

**Order of Worship: Sunday, March 12, 2023**  
**8:30 a.m and 11:00 a.m.**  
**3rd Sunday in Lent/Living Well Part II: Social Wholiness**

**Welcome** Rev. Becky Rokitowski, Associate Pastor

**Prelude** *Wondrous Love* arr. J. Carter  
**Lighting of the Candles** Acolytes

**Opening Prayer** Nancy Turner and Congregation

**Almighty and everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being,  
You created us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they find rest in you.**

**Grant to us such piety of heart and strength of purpose  
that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will,  
and no weakness from doing it.**

**In your light may we see life clearly and in your service find perfect freedom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen** (The Book of Worship 1965, alt.)

**Opening Hymn** *And Are We Yet Alive* UMH 553

**Prayer of Confession and Pardon** Nancy Turner and Congregation

God is ready to satisfy those who thirst for goodness,  
and those who are hungry for grace, will be filled with good things.  
Let us in prayer make our confession..

If we were self-sufficient, and had all the answers,  
**we would not be here, all-wise God.**

If our achievements matched our aims and if our deeds perfectly reflected our holiest vows,  
**we would not be so spiritually hungry, God of truth and grace.**

If we had cared for our neighbors with the love of Jesus Christ,  
and cherished our loved ones without selfishness or impatience,  
**we would not be seeking your mercy, redeeming God.**

We bring to you our inept and evil ways,  
and rest the troublesome load of frustration, disappointment, regret and guilt in your hands.  
Please wash the grime and infection from our wounds,  
and anoint us with the salve of forgiveness.  
Take us gently by the chin and lift up our faces  
so that we can look up into the face of Christ Jesus without shame or fear.  
With him let us recover our authentic humanity  
and face all coming challenges with his quiet strength and optimism.  
In his name we so pray. **Amen!**

## Words of Forgiveness

Family of God,

lift up your spirits with thanksgiving to God whose nature is always to have mercy.  
All who have come clean and sought forgiveness shall never need to revisit old shame again.  
The untarnished future is God's and it is now offered to you with open hands.  
You are forgiven, all things have become new!  
Through Christ Jesus our Savior!

**O give thanks to God who is so good, whose love goes on forever!**

(Bruce Prewer)

**Response**

*Kyrie eleison*

A. Dvorjak

TFWS 2275

*Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.*

## Passing of the Peace

**Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Dr. Latricia Scriven, Sr. Pastor

**Anthem (11:00)**

*A Place for Healing Grace*

H. Sorenson

Covenant Chancel Choir

**Children's Chat**

Rev. Scriven

**The Offering**

**Offering Prayer**

Rev. Rokitowski

**Offertory**

*Ubi Caritas*

V. Johnson

Laura and Jake Alexander, Stephany Nystrand

*(Where there is charity and love, God is there. The love of Christ has gathered us together.*

*Let us rejoice and be glad in it . And from a sincere heart let us love one another.)*

**Doxology**

UMH 95

**Scripture**

Acts 8:1-8 and Colossians 3:8-11

Nancy Turner

**Sermon**

"The God of Inclusion: torn veils and open doors"

Rev. Rokitowski

**Closing Hymn**

*You Are My All in All*

W&S 3040

**Sending Forth**

Rev. Rokitowski

**Postlude**

*Hallelujah, What a Savior*

arr. H. DeCou