, (Based on a German Chorale, 1734) © 2012 St. James  
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*Guest flautist: Michelle Pyrich*

## **TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US**

*CHILDREN MESSAGE: (WHEN CHILDREN ARE PRESENT)*

# \*HYMN OF PREPARATION

## CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Bernadette Farrell



1. Long-ing for light, — we wait in dark - ness. Long-ing for
2. Long-ing for peace, — our world is trou - bled. Long-ing for
3. Long-ing for food, — man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
4. Long-ing for shel-ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
5. Man - y the gifts, — man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



1. truth, — we turn to you. Make us your own, —
2. hope, — man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone —
3. wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread, —
4. warmth, — man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
5. hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



1. your ho - ly peo-ple, light for the world to see.
2. has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
3. bro - ken for oth-ers, shared un - til all are fed.
4. shel - ter - ing oth-ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
5. to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.

### Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.



Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath-ered to-day.

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**GOSPEL LESSON:**

[John 3:14-21](#)

(Pg. 864) \*\*

*Please remain standing for the Gospel Lesson*

For the word of God in Scripture,  
For the word of God among us,  
For the word of God within us,  
**Thanks be to God!**

## \*GLORIA PATRI

### Glory Be to the Father

70

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men. A - men." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and ties.

WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.  
MUSIC: Charles Meineke, 1844

MEINEKE  
Irr.

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## SERMON

**"PEOPLE OF THE NEW COVENANT"**  
*Open Ended Relationship*

**THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD**

# Amazing Grace

378

1. A - maz - ing grace! How sweet the sound that  
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
 4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his  
 5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and  
 6. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace hath brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 mor - tal life shall cease, I shall pos - sess, with -  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved.  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be, as long as life en - dures.  
 in the veil, a life of joy and peace.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

*Cherokee*  
 OOH NAY THLA NAH, HEE OO WAY GEE.  
 E GAH GWOOW YAH HAY EE.  
 NAW GWOOW JOE SAH, WE YOU LOW SAY,  
 E GAH GWOOW YAH HO NAH.

*Navajo*  
 NIZHÓNÍGO JOOBA' DITTS' A'  
 YISDÁSHÍFTNÍGÍÍ,  
 LAH YÓÓÍYÁ, K'AD SHÉNÁHOOSDZIN,  
 DOO EESH'ÍÍ DA NT'ÉE.

*Kiowa*  
 DAW K'EE DA HA DAWTSAHY HE TSOW'HAW  
 DAW K'EE DA HA DAWTSAHY HEE.  
 HAY DAWTSAHY TAW, GAW AYM OW THAH T'AW,  
 DAW K'EE DA HA DAWTSAHY H'EE.

*Creek*  
 PO YA FEK CHA HE THLAT AH TET  
 AH NON AH CHA PA KAS  
 CHA FEE KEE O FUNNAN LA KUS  
 UM E HA TA LA YUS.

*Choctaw*  
 SHILOMBISH HOLITOPA MA!  
 ISHMMINTI PULLA CHA  
 HATAK ILBUSA PIA HA  
 IS PI YUKPALASHKE.

WORDS: John Newton, 1779; st. 6 anon.; phonetic transcription Cherokee, Kiowa, **AMAZING GRACE**  
 Creek, Choctaw as sung in Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference; Navajo phonetic **CM**  
 transcription by Albert Tsosi (1 Chr. 17:16-17)  
 MUSIC: 19th cent. USA melody; harm. by Edwin O. Excell, 1900

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## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Sharing of Joys and Concerns*



# PRAYER SONG

## Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus 472

Turn your eyes up-on Je - sus, look full in his won-der-ful face; and the

things of earth will grow strange-ly dim in the light of his glo-ry and grace.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are placed between the staves.

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### INVITATION TO PRAYER:

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

**The Lord's Prayer**

(UMH p. 895)

**PRAYER SONG** (As above)

### [Presentation of Tithes and Offerings](#)

*Thank You for your ongoing support of the ministries of FUMC.*

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Improvisation

*Kevin G. Lindsay*

THE GLORY OF THE TRIUNE GOD

## 94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Unison*



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow;

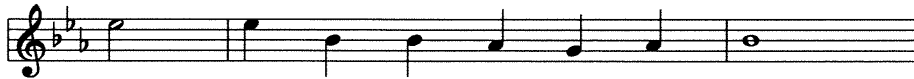


praise God, all crea - tures here be - low:

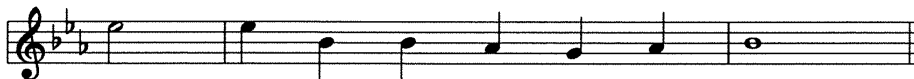
*Harmony*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Unison*



Praise God, the source of all our gifts!



Praise Je - sus Christ, whose power up - lifts!

*Refrain (Harmony)*

Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Unison*



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978  
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906  
Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
88.44.88 with Refrain

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Offertory Prayer:

## THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE

# \*HYMN OF DEDICATION

## Lift High the Cross

159

Refrain (Unison)

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Fine

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

Harmony

1. Come, Chris-tians, fol - low this tri - um-phane sign. The  
2. Each new-born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears  
3. O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, as  
4. So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: Praise

D.C.

hosts of God in u - ni - ty com - bine.  
on the brow the seal of him who died.  
thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.  
to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

WORDS: George William Kitchin and Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916, alt.

MUSIC: Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916

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CRUCIFER

10 10 with Refrain

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# \*BENEDICTION

## VOLUNTARY

## Prelude and Fugue in C

Johann S. Bach (1685-1750)

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# VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Liturgist: Susan Raab

Video and Sound Engineer: Sam Tweedy

Altar Flowers:

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\*\*\*Worship elements by Steve Garnass Holmes at [unfoldinglight.com](http://unfoldinglight.com)

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## Looking Ahead

Readings for March 17, 2024

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

[Jeremiah 31:31-34 / Psalm 51:1-12](#)

[Hebrews 5:5-10 / John 12:20-33](#)

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