

Heritage United Methodist Church

MARCH 27, 2022, FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Prelude

Anthem

Welcome & Announcements Rev. Maria Campbell

Song of Praise Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) (Tomlin, Newton, Giglio)

Opening Prayer Liturgist—Suyeol Bae

Merciful God, we praise and adore you. You know us in our secret hearts. Forgive us when we forget we it is you who made us. Remind us that it is your will that we must follow. You alone are the source of all we need. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

Children's Moment Rev. Maria Campbell

Centering Song Through It All #507 UMH

Scripture Psalm 32:1-2, 6-11 Liturgist—Suyeol Bae

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Rev. Maria Campbell

Lead Me to Calvary (arr. Kirkland) Friends in Faith

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes" sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.""

Message "Lost & Found" Rev. Maria Campbell

Offertory I Will Rise (Giglio, Tomlin, Reeves, Maher) Jacob Eppel

Doxology #95 UMH

Dedication of Offering

Liturgist—Suyeol Bae

Generous God, as we bring our gifts this day, we do so in the humble gratitude and recognition that all blessings come as a gift of your grace. Multiply these offerings and use our gifts for the good of your creation. We pray in the name of your greatest gift, Jesus our redeemer. Amen.

Closing Song Great is Thy Faithfulness #140 UMH

Blessing Rev. Maria Campbell

Postlude

A Devotion for the fourth week of Lent

Jesus, speaking to his disciples at The Last Supper:

John 13:34-35 - "I give you a new commandment: love each other: Just as I have loved you, so you must also love each other. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other."

It seems so simple of a command. We love our families and our friends, and we couldn't imagine a world without them. So why can't we do the same for our brothers and sisters who are not of our blood or close circles?

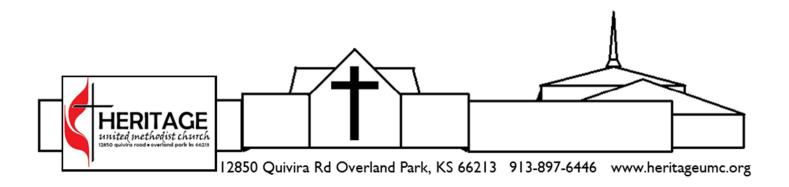
As simple of a command as it sounds, we know that love does not always reign in our world. War destroys the bonds that brings nations together and displaces those who call the land "home". Fear makes enemies of friends and family alike. Greed makes us lose sight of what truly matters. In all of the chaos, what are we missing?

Jesus supplies this commandment to his disciples as he prepares to make the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. The disciples probably did not realize in that moment the chaos which would ensue within the moments and days to come, with Judas' betrayal, Jesus' arrest and eventual death. Yet in all the chaos and complications that were to come, Jesus left us with a simple solution: "Just as I have loved you, so you must also love each other."

Despite the chaos, confusion, and fear that we feel around us, the answer is simple - love. As we take each step on our walk towards life eternal, may we intentionally and faithfully choose to show our love to God and to all of our brothers and sisters in Christ. A kind word to a stranger. A hand to hold for strength and comfort. An embrace that says, "you mean the world to me." From the smallest of gestures to the largest of declarations, let love be at the forefront of all that we do.

It is with love in our hearts that we pray: "Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of love. We thank You for the incredible and endless love which You bless us with each and every day. May we all seek to pour out that same love into all members of Your Creation, so that with each step we take, love guides our way. It is in Your holy and amazing name that we pray, Amen."

Written by Kayla Eppel



Worship Song Sheet 3.27.22

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me I once was lost but now I'm found Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow The sun forbear to shine But God who called me here below Will be forever mine Will be forever mine You are forever mine.

Through It All (2x)

Through it all, I've learned to trust in Jesus, I've learned to trust in God; through it all, through it all, I've learned to depend upon God's word.

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!