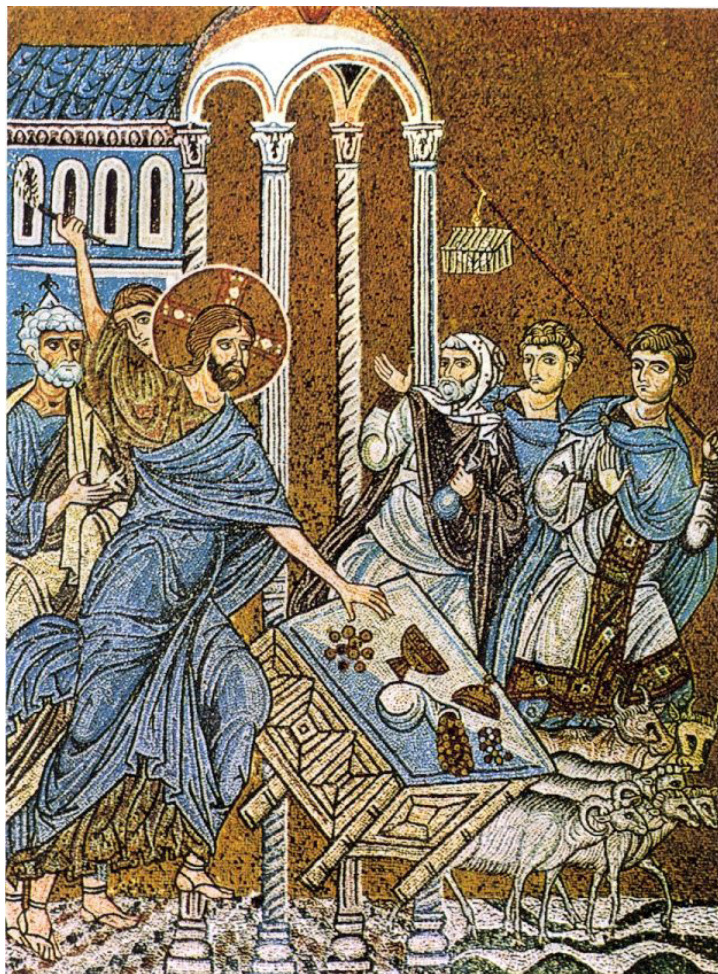


# UNITED CHURCH *of* CHAPEL HILL FESTIVAL WORSHIP



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

**MARCH 3, 2024**

\*Please stand, as able

**Bold text indicates congregational response or singing.**

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## OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Prelude on Rhosymedre* (or “LOVELY”)

Vaughan Williams

## WELCOME

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.

**Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.**

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

**yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.**

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

**the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;**

the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.**

### \*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**God of wilderness and water, your Son was baptized and tempted as we are. Guide us through this season, that we may not avoid struggle, but open ourselves to blessing, through the cleansing depths of repentance and the heaven-rending words of the Spirit. Amen.**

### \*PROCLAMATION OF GRACE

As far is the East from the West, so far have our sins been set apart from us in the grace of God. We belong to Christ Jesus, who was detained by the Empire, imprisoned, tried, and crucified, and who was released from death's dark grip by the liberating force of God's creative power. Where we are imprisoned with Christ, we are set free with Christ. Where we die with Christ, we rise with Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE 222

*My Song is Love Unknown*

RHOSYMEDRE

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 20:1-17

(Pew Bible page 58)

John 2:13-22

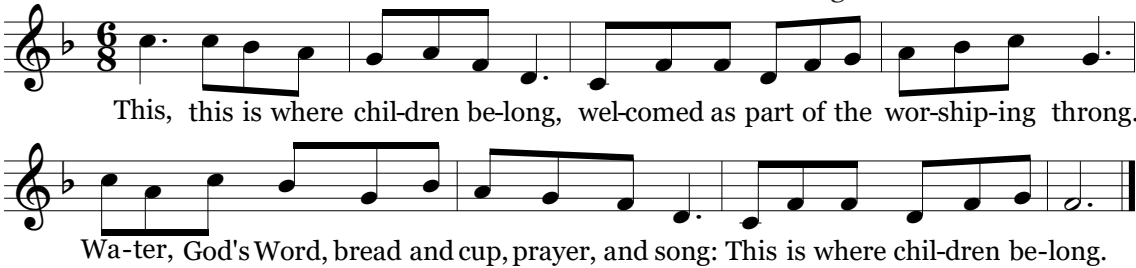
(Pew Bible page 863)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

CHILDREN'S RESPONSE

Where Children Belong

RITCHIE


  
 This, this is where chil-dren be-long, wel-comed as part of the wor-ship-ing throng.
   
 Wa-ter, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be-long.

SERMON

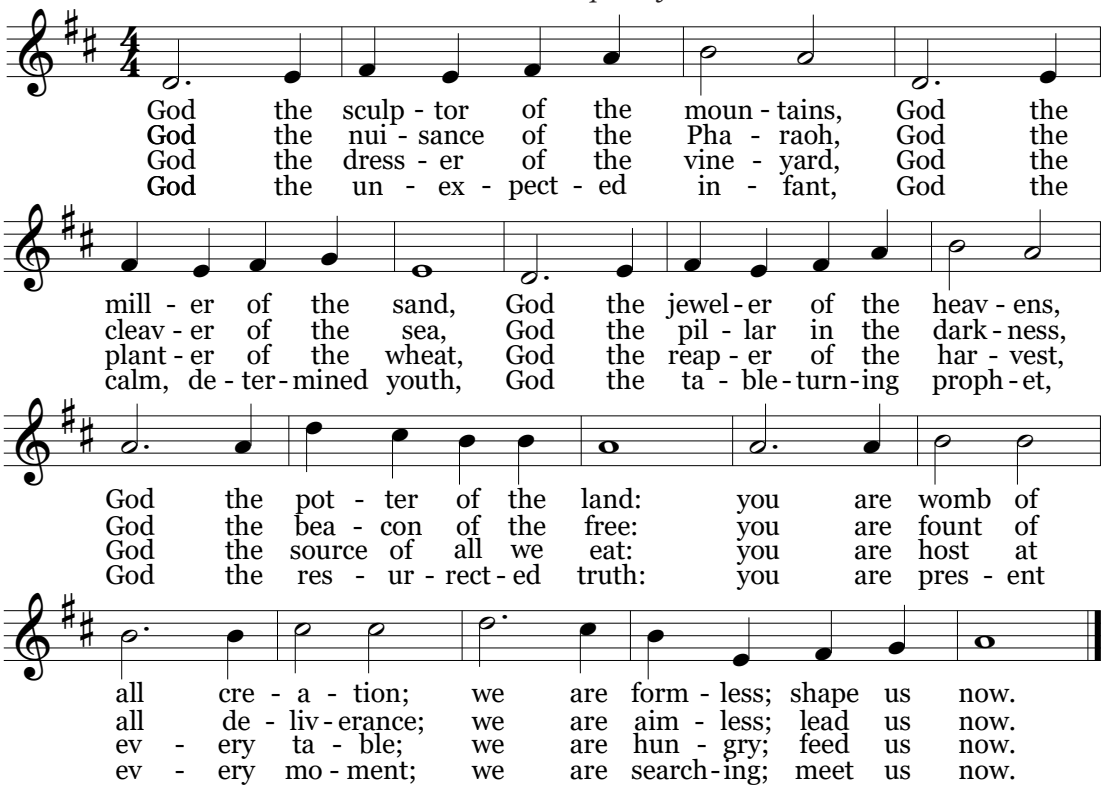
Give Me Jesus

Rev. Cameron Barr

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

God, the Sculptor of the Mountains

SURGE ECCLESIA


  
 God the sculp - tor of the moun - tains, God the  
 God the nui - sance of the Pha - raoh, God the  
 God the dress - er of the vine - yard, God the  
 God the un - ex - pect - ed in - fant, God the  
  
 mill - er of the sand, God the jewel - er of the heav - ens,  
 cleav - er of the sea, God the pil - lar in the dark - ness,  
 plant - er of the wheat, God the reap - er of the har - vest,  
 calm, de - ter - mined youth, God the ta - ble - turn - ing proph - et,  
  
 God the pot - ter of the land: you are womb of  
 God the bea - con of the free: you are fount of  
 God the source of all we eat: you are host at  
 God the res - ur - rect - ed truth: you are pres - ent  
  
 all cre - a - tion; we are form - less; shape us now.  
 all de - liv - erance; we are aim - less; lead us now.  
 ev - ery ta - ble; we are hun - gry; feed us now.  
 ev - ery mo - ment; we are search - ing; meet us now.

## CALL TO SHARING

### ANTHEM

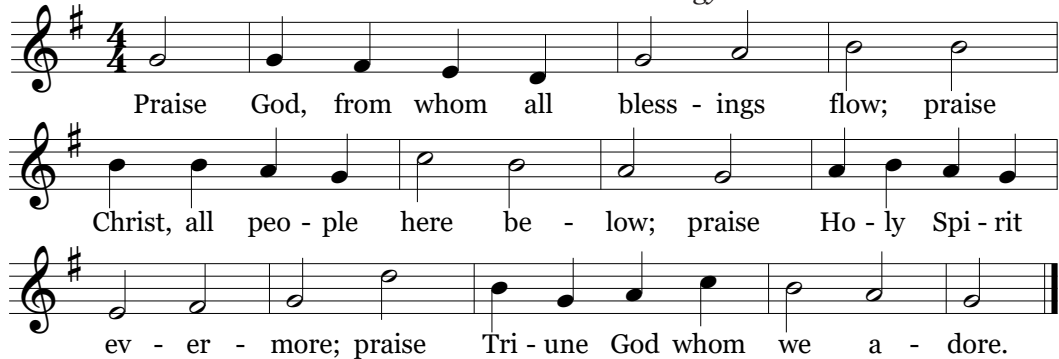
*Psalm 86, "Hear My Voice, O Lord, When I Pray"*

Carl J. Nyberg

### \*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

*Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise  
Christ, all peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spi - rit  
ev - er - more; praise Tri - une God whom we a - dore.

### PASTORAL PRAYER

#### 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, for ever. Amen.

#### \*INVITATION TO AN OPEN TABLE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... Together we lift our voices in thanksgiving and praise:

## \*SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

*Gospel Sanctus and Benedictus*

David E. Poole

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of pow - er,  
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
9 Ho - san - na in the high - est! Blessed is the  
One, Blessed is the One, blessed is the One who comes in the  
name of the Lord, Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na!  
Ho - san - na in the high - est!

The musical score is written for a single voice on a treble clef staff. It begins in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 12/8 time. The tempo is indicated by a '12' over the time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score includes a repeat sign at the end of the final line.

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

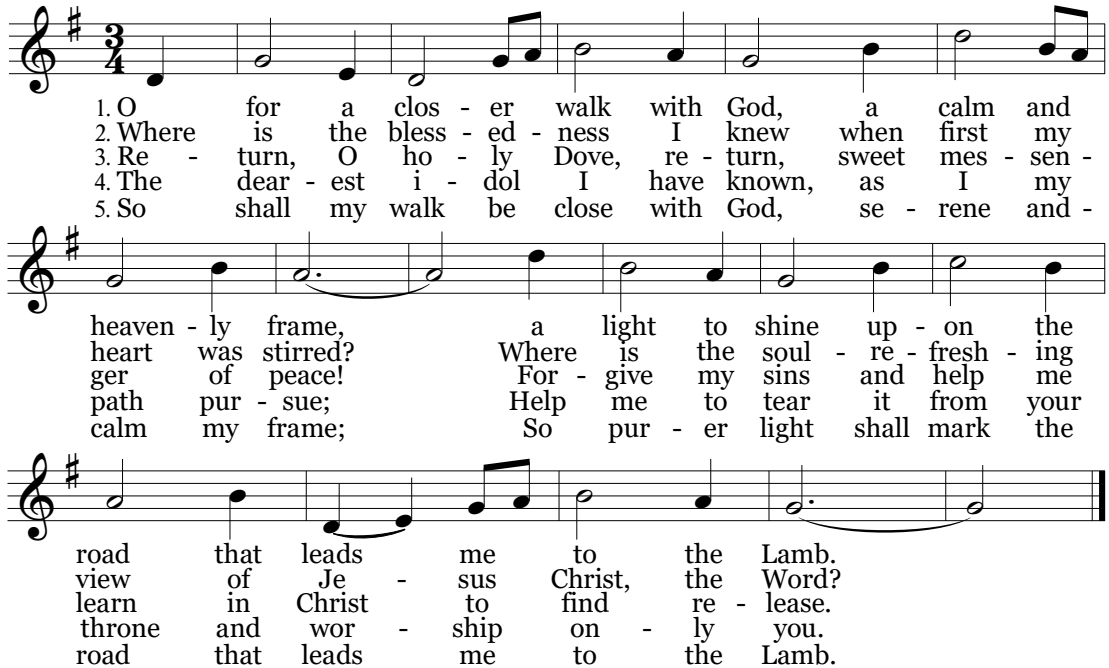
**And also with you.**

*Please come forward to receive the bread and cup. We offer a gluten-free option in the basket with purple linens and serve only non-alcoholic grape juice. Raise your hand if you would like a pastor to bring the elements to you. Communion cups may be left in the openings on the back of the pews. Healing prayer is offered in the back of the sanctuary during Communion.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

*O For a Closer Walk with God*

AVON



1. O for a clos - er walk with God, a calm and  
2. Where is the bless - ed - ness I knew when first my  
3. Re - turn, O ho - ly Dove, re - turn, sweet mes - sen -  
4. The dear - est i - dol I have known, as I my  
5. So shall my walk be close with God, se - rene and -

heaven - ly frame, a light to shine up - on the  
heart was stirred? Where is the soul - re - fresh - ing  
ger of peace! For - give my sins and help me  
path pur - sue; Help me to tear it from your  
calm my frame; So pur - er light shall mark the

road that leads me to the Lamb.  
view of Je - sus Christ, the Word?  
learn in Christ to find re - lease.  
throne and wor - ship on - ly you.  
road that leads me to the Lamb.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## \*HYMN OF BLESSING 193

*In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

RATHBUN

## \*BENEDICTION

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Toccata in D minor Dorian BWV 538*

J.S. Bach

### GRATITUDE CORNER

There is so much to be thankful for here at UCCH! I am especially grateful for all the gifts the La Mesa community brings to us! The sharing of their warmth, smiles, hugs, etc. brings so much joy! The hard work and planning they have put into their gifts of food and fellowship are truly appreciated. Offerings such as the Wednesday night celebrations of their cultures, the Christmas las posadas and pinata event, and the recent "Salsa y Salsita" have resulted in pure fun with much laughter. The vibrant color and beauty of their display at the entry of the church was welcoming and offered hospitality. What gifts they bring us. Thanks be to God for their presence in the life of United Church. -Jan Thornton-Irvine

We hope you'll read this brief devotion as an invitation to name your gratitude. If you can name something about our church community that makes you want to give thanks and sing in less than 200 words, we'd love to print it here. Send your submission to [mmee@unitedchurch.org](mailto:mmee@unitedchurch.org).



## **TODAY'S COMMUNITY FORUM: CRISIS IN GAZA**

*After Festival Worship, in the Fellowship Hall*

Church members Ted and Sharon Shohfi will give a presentation to inform listeners about the on-going crisis in Gaza and discuss the response of the UCC General Synod, as well as our own responses in bearing witness, taking action, advocacy and challenges involved. The presentation will draw from a current video from the United Church of Christ Palestine Israel Network, as well as Ted and Sharon's 23 years of advocacy for peace, justice and equal rights in Palestine-Israel, after living and working in Jerusalem for the year 2000. This will be an opportunity to deepen our church's understanding as a whole and start discussing meaningful action-taking in response to the crises in Palestine.

## **NEXT COMMUNITY FORUM: HIDDEN HILL WORKSHOP BY AISHA BOOZE-HALL & THE MARIAN CHEEK JACKSON CENTER**

This workshop introduces students to some of the barely-known chapters of local history through the lens of race, beginning with Jim Crow segregation and the first sit-ins on Franklin Street. This is a two-part workshop with an interactive slideshow; spoken word performance; and an exploration of primary sources inspired by the work of local journalist Mike Ogle. An online slideshow gives students the opportunity to question and critically examine familiar narratives of Chapel Hill's past through exercises involving primary source material from the Jackson Center archives.

## **ONA INTEREST MEETING**

*Friday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m. in room 229*

Last June UCCH updated and renewed our Open and Affirming Covenant, marking 30 years of commitment to being a truly inclusive spiritual home for the LGBTQ+ community. In keeping with this commitment, we would like to restore the UCCH ONA committee which has dropped off in active membership since the pandemic. Having an active ONA committee to guide the church in its commitment to the LGBTQ+ community is essential as we seek to live out our ONA covenant fully and authentically. If you're interested in joining this effort, you're invited to attend an ONA committee interest meeting on Friday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m. in room 229. We will meet over dinner for an hour to discuss the committee's purpose and brainstorm programs and opportunities for education, advocacy, and formation for LGBTQ+ people and allies. RSVP by emailing Caleb Wolf (cwolf@unitedchurch.org). Please include any dietary restrictions, interpretation needs, or accessibility needs in your RSVP.

## **WORSHIP MUSIC NIGHT**

*Friday, March 8 at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Hall*

You're invited to an evening of music, prayer, and pizza! We will be singing some familiar favorites from La Mesa, worshipping, and learning a few new songs which may show up on Sundays coming soon. Bring your friends and family and come ready to sing new songs! RSVP to Bianca Muñoz: bmunoz@unitedchurch.org

## **SAVE THE DATE: TRANS DAY OF VISIBILITY**

*Saturday, March 23 at United Church of Chapel Hill  
5 - 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall*

UCCH is partnering with El Centro Hispano for an event honoring International Transgender Day of Visibility this year. A number of transgender community members and activists with expertise in a range of disciplines will hold a panel discussion addressing the importance of trans visibility and trans liberation.

## **SAVE THE DATE: CROP HUNGER WALK**

*Sunday, March 24 (Palm Sunday)*

This year's walk will again benefit IFC and Church World Service hunger relief efforts both locally and around the globe, serving as a major fundraiser for both. The walk will begin at 2:30 p.m. at the Carrboro Town Commons with entertainment starting at 1:30 (live music, speeches, snacks, & more). Orange County beekeepers will be there with a display as part of CROP Walk's "Bee the Change" theme. You can sign up to be a walker or support the fundraising effort via the link in our enews.

## **FRIDAY MORNING YOGA CLASS**

*Fridays at 9 a.m. in the Assembly Hall*

All levels welcome! Contact Melanie Joiner (melanie.spence@gmail.com) for more info.

## **FROM THE UCCH LIBRARY**

- ★ Guyton, M. Temple, not program: How we use sacred space and time. In "How Jesus Saves the World from Us," p94-105. 248.4 Guy H
- ★ Aslan, R. Zeal for your house. In "Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth," p73-79. 232.9 Asl Z
- ★ Levine, A.-J. The temple: Risking righteous anger. In "Entering the Passion of Jesus," p45-62. 232.96 Lev E
- ★ Chittister, J. "The Ten Commandments: Laws of the Heart." A/V 222.6 Chi T DVD and Resource Guide
- ★ Hedges, C. "Losing Moses on the Freeway: The 10 Commandments in America." 241.5 Hed L
- ★ Brueggemann, W. Duty as delight and desire: Preaching obedience that is not legalism. In "The Covenanted Self: Explorations in Law and Covenant," p35-47. 230 Bru CA

These items are on the small wooden rack in the center of the library. A volunteer, Nancy Siebens, will be in the library immediately following the 9:45 service, to assist you in finding library materials.

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Learn more about worship on the "Welcome to United Church" card in your pew.

## SERVICE NOTES

**MUSICIANS:** Chancel Choir; Jeanne Allen, soprano solo

**DEACON:** Kathy VandenBerg

**LIVESTREAM:** Bill Siddall

**SOUNDBOARD:** Bob Sielken

**COFFEE HOST:** Erica Tillman

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Given by Tom & Kay Williams in celebration of their 51st wedding anniversary on March 10.

**COVER ART:** *Christ and tradesmen in the Temple* mosaic in Monreale Cathedral, Sicily. 12th-13th century.

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## UNITED CHURCH STAFF

**SENIOR PASTOR:** Rev. Cameron Barr

**ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY &**

**BELONGING:** Caleb Wolf

**MINISTER TO CHILDREN:** Anitra Grove

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:** Jennifer Anderson

**ORGANIST:** Alan Davis

**ADJUNCT MUSIC STAFF:** Charles Bradshaw (United Voices of Praise Director), Nan de Andrade (Handbell Director), & Bianca Muñoz (La Mesa Music Director)

**CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR:** Kati Ruark

**COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER:** Marisa Mee

**BUSINESS MANAGER:** Duane Gilbert

**SEXTON:** Bruce Thomas

**KITCHEN STEWARDS:** Nubia Rivero Bello, Hser Nay Htoo, Andreina Galindez

**NURSERY DIRECTOR:** Alison Robertson

**NURSERY ASSISTANTS:** Alex Tanner, Colin Tanner, Harper Gray, Brooke Reynolds, Kallista Mela, Mimi Reeves, & Elizabeth Hall

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**A PLACE of BELONGING** FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN