

WE SEEK GOD'S GRACE AND GIVE THANKS

GATHERING MUSIC *O, Innocent Lamb of God* (BWV 618) J. S. Bach
Dr. Noel Warford, organist

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, SILENCE The Rev. Dr. James Butler

After the tolling of the bell, we join together in the Lenten Confession.

RESPONSIVE LENTEN CONFESSION Tedd Roos

The Lenten "sacrifice" acceptable to God is a humble spirit and a contrite heart.

Search us, O God, and know our hearts; see if there is any waywardness in us.

Create in us clean hearts and renew a right spirit within us.

Have mercy on us, Lord, according to your loving kindness.

Trusting in the mercies of God, let us confess our sins together:

We have sinned in thought, word, and deed, in what we have done and left undone.

We have not loved you, Holy God, with all our heart, mind, and strength. And we have

not loved our neighbors as we love ourselves. We are sorry for the harm we have

caused and the harm we failed to prevent. Help us to begin again, forgiven and set

free, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SUNG CONFESSION (Hymn 471)

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come, and listen to me.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

* **HYMN 435** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" IN BABILONE

* **ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Beloved in Christ: God is with us!

We are not alone!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON 2 Corinthians 5:14-19 (Pew Bible, N.T. p.181)

ANTHEM

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Posten

Abraham Roos, conducting

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green. The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree. His beauty doth all things excel, by faith I know but ne'er can tell. The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree. For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure daily I have bought. I missed of all but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree. I'm weary with my former toil. Here I will sit and rest awhile. Under the shadow I will be of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

* **GOSPEL LESSON** Luke 15:1-10 (Pew Bible, N.T. p.78)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SUNG BLESSING (Hymn 409, v. 3)

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold.

May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share

Here, the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore

What it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

SERMON

"The Hound of Heaven"

Dr. Butler

"Rejoice with me, for I have found, my sheep"

WE PRAY AND OFFER OUR GIFTS

* **HYMN 418** "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" SOFTLY & TENDERLY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERTORY

A Cistercian Chorale for An Elevation

Jehan Alain

* **DOXOLOGY** (Hymn 606)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

* **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* **HYMN 307**

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

CWM RHONDDA

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **DEPARTING MUSIC**

Toccata Prima

Girolamo Frescobaldi

The people are welcome to depart or remain seated while the Departing Music is played.

Our Mission

To extend the gracious welcome of God in Jesus Christ through worship,
service and spiritual growth in a supportive community of faith.

Staff

The Rev. Dr. James Butler, Pastor
The Revs. Dr. Steve and Dr. Cinda Gorman, Parish Associates
Dr. Kaori Hongo, Minister of Music
Aliyah Kennedy, Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
Sara Gresh, Secretary and Financial Secretary
Kimberly Hook, Childcare Provider and Evening Receptionist
Carolyn Fordosi, Housekeeper
Scott Schreibman, Maintenance Custodian
Margaret Limkemann, Minister of Music Emerita



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

10 a.m.
