



WELCOME TO WORSHIP
MARCH 26, 2017



Lent is a forty-day preparation period for Good Friday and Easter which begins on Ash Wednesday and continues through the Thursday before Easter, not counting Sundays. In this penitential season, Christians around the world renew their commitment to prayer (right relationship with God), fasting (right relationship with self), and giving (right relationship with others). These spiritual disciplines slow us down, help us to see the world and our faith in a new way, and hopefully lead us toward greater shalom and justice.

We use the color purple in the sanctuary during Lent. The color symbolizes both the pain and suffering leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus but it is also the color of royalty, and so anticipates through the suffering and death of Jesus the coming resurrection and hope of newness that will be celebrated in the Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
10:30 a.m.	Family Worship Service
12:00 noon	Fellowship Hour
1:00 p.m.	Choir Practice

WORSHIP SERVICE

March 26, 2017

Lent

Prelude

Words of Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

Call to Worship: Psalm 23 (pg. 579)

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff-- they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Let us worship the God of steadfast love!

Praise

*Songs of Praise:

“Change”

“Change My Heart, O God”

“It is You”

*God's Greeting

***Hymn of Adoration:** “How Great Thou Art” (LUYH #553 vs. 1-4)

Renewal

Call to Confession

Jesus said, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, And I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that we are an anxious and fearful people.

We deny your blessing and fail to keep your word.

Forgive us, we pray, for these and all our sins,

That we might live in peace and reflect your love in the world;

Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Words of Encouragement: Ephesians 5:8-14 (pg. 1227)

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light-for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."
Friends, this is the good news!

Thanks be to God!

Hymn of Response: "And Can It Be?" (LUYH #695 vs. 1-4)

RESPONSE

Prayers of the People

Offering: Alameda Christian School

***Offering Response: "Have We Any Gift Worth Giving?"** (LUYH #872 vs. 1)

Dismissal of Children for Kids Connection

PROCLAMATION

Scripture: Mark 4:34-51 (pg. 1049)

Sermon: Fear of Circumstances: Who's in Your Boat?

***Hymn of Response: "When Peace Like a River"** (LUYH #451 vs. 1-2)

Liturgy based on Heidelberg catechism Q&A 26:

When we pray, we say "Our Father." Who is this Father?

He is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Who out of nothing created heaven and earth, and everything in them.

He still upholds and rules by his eternal counsel and providence. We can trust him to provide and turn to good whatever adversity he sends us.

He is able to do this because He is almighty God. He desires to do this because He is a faithful Father. We pray that our faith will be made sight soon!

***Hymn: "When Peace, Like a River"** (LUYH #451 vs. 4)

SENDING

***Benediction**

***Doxology: "Now Blessed Be the Lord our God"** (LUYH #953)

Postlude

* Please stand if you are able.