

CHRIST AMONG US, Showing Us Justice

Lent 3; March 3, 2024

Assisted listening devices are available at the sound desk at the back of the sanctuary.



SILENT PRELUDE

As we continue on this Lenten journey, our faith calls us to walk as Christ did in the wilderness. Take a few moments to contemplate the image of wilderness and the path. Where do you find yourself on this path? Who is with you?

GATHERING

I Bind My Heart This Tide

Lisa Rose, Song Leader
VT #556

Welcome

Richard Gehring

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

**All: May the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts
be pleasing to you, O God.**

Leader: We speak because you spoke first,
bringing voice to the brightness of the sun
and singing the airy darkness of the sky.
You spoke this earth from end to end,
and speaking must have given you pleasure,
for you said, "It was good."

**People: May the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts
be pleasing to you, O God.**

Leader: Year after year you have poured forth speech:

passing stories and statutes down
through hands and lips. From you we learned
to speak, and speaking, we spoke to you—
singing songs of consolation that would become
your psalms to us; writing poems our children's
children would hear as the voice of God.

**People: May the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts
be pleasing to you, O God.**

Leader: Your law, O Lord, is perfect.
Your Word is the one that endures.
We seek the grammar of your justice
in the words that you spoke before.
Speak here now; speak here once more.

**All: And may the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts
be pleasing to you, O God. Amen.**

—Based on Psalm 19

PRAISING

*The Garden Needs Our Tending Now
How Can We Be Silent*

VT #788
VT #790

CONFESSING

Prayer of Confession

Leader: We often miss the beauty in your work, God.

People: Forgive our distracted hearts.

Leader: When we put our trust in other things,

People: remind us of your love and care.

All: Bring joy to us once again.

Leader: May the meditations of our hearts

People: be pleasing on your sight,

All: our Rock and our Redeemer.

—Based on Psalm 19

Words of Assurance

Music for Meditation

Jeremy Kropf, Karin Redekopp Edwards

Ecclesiastes 3 (Brahms); English translation on the insert

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Story

Alice Kabira

Scripture Reading

Amanda Olsen

Leader: Listen for the Word of the Lord.

People: Our ears are open.

Mark 12: 28-44

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "What's It All About"

Janet Elaine Guthrie

Listening for the Spirit

Jesus Christ is Love Divine

VT #749

Music for Reflection

Jeremy Kropf, Karin Redekopp Edwards

Ecclesiastes 4 (Brahms)

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

Offering Prayer

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Leader: Lord, in your mercy/goodness,

People: hear our prayer.

Work of the Church

SENDING

We Are People of God's Peace

VT #797

Words of Blessing

This Week's Activities

Today	Nursery: Arlee Blackburn, Carmen Martinez	10:00 AM
	Nursery: Ken G Kabira, Laura Larson	11:30 AM
	Adult Christian Formation	11:30 AM
	• Review of Consensus Principles and Practices	
	Potluck	12:15 PM
	Discernment Discussion	1:15 PM
	<u>Serving Today:</u>	
	• A/V Technicians: CJ Yoder, Elias Rose	
	• Greeter: Carmen Martinez • Coffee Host: Dinorah Scott	
	• Church Opening & Lockup: Lyle Bohnert, Vacant	
Tue	Contemplative Prayer, via Zoom	7:00 PM
Wed	Women of the Word Bible Study	9:30 AM
Thu	Menno Men	9:30 AM
Sat	Service of Love and Remembrance for June Y.	10:30 AM
	Comforter Knotting Bash	5:30 PM

Announcements

- If you can tie a knot, plan on coming to our **Comforter Knotting Bash** this coming Saturday (Mar 9). This activity is for everyone! We'll start with a delicious soup and bread meal at 5:30 PM, then knot from 6:00-8:30ish while visiting and fellowshiping with each other. MCC will send the comforters we knot to vulnerable people here and around the world.
- The Mission Commission is now **accepting applications for 2024 mission matching grants**. Applications are due by April 1. The LMC matching grant program provides us with an opportunity to collaboratively support local and global ministries that are doing work that aligns with LMC's mission, vision, and values. Please contact a Mission Commission member if you have any questions (Katrina B., Lindy S., Sharon E., Jamie or Rebecca H., Kristin C., Kelly W.)