



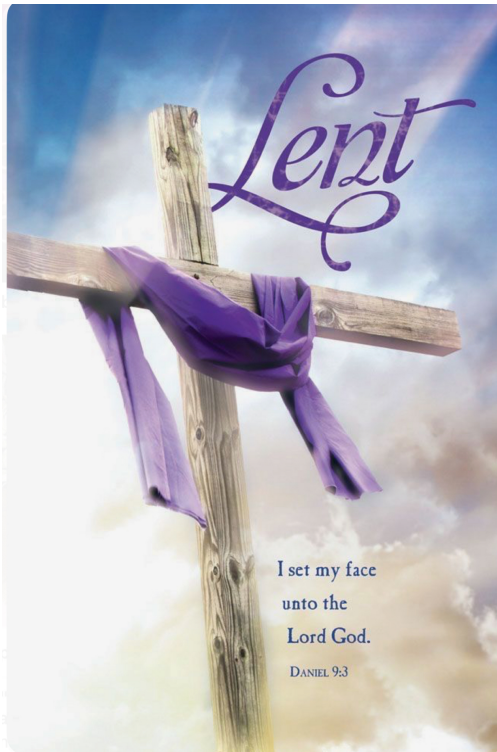
LET US WORSHIP GOD!

March 16, 2025—10:30 AM

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

A HYBRID WORSHIP EXPERIENCE IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

Today's worship team—Music Director: Jayne McDonough;
Worship Leader: Beverly Mate; Message: Norris Clark, Ruling Elder;
Worship Production: Maxwell Moran



WELCOME! WORSHIP YOUR WAY!

So glad you're here today! Enjoy worship with your neighbors and be spiritually energized. Join us in-person in our beautiful, historic Red Brick Church or online: www.coldspringworship.com

MESSAGE PREVIEW

Ruling Elder, Norris Clark's message is "Real Spirituality"

MUSIC PREVIEW

"**Amazing Grace**" was written by John Newton, a former slave trader who later became a minister, as a testament to his own spiritual transformation and God's grace, after a near-death experience at sea. As a young man, Newton was forced into naval service aboard the HMS *Harwich*, where his poor behavior got him into trouble. To be rid of him, the captain sent Newton to a slave ship bound for Guinea, where his actions led to the eventual punishment of being chained on deck as a captive, with very little provisions. In 1748, Newton's father came to his rescue and ordered him to return to England on the *Greyhound*, but midway through the journey a

great storm arose. For days, the crew struggled to keep the ship together, and Newton struggled with himself, reflecting on his poor choices. When the ship, or what was left of it, finally landed in Ireland, Newton made his way to the nearest church and dedicated himself to God.

"**Let Us Break Bread Together**" is an African American spiritual, potentially with roots in the Gullah/Geechee slave culture, that may have been used as a coded message for escape plans during the Underground Railroad, and is now commonly sung during Communion. African American composer John Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954) arranged the first solo version with the three stanzas that are common to most hymnals in the United States.

"**Blest Be the Tie that Binds**" was written by John Fawcett, born on January 6th, 1740, in Yorkshire, England. John committed his life to Christ at age 16 under the ministry of George Whitefield. John became a pastor at a small church in Wainsgate, Yorkshire, serving with his wife Mary. The people were mostly farmers and shepherds who had few resources to support a full-time minister. John received the equivalent of approximately \$200 a year, part of it in the form of wool or produce. At one point John and Mary were tempted to leave their small town for greener pastures. A church in London offered a more substantial salary, so the Fawcetts accepted and packed to leave. On the day the Fawcetts were to leave, the church family gathered around them, many in tears. Mary is quoted as saying, "I can't stand it, John! I know not how to go." John responded, "Lord help me, Mary, nor can I stand it! We will unload the wagon!" John and Mary unpacked the wagon and let the church in London know that they would not be accepting the position. This experience inspired John to write the hymn "Blest Be the Tie." It is based on [Luke 12:15](#): "A man's life does not consist of the abundance of the things he possesses."

PRELUDE
WELCOME:

JAYNE McDONOUGH
NORRIS CLARK, RULING ELDER

GOD WELCOMES ALL (UNISON)

**God welcomes all,
strangers and friends;
God's love is strong
and it never ends.**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP - PSALM 27:1 (RESPONSIVE)

One: The Lord is my light and my salvation;

Many: Whom shall I fear?

One: The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

Many: Of whom shall I be afraid?

One: Come, seek God in this time of worship.

OPENING PRAYER PSALM 27: 2-6 (UNISON)

When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell. Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident. One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple. For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock. And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the Lord.

GATHERING HYMN "AMAZING GRACE" BLUE HYMNAL #280

**1. 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.**

**2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!**

**3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.**

**4. The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.**

**5. When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we cry to God in prayer and confession, God hears. Let us approach God's throne of grace with confidence and faith.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Eternal God, as enemies circle and fear grows large, the distance between us feels like absence and we come to believe you are hidden and concealed. Forgive our doubt. Forgive our lack of spiritual seeking. Forgive us when we make our faith all about what you might do for us rather than how we might serve you and work at right relationship with you. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

HEAR THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God does not forsake us in times of trial. Our God is a gracious God, abounding in steadfast love. Know that in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and be at peace. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Merciful God, open us to your Word and your way. Help us to seek you, your truth, and the message you intend for us today. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 5: 38-48

You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 6: 1-8

Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

MESSAGE: "REAL SPIRITUALITY"

NORRIS CLARK, RULING ELDER

PRAYER AND SILENT REFLECTION

**HYMN OF MEDITATION -"LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER" BLUE
HYMNAL #513**

**1. Let us break bread together On our knees;
Let us break bread together On our knees.**

**When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

**2. Let us drink wine together On our knees;
Let us drink wine together On our knees.**

**When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

**3. Let us praise God together On our knees;
Let us praise God together On our knees.**

**When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS -

God calls us to lives of grateful generosity. Let us praise the giver of all good gifts through our offering today.

Offertory

THE DOXOLOGY

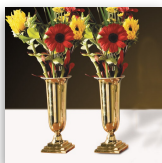
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all
creatures here below; praise God above the heavenly host,
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

COMMUNITY NEWS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES: LARRY HUME - MARCH 20

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO TED AND JANICE LEWIS



Flowers: The flowers that beautify the sanctuary are given by John Saalman in memory of his Mother, Mary Saalman, on her Birthday.

Sign-up in the Narthex, or online, if you'd like to donate flowers in memory, or in honor, of a loved one. For more information, contact Beverly Mate, 609-847-1530. (\$20/vase).

Donate
40 Things in
40 days



Lenten Challenge! Donate 40 Things in 40 Days. See the information card in the Narthex.

Pick up the Lenten daily Bible readings schedule, from the Presbyterian Church USA, on the table in the narthex, for daily Lenten devotions and readings.

RECEIVING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Pray for: **Charlie Keister** is now recuperating at home with Barbara, **Barbara** cut her leg and has a sore leg; Dee Sloan's Brother, **James Palmisano**, in Cooper Hospital, just diagnosed with liver & bone cancer, to begin chemo therapy this week. The McCaughey Family, on the passing of Jim's Brother, **Ed McCaughey**, who has been on our hospice care list; **Kiley Fulford**, 17 yrs old recently diagnosed with MS, Chuck & Barbara McPherson's Niece; **Kevin**, John Saalman's son in law, with severe depression; **Jean Gaskill**, Rev. Bill Gaskill's wife, healing from brain surgery last week; **Deanna Taylor**, receiving treatment for cancer; **Bob** post knee surgery pain and discomfort; **Anne Ferrari** took a fall and is in pain; **Carol Davis** with severe case of shingles; The Word **Family** & friends, on the passing of **Eileen Word**; **The Vitale Family**, the Father suffering with effects from a stroke, and the children needing prayers for mental health issue and relationship issue; **Anne and Fred Ferrari** on the passing of **Anne's Sister, Linda Trowbridge** who suffered for 6 years with Alzheimer's Dementia; **Norma Sasso** in Cape Coral, Fla., undergoing radiation therapy after breast surgery.

Continual prayer requested for: **Eileen Stalford** in nursing care; **Pastor Bob & Anna Sheidly** friends of Bob Heinly, as they battle multiple maladies of aging; **Bob Sheidly** is improving and grateful for our prayers.

Those on hospice care: **Marty, John Stalford, Gertrude Hess, Celeste Bashaw, Ted Lewis.**

Those undergoing cancer treatment: **Katrina Gonzalez, Bob Maher, Karen R., Keith, Todd, Brian, Gerri Mills, Robin B, Mike,**

Kim, Steve, Rickey, Lorraine, Candy, Donna, Liz, Jennifer, Lori, Ruth, Debbie, Mike Grecco Norma, James Palmisano.

PASTORAL PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

FRESH EXPRESSION OF COMMUNITY

Once we were strangers,

Now we are neighbors.

Once we were strangers,

Now we are friends.

SENDING HYMN - "BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS" BLUE HYMNAL #438

1. Blest be the tie that binds

Our hearts in Christian love;

The fellowship of kindred minds

Is like to that above.

2. Before our Father's throne

We pour our ardent prayers;

Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,

Our comforts and our cares.

3. We share our mutual woes,

Our mutual burdens bear.

And often for each other flows

The sympathizing tear.

4. From sorrow, toil, and pain,

And sin we shall be free;

And perfect love and friendship reign

Through all eternity.

BENEDICTION: NORRIS CLARK, RULING ELDER

POSTLUDE: JAYNE McDONOUGH

Go in peace. See you next week!

So glad you've joined us. Please Like and Subscribe on our YouTube channel, Facebook, and Instagram. Worship at any time on YouTube. Invite others to join you next week.

Notes for Today's Music: CCLI License #20561018. CCLI Streaming License #20561001 Worship Lyric Videos, all rights reserved, Web license. Worship House Media, Web License. OneLicense Limited Podcast / Streaming License #M-401274.

1. *God Welcomes All* - CCLI Song #5495557
2. *Amazing Grace: John Newton, Virginia Harmony, Arr. Edwin J. Excell ; CCLI #22025*
3. *Gloria* Public Domaine
4. *Let Us Break Bread Together: African American Spiritual; CCLI Song #28249*
5. *Doxology* - CCLI Song #425557
6. *Blest Be the Tie Thst Binds; Johann Hans Georg Nageli, John Fawcett; CCLI Song #28249*