

***\*Prayer of Commitment***

**All: O God, through the abundance of your steadfast love, we are able to come into your house with gratitude and praise. Accept our gifts—our money, our time, our very selves. May they help forge your beloved community here on earth.**

*Jack Thomas*

***\*Hymn of Sending Arise, Your Light Is Come (see insert)***

Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

Arise, your light has come! Fling wide the prison door;  
proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light has come! All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light has come! The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

***\*Charge and Benediction***

*Andy Morgan*

***\*Congregational Benediction***

**Make us one, Lord, make us one;  
Holy Spirit, make us one.  
Let your love flow so the world will know  
we are one in you**

***Postlude***

***Greeters Susan Espiritu, Gail Griffin***

***Ushers Darlene Miller, Jon Miller***

***Liturgist Carolyn Gahan, Jack Thomas***

***Music Bob Eubanks, Nancy Wells, George Hill, Bill Phifer, FCPC Choral Ensemble***

***Minister Dr. Andy Morgan***

***Announcements***

***Lunch Bunch*** is going to Olive Garden on Kingston Pike on Thursday, March 16 at 11:30. The van will be leaving the church parking lot at 11:00. Please let the church office know if you plan to join us.

***Volunteers needed*** for the Davis Center Easter Egg Hunt on April 4<sup>th</sup> from 4-5:30. Volunteers will hide the eggs and serve refreshments. Please contact Susan Espiritu if you are available, [susanespiritu86@gmail.com](mailto:susanespiritu86@gmail.com)



**Third Sunday in Lent  
March 12, 2023**

***Prelude***

***Word of Welcome***

*Andy Morgan*

***Call to Worship***

*Carolyn Gahan*

Leader: God's love is extravagant!

**All: God pours out God's love as a cleansing lotion for our weary souls.**

Leader: God's love is healing!

**All: God's healing balm soothes and comforts us.**

Leader: God's love is generous!

**All: God continually reaches out for us and helps us throughout all our lives.**

Leader: Thanks be to God for such extravagant, healing, generous love.

**All: AMEN.**

***Prayer of the Day***

*Carolyn Gahan*

Leader: Open our hearts today, Lord, to feel the power of your extravagant love for us. Help us to be free of our fears and prejudices so that we may see your love in action in the lives of others. Comfort and calm our spirits in readiness for us to become your disciples. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

***\*Hymn Here In This Place (see insert)***

Here in this place, the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away,  
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in the lost and forsaken; gather us in the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young - our lives are a mystery. we are the old - who yearns for you face.  
we have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in the rich and the haughty; gather us in the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth.  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt of the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away;  
but here in this place, the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in all peoples together fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

### ***Ritual of Friendship***

*Members and Guests – Please sign and pass the friendship register  
located on the center aisle under the pew in front*

*Andy Morgan*

### ***Call to Confession***

Leader: We are a people born of water and the Spirit. We have made promises to be Christ's faithful disciples, and to show his love to our life's end. Although we fail to fulfill those baptismal vows, God's faithful love endures forever. Confident of God's grace, let us confess our sins together.

*Carolyn Gahan*

### ***Prayer of Confession***

**All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Carolyn Gahan*

*(Time for Silent Confession)*

### ***Assurance of Forgiveness***

Leader: In this world of fear and hurt, God is with us, offering healing balm and comforting peace. We are loved by God, even though we are imperfect. We are loved eternally and we are forgiven. Be at peace and rest in God's complete love. AMEN.

*Carolyn Gahan*

### ***\*Gloria Patri***

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost,  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen. Amen.*

### ***\*Passing the Peace***

Leader: God's love for us is the foundation of our lives as people and as a people. Let us respond to this love my sharing it with one another, assured of God's everlasting love in our lives and in our midst. The peace of Christ be with you all.

*Jack Thomas*

**All: And also with you!**

### ***Prayer of Illumination***

Leader: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today.

*Jack Thomas*

### ***Psalms Reading Psalm 5:1-8***

*Jack Thomas*

### ***Epistle Reading Galatians 2:15-21***

*Jack Thomas*

### ***Anthem Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)***

*Dr. Bill Phifer – Director*

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found Was blind but now I see  
T'was 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!  
Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found Was blind but now I see.  
Was blind but now I see!

### ***Litany of Thanksgiving for Dr. Bill Phifer***

*Andy Morgan*

Leader: All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,

**People: so we lift our hearts up to you, God, in praise and thanksgiving.**

Leader: As we count our blessings, and acknowledge your goodness,

**People: We thank you God for Bill's faithfulness and leadership over the years.**

Leader: We thank you God for opportunities and choices, for meaning and challenges,

**People: We thank you God for the gift of music that enhances our worship of you.**

Leader: Micah 6:8 reminds us what the Lord requires of us: to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with our God.

**All: We thank you God for Bill's example of faithful musical leadership to us. We will be forever grateful. Amen.**

### ***Gospel Reading Luke 7:36-50***

*Andy Morgan*

### ***Sermon - Interrupted, Redirected***

*Andy Morgan*

### ***\*Affirmation of Faith - Apostles Creed***

*Jack Thomas*

**All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, 2.2 And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. 2.3 I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### ***\*Hymn #563 Open My Eyes That I May See***

Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear,  
and while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev'rything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth and let me bear gladly the warm truth ev'rywhere.  
Open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my mouth, illumine me, Spirit divine!

### ***Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer***

*Andy Morgan*

**All: 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**

### ***Invitation to the Offering***

*Andy Morgan*

Leader: Like the woman with the alabaster jar, let us bring all that we are, and all that we have, to support God's work in this church, this community, and this world. Offer these gifts in joy and gratitude and love, for all that God has given us—especially God's best gift of love, Jesus, who lives within us.

### ***Offertory Old Rugged Cross***

*Nancy Wells & George Hill*

### ***\*Doxology***

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts  
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost**