**Service of Word and Table**

at

**Epworth Free Methodist Church**

6110 W. Northview Street, Boise, Idaho 83704

208-336-3951

[www.epworthfmc.org](http://www.epworthfmc.org)

The Rev. John Crow, Rector and Pastor

208-501-4037

**March 9, 2025, 10:00 a.m.**

*First Sunday in Lent*

**So I turned to the Lord God**

**and pleaded with him in prayer and petition,**

**in fasting, and in** **sackcloth and ashes. Daniel 9:3 (NIV)**

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**“Through the deep current of the historical Wesleyan church we will collaboratively serve and reach the lost in order to make disciples who love Jesus.”**

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This service will be live streamed, and in the course of that any or all persons who attend may be filmed. Remaining in the service will constitute your consent to appear in the live-streamed, recorded, and published service.

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**Rector and Pastor:** The Rev. John Crow

**Cantors:** Bryan Vanshur, Shannon Nichols

**Readers:**

 **Old Testament:** Adam Graham

 **Psalm:** Adam Graham

 **Epistle:** Stan Crow

**Acolytes:** Stephen Crow, Josiah Crow, Corbin Crosswhite, and Jessica Crosswhite

**Jr. Acolytes:** Asher Crow & Lizzie Crosswhite

**Usher:** Asher Crow

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**ACTS OF ENTRANCE**

 **(The people enter and remain in prayer and meditation, and the candles are lit in silence.)**

**Prélude**:

**Entrance canticle (cantor only):**

 “Approach, my soul, the mercy seat, Where Jesus answers prayer; There humbly fall before his feet, For none can perish there.

 Thy promise is my only plea, With this I venture nigh: Thou callest burdened souls to thee, And such, O Lord, am I.” (*Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat,* vv. 1-2, John Newton)

**Processional Hymn (all standing):**

 *At the Name of Jesus* (No. 335)

**Minister:** Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**People:** *His mercy endures forever.* **(The people then sit.)**

**The Ten Commandments (the people sitting):**

**Minister:** God spoke these words, and said, I am the Lord your God:

 You shall have no other gods but me.

 You shall not make to yourself any graven image, to bow down to them, or worship them.

 You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

 Remember that you keep holy the Sabbath day.

 Honor your father and your mother.

 You shall not murder.

 You shall not commit adultery.

 You shall not steal.

 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet.

**The Great Commandments (the people sitting):**

**Minister:** Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

**Kyrie (the people sitting):**

**People:** *Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

**Hymn of Preparation for the Litany (cantors only, the people sitting):**

“My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away, O let me from this day be wholly thine.” (*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*, v. 1, Ray Palmer)

**The Great Litany (The Minister kneels, and the people kneel or sit.) period of silence is kept.)**

**Minister:** Let us pray.

**Minister:** Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,

**People:** *Have mercy on us.*

**Minister:** Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,

**People:** *Have mercy on us.*

**Minister:** Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,

**People:** *Have mercy on us.*

**Minister:** Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, One God,

**People:** *Have mercy on us.*

**Minister:** From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred and malice; and from all evil intent,

**People:** *Savior, deliver us.*

**Minister:** From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of heart and contempt for your word and your laws,

**People:** *Savior, deliver us.*

**Minister:** From sins of body and mind; from deceits of the world, flesh and the devil,

**People:** *Savior deliver us.*

**Minister:** From famine and disaster; from violence, murder, and dying unprepared,

**People:** *Savior deliver us.*

**Minister:** In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of our death and at the day of judgment,

**People:** *Savior deliver us.*

**Minister:** By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience; by your baptism, fasting and temptation,

**People:** *Savior deliver us.*

**Minister:** By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; by the preaching of your reign,

**People:** *Savior deliver us.*

**Minister:** By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your precious death and burial,

**People:** *Savior deliver us.*

**Minister:** By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension; and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,

**People:** *Savior deliver us.*

**Minister:** Hear our prayers, O Christ our God.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that unity which is your will.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Give us boldness to preach the Gospel in all the world, and to make disciples of all the nations.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Enlighten all ministers of your Gospel with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Give your people grace to witness to your word and bring forth the fruit of your Spirit.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Strengthen those who stand; comfort and help the fainthearted; raise up the fallen; and finally beat down Satan under our feet.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Give your wisdom and strength to our President, the Governor of our state, and the mayor of our city, that in all things they may do your will, for your glory and the common good.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Give to the Congress, the members of the President’s cabinet, those who serve in our state legislature, and all others in authority the grace to walk always in the ways of truth.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Bless the justices of the Supreme Court and all those who administer the law, that they may act with integrity and do justice for all your people.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the good of all.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Bless and keep all your people.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved, and the oppressed.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Keep in safety those who travel and all who are in peril.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit, and provide for the homeless, the hungry, the destitute.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Guard and protect all children who are in danger.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Shower your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Hear us as we pray for the needs of your people\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

 [Nation: Brazil

 Denomination: Orthodox Presbyterian Church

 Congregation: First United Methodist Church, Lubbock, TX, and the Rev. Todd Salzwedel

 Ministry: Samaritan’s Purse

 Parishioners: Those living on Lynwood Place]

 *(The people pray their concerns, silently or aloud*.*)*

**Minister:** Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** *Hear our prayer.*

**Minister:** Hear us as we give thanks for your goodness to your people\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

 *(The people give thanks, silently or aloud.)*

**Minister:** Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** *Hear our prayer.*

**Minister:** We remember and give thanks for all those who have died in the faith, and we ask You to grant us with them a share in your eternal glory.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your word.

**People:** *Hear us, O Christ.*

**Minister:** Almighty God, who has promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in your Son’s Name: We ask You mercifully to incline your ear to us who have now made our prayers and supplications unto You; and grant that those things which we have asked faithfully according to your will, may be obtained effectually, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:** *Amen.* **(The people then stand.)**

**Lord’s Prayer:**

**Minister:** Let us pray.

**(All standing):** *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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.* *Amen.*

**The Collect for Purity:**

**Minister:** Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify your holy Name, through Christ our Lord.

**All:** *Amen.*

**Mutual Invocation of the Grace of God for the Service of the Word:**

**Minister:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** *And also with you.* **(The people then be seated.)**

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**Old Testament Lesson (the people sitting):**

**Reader:** The Old Testament lesson is written in the twenty-sixth chapter of the book of Deuteronomy, beginning at verse 1:

1. “When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it,
2. you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there.
3. And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our fathers to give us.’
4. Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God.
5. “And you shall make response before the Lord your God, ‘A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous.
6. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor.
7. Then we cried to the Lord, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.
8. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders.
9. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.
10. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me.’ And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God.
11. And you shall rejoice in all the good that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you. (ESV)

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

**The Psalm: (The people sit for the responsive reading, by half-verse, of Psalm 91, a song of God’s protection for faithful.)**

**Reader:** The Psalm is chapter 91, beginning at verse 1.

**Reader:** 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,

**People:** *abides under the shadow of the Almighty.*

**Reader:** 2 He shall say to the Lord, “You are my refuge and my stronghold,

**People:** *my God in whom I put my trust.*

**Reader:** 9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge,

**People:** *and the Most High your habitation,*

**Reader:** 10 There shall no evil happen to you,

**People:** *neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.*

**Reader:** 11 For he shall give his angels charge over you,

**People:** *to keep you in all your ways.*

**Reader:** 12 They shall bear you in their hands,

**People:** *Lest you dash your foot against a stone.*

**Reader:** 13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder;

**People:** *you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.*

**Reader:** 14 Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him;

**People:** *I will protect him, because he knows my Name.*

**Reader:** 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him;

**People:** *I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring him to honor.*

**Reader:** 16 With long life will I satisfy him,

**People:** *and show him my salvation.* (BCP)

***Gloria Patri*:**

**Reader:** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**All:** *As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

**Collect for the First Sunday in Lent (the people sitting):**

**Minister:** Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as You know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find You mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**All:** *Amen.*

**The Epistle (the people sitting):**

**Reader:** The Epistle lesson is written in the tenth chapter of Paul’s letter to the Romans, beginning at verse 8:

8 But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

9  because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

10  For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

11  For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.”

1. For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him.
2. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” (ESV)

**Reader:** Here ends the Epistle.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

**Sequence Hymn (all standing):**

 *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds,* vv. 1-3(No. 417)

**The Gospel (all standing, and turning toward the Gospel reading):**

**Minister:** The holy Gospel is written in the fourth chapter of the Gospel according to Luke, beginning at verse 1:

**Minister:**

1. And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness
2. for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry.
3. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.”
4. And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’”
5. And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time,
6. and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will.
7. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.”
8. And Jesus answered him, “It is written, “‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’”
9. And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here,
10. for it is written, “‘He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,’
11. and “‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’”
12. And Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”
13. And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time. (ESV)

**Minister:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** *Praise to You, Lord Christ*.

**Sequence Hymn (all standing):**

 *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds,* vv. 4-5(No. 417)

[Elementary age children may exit for Children's Worship in the Parish Hall.

They will return to the service at the Passing of the Peace.]

**Minister:** Grace be unto you, and peace, from our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All:** *Amen.* **(The people then be seated.)**

**The Sermon**

**Minister:** In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Silence, for review of the sermon, and for meditative prayer**

**SERVICE OF THE TABLE: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**The Nicene Creed (all standing):**

**Minister:** Let us confess our faith, saying:

**All:** *We believe in one God,*

 *the Father, the Almighty,*

 *maker of heaven and earth,*

 *of all that is, seen and unseen.*

 *We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,*

 *the only Son of God,*

 *eternally begotten of the Father,*

 *God from God, Light from Light,*

 *true God from true God,*

 *begotten, not made,*

 *of one Being with the Father.*

 *Through him all things were made.*

 *For us and for our salvation*

 *he came down from heaven:*

 *by the power of the Holy Spirit*

 *he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,*

 *and was made man.*

 *For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;*

 *he suffered death and was buried.*

 *On the third day he rose again*

 *in accordance with the Scriptures;*

 *he ascended into heaven*

 *and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

 *He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,*

 *and his kingdom will have no end.*

 *We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,*

 *who proceeds from the Father and the Son.*

 *With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.*

 *He has spoken through the Prophets.*

 *We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.*

 *We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.*

 *We look for the resurrection of the dead,*

 *and the life of the world to come.* *Amen.*

**(The people remain standing.)**

**The Passing of the Peace:**

**Minister:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** *And also with you.*

**Minister:** Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his Name and share his peace. Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

 *(The people greet those near to them, saying, “The peace of the Lord be with you,” or, “Peace be with you,” or simply, “Peace.” They respond to one another, “And also with you,” or simply, “Peace”.)*

**Minister: (The people sitting)** Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High (Psalm 50:14)

**Offertory:**

**Offering Hymn (all standing):**

 *For the Life That You Have Given*  (No. 485)

**Minister:** All things come from You, O Lord.

**People:** *And of your own have we given You.*

**Preparation for Holy Communion (the people sitting):**

**Minister:** The Lord’s Supper was ordained by God to be a means of conveying grace according to the need of each person. Those for whom it was ordained are all those who know and feel that they want the grace of God, to restrain them from sin, or to forgive their sins, or to assure them of pardon, or to renew their souls in the image of God, or to enter into the holy presence of God in communion with him. No preparation is indispensably necessary, other than a desire to receive the grace God pleases to give. No fitness or church membership is required at the time of communicating, other than a sense of our state, of our utter sinfulness and helplessness apart from Christ. Therefore, if you want such grace as God pleases to give to you, draw near with faith.

**Hymn of Invitation to Communion (all standing):**

 *Jesus, Tempted in the Desert* (No. 146)

**Preparation for the Table:**

**(Minister:** I wash my hands in innocence, and go about your altar, O LORD, proclaiming aloud your praise and telling of all your wonderful deeds.) [Psalm 26:6-7, NIV]

**The *Sursum Corda* (all standing):**

**Minister:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** *And also with you.*

**Minister:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** *We lift them up unto the Lord.*

**Minister:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** *It is meet and right so to do.*

**The Salutation:**

**Minister:** It is very meet, right, and our gladsome duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God,

**The Preface:**

**Minister:** Through Jesus Christ our Lord. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your word and sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which You have prepared for those who love You.

**Minister:** Therefore, with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying,

**The *Sanctus* (all standing, saying):**

 *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might; heaven and earth are full of your glory*; *hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.*

**The Prayer of Humble Access and for Cleansing**

**(the people kneeling or sitting):**

**Minister:** Let us pray together:

**All:** *We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your many and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But You are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy: Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to experience the spiritual presence of your dear Son Jesus Christ at this your table, that we may be made clean by his body and blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Deliver us, gracious Lord, from the presumption of coming to this table for solace for ourselves only, and not for strength to serve You and others. Deliver us, gracious Lord, from the presumption of coming to this table for pardon of our sins only, and not for transformation of our lives in your holiness. Amen.*

***Epiclesis* Prayer (Invocation of the Holy Spirit upon the Bread and Wine)**

 **(the people kneeling or sitting):**

**Minister:** Holy Father, You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that in obedience to You, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from You, You did not abandon us to the power of death. Again and again You called us into covenant with You, and through the prophets You taught us to hope for salvation. In the fullness of time You sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfull your purpose he gave himself up to death, and made the whole creation new. And that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all. Recalling Christ’s death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer You these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit, that they may be to us the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice to Christ, to the praise of your holy Name. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord; through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, O Father Almighty, now and for ever.

**All:** *Amen.*

**The Words of Institution (the people kneeling or sitting):**

**Minister:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night that he was betrayed took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me.

 Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you; for this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins: Do this, as often as you shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

**All:** *Amen.*

**Minister:** Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**People:** *Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.*

**The Fraction:**

**Minister:** Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

**People:** *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

**Minister:** The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and rose again, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

**The Communion, Open to all:** *(After the minister(s) and acolyte(s) are served, the people come forward to receive, as space is available. The people kneel if they are able, or stand.* **Communion by intincture: The people receive the Bread in their open hands, continue to hold it, then dip the Bread in the cup, and then consume.**) *They return to their seats via the side aisles.*

**Renewal of the Mutual Invocation of God’s Grace for the Eucharist:**

**Minister:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** *And also with you.*

**The Prayer of Thanksgiving and Living Sacrifice:**

 **(The minister kneeling, the people kneeling or sitting):**

**Minister:** Let us pray together:

**All:** *O Lord and Heavenly Father, we heartily thank You because You feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; because by this You assure us of your favor and goodness toward us; because we are living members of the body of your Son and heirs of your eternal kingdom. We ask You to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and to grant that by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ and through faith in him, we and all your whole Church may obtain all of the benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto You, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto You; humbly asking You that we may be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the Unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be unto You, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.*

**The Prayer of Lenten Dedication (all standing):**

**Minister:** Let us pray together:

**All:** *O Lord, inspire your Church to witness to her Lord at this season by following You in humility and simplicity of life. Give us wisdom to make good resolves and grace to maintain them. Grant that we may so deepen and purify our worship that we shall know more fully your holy will. Amen*.

 **ACTS OF DISMISSAL**

**Recessional Hymn (all standing):**

 *The Glory of These Forty Days*  (No. 113)

**The Prayer of Benediction:**

**Minister:** Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

**All:** *Amen.*

**Minister:** Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.* **(The people then be seated.)**

**Greetings and Announcements**

**Postlude:**

 **(The people sit and remain quiet until the candles are extinguished and the organ raises its voice.)**

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John Wesley’s *Order for the Administration of the Lord’s Supper*,

The 1662 and 1979 editions of *The Book of Common Prayer,* and

*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*

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**Scripture Lessons for March 16 (Lent 2)**

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

**Parish Prayer This Week and Next Sunday**

Those living on Montana Avenue

**Parish Notices**

**Lenten Soup Suppers (Revised)**

We are trying something new this Lent. Rather than having a single soup supper at one location for everyone, we are inviting Epworthies to gather in their homes every Tuesday for a meal and prayer with another person or family in the congregation. This will start on Tuesday, March 11, and end on Tuesday, April 8. That gives everyone five opportunities to gather with others for a meal (it doesn’t have to be soup…). Don’t be shy, invite someone over! And to assist with the prayer, everyone will receive a short prayer by email each week as a recommended prompt.

**Seder Meal Presentation**

On Tuesday, April 1st, we are cohosting a seder meal presentation by Chosen People Ministries at 7 pm. The event will take place at Grace Anglican Church (2490 N. Milwaukee St.). It is called Messiah in the Passover, demonstrating the messianic connection to the Jewish Passover meal. A love offering will be received. All are welcome!

**Coming Events at Epworth**

 Today, 10:00 am Word & Table Service

 Today, 11:40 Afterword (moderated

discussion)

Thursday, 13 MAR Lenten Evening & Healing

Prayers (7 pm)

Tuesday, 1 APR Seder Meal Presentation at

Grace Anglican (7 pm)

**March Birthdays & Anniversaries**

 19 – Asher Crow

 21 – Shannon Nichols

**Epworth Church Office Email**

epworthchapel.office@gmail.com

All correspondence for the office should be sent to this email address.

**Pastor Crow Contact Information**

***Healing prayer is provided every week upon request***

Rev. John Crow, Rector and Pastor

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