

# LET US WORSHIP GOD!

March 8, 2026— 10:30 AM

## Third Sunday in Lent

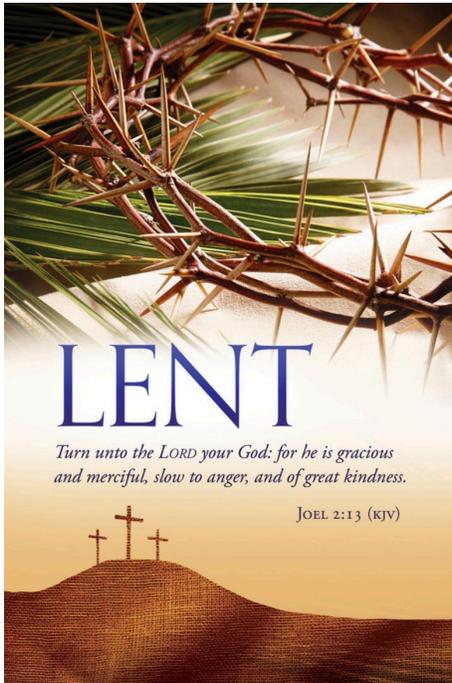


**A HYBRID WORSHIP EXPERIENCE IN-PERSON AND ONLINE**

Today's worship team— Music Director: Jayne McDonough;  
Worship Leader: John Saalman; Message: Norris Clark, Elder, Pulpit  
Supply; Worship Production: Rick Dezmelyk



**SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026,**  
Clocks Spring ahead  
one hour!



### **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](http://www.coldspringworship.com)

### **MESSAGE PREVIEW:**

**Elder, Norris Clark's message is "It's a Wonderful Life".**

### **MUSIC PREVIEW:**

"**How Great Thou Art**" originated from an 1885 poem "O Store Gud" (O Great God), written by Swedish pastor Carl Boberg after witnessing a terrifying thunderstorm that

suddenly turned into a calm, beautiful sunny day. The poem was set to a Swedish folk melody, translated into German and Russian, and later adapted into English by missionary Stuart K. Hine in the 1930s-40s, who added verses based on his experiences in Ukraine.

While walking home from church on the southeast coast of Sweden in 1885, Carl Boberg was caught in a violent thunderstorm with lightning, wind, and rain. As it suddenly passed, he saw a clear sun, heard birds

singing, and felt compelled to praise God, resulting in the poem. English missionary Stuart K. Hine heard a Russian version of the song while working in Ukraine. He translated three verses into English and added a fourth verse later in England during WWII, inspired by the longing of refugees to return home. The hymn gained immense popularity after George Beverly Shea sang it at Billy Graham crusades in the 1950s.

**"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"** was written by German Calvinist pastor and teacher Joachim Neander in 1680, shortly before his death from tuberculosis at age 30. Inspired by Psalms 103 and 150, the hymn was born from his love of nature in the Neander Valley, celebrating God as the creator and sustainer of life despite his own, short, and challenging life.

Written by "the Father of English Hymnody" Isaac Watts in 1715, **"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"** (originally titled "Praise for Creation and Providence") was composed for children to teach them about God's power through nature. It was published in *Divine and Moral Songs for Children* to provide accessible, theological songs, later becoming a cornerstone of congregational worship.

**PRELUDE**

**JAYNE McDONOUGH**

**WELCOME: NORRIS CLARK, ELDER, PULPIT SUPPLY**

**GOD WELCOMES ALL (UNISON)**

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

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP: (RESPONSIVE) (PSALM 95:1-7A)**

**One: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

**Many: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!**

One: For the Lord is a great God, and a great ruler above all gods. In God's hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are God's also.

**Many: The sea is the Lord's, for God made it, and the dry land, which God's hands have formed.**

One: O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

**Many: For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.**

### **OPENING PRAYER: (UNISON)**

**Gracious God, as we journey through this Lenten season, we come before you seeking your wisdom and presence. As we gather on this third Sunday of Lent, remind us of your steadfast love and mercy. Open our hearts to your Word, that we may turn away from the things that divide us from you and walk in the way of justice and peace. Send your Holy Spirit to lead us in the darkness, strengthen our weakness, and renew our spirits. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with**

**you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN - #467 (BLUE) "HOW GREAT THOU ART"**

**1. O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

**2. When through the woods  
and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

**3. And when I think that God,  
His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin;**

**Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

**4. When Christ shall come  
with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, my God,  
how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

### **CALL TO CONFESSION:**

As we wander through the wilderness of Lent, we come closer and closer to confronting human sin, both our own sin and our collective sin. It is with honesty about how we have hurt others, and hurt ourselves, that we can move closer to the healing that God wills for us. Confession allows us to exercise such honesty, knowing that the God who hears us is the God who already loves us.

Therefore, we need not fear confession, but draw near to the love of God, in honesty and candor, first together, and then in silence...

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (UNISON)**

**God of endless renewal, God who calls us to lives restored, God who rescues the lost and saves the afflicted, there are times when our way grows confused. We struggle to know what to do. Or worse, we know what needs to be done and find it easier to stay on the wrong path. Forgive us for failing to heed opportunities to follow a better way. Remind us that you stand more ready to forgive than we are to confess those aspects of our lives that stand in need of your grace. And thus forgiven, help us to lean in to what you would teach us about how we are to be. We pray all these things in Jesus' name, and for his sake...Amen.**

## **Silent Reflection**

## **HEAR THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE: (RESPONSIVE)**

(Romans 8:34)

**One:** Who is to condemn?

**Many:** It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes who was raised, who is at the right hand of God who indeed intercedes for us.

**One:** Believe the promise of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:**

May the words of my mouth, and the meditations of all of our hearts, be acceptable, even pleasing in your sight, O Lord, our strength and redeemer. Amen.

## **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 139: 13-18**

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand — when I awake, I am still with you.

## **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 30:18-19**

There are three things that are too wonderful for me,  
four that I do not understand:  
the way of an eagle in the sky,  
the way of a snake on a rock,  
the way of a ship on the high seas,  
and the way of a man with a young woman.

**MESSAGE: "IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE"**

**NORRIS CLARK, ELDER, PULPIT SUPPLY**

**PRAYER AND SILENT REFLECTION**

**HYMN OF MEDITATION : #482 (BLUE) "PRAISE YE THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY"**

**1. Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty,  
The King of creation!**

**O my soul, praise Him,**

**For He is thy health and salvation!**

**All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;**

**Join me in glad adoration!**

**2. Praise ye the Lord, Who o'er all things**

**So wondrously reigneth,**

**Shelters thee under His wings,**

**Yea, so gently sustaineth!**

**Hast thou not seen**

**how thy desires e'er have been**

**Granted in what He ordaineth?**

**3. Praise ye the Lord!**

**O let all that is in me adore Him!**

**All that hath life and breath,**

**Come now with praises before Him!**

**Let the amen sound from His people again;**

**Gladly for aye we adore Him.**

## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS:

From the dust of the earth, God made our mortal bodies, and with God's breath, life was instilled in us. There is nothing that we have that is not a gift from God. Remembering all of God's manifold blessings, let us worship God with our tithes and our offerings.

## 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



**THE FLOWERS THAT BEAUTIFY THE  
SANCTUARY ARE GIVEN BY ELAINE JORDAN  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF HER FATHER ON HIS  
BIRTHDAY, MARCH 9.**

To donate flowers in memory, or in honor, of a loved one, sign up in the narthex and/or contact Beverly Mate, 609-847-1530. (\$20/vase).

**Anniversary & Birthday Blessings:**  
**Birthday Blessings to: Ruth Rich ~ March 6**  
**Buddy Dehart ~ March 7**  
**James McCaughey ~ March 13**



Our **Bible Study** will continue to meet on **Wednesday March 11 at 10:00 -11:30** a.m. in Price Hall. It will meet weekly for **3 more weeks** before Easter. We are studying Psalm 23 using W. Phillip Keller's little study book, "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23".

**New for 2026! Cold Spring Suppers**  
**"Book Club"**



**Why:** Good food for your heart, mind, body, and soul!

**How:** Participants will select, read, and discuss contemporary and classic books that stimulate the heart and mind, and enjoy a free dinner (pizza, salad, and drink). Book reading: "Secret of Secrets" by Dan Brown

**When:** *Tuesday, March 24, 2026, 6:30 pm*

**Where:** *Located here at Price Hall on 780 Seashore Road in Cold Spring.*

**NOTE:** Participants may request free copies of selected books in advance by emailing their

request and mailing address to  
[norrisclark@me.com](mailto:norrisclark@me.com)

## RECEIVING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

(If you'd like to add to our prayer list, please complete a green  
Let's Pray card.)

*Pray for:* Linda's Cousin, **Darlene** having lung surgery; Update on Linda's nephew **Brian**, he's doing well following his prostate surgery; Update on **Rev. Jim Shanley**, he is still recovering and believes he may be able to return to our pulpit soon; **Barbara & Elmer Cain**, Elmer has been moved to a dementia unit, & Barbara is living alone now; **Larry Hume** has been in & out of hospital searching for a solution to a medical condition; friends & family of **Bill Thomas**, a friend of the Wenkers', on his passing; the **Mueller/Discepola family** on the passing of **Anne Mueller**; **Tracy Madden** for healing from anxiety, **her family members** going through cancer and personal health issues, and travel mercies for **family member's**; **Ukraine** marks four yrs of Russian invasion & suffering. Prayers for Peace; **Nick Discepola**, in Cooper, Camden, with serious injury from head-on collision; **Baby Eleanor Mills**, now 40 days old, has gained enough weight to be able to go home, still needs our prayers for her continued health concerns; **Ariana Palmer**, 23 year old awaiting heart transplant.

*Continual prayer requested for:* **Eileen Stalford** in nursing care; **Pastor Bob Sheidly** friend of Bob Heinly, as he battles multiple maladies of aging; Anna Sheidly is now receiving hospice care.

Those on hospice care: Marty, John Stalford,  
Gertrude Hess, Ted Lewis, Anna Sheidly.

Those undergoing cancer treatment: Kiley Fulford;  
Bob Maher, Karen R., Keith, Todd, Brian, Gerri Mills,  
Robin B, Mike, Kim, Steve, Rickey, Lorraine, Candy,  
Donna, Liz, Joe, Jennifer, Lori, Ruth, Debbie, Mike  
Grecco, Norma Sasso, Roseann Crook, Christa,  
Jackie, Diane, Charlotte Holman, Joe Paulits,  
Gretchen, Ray, Carl, Robert, Patricia, Richard Beare  
and Rev. Jack Wright.

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **THE 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 forever. Amen.**

### **FRESH EXPRESSION OF COMMUNITY**

Once we were strangers,  
**Now we are neighbors.o**  
Once we were strangers,  
**Now we are friends.**

**SENDING HYMN: "I SING THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD" - SEE HYMN INSERT TO WORSHIP GUIDE**

**1. I sing the mighty pow'r of God  
That made the mountains rise,  
That spread the flowing seas abroad  
And built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
The sun to rule the day  
The moon shines full at His command  
And all the stars obey.**

**2. I sing the goodness of the Lord  
That filled the earth with food.  
God formed the creatures through the Word,  
And then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,  
Where'er I turn my eye,  
If I survey the ground I tread,  
Or gaze upon the sky!**

**3. There's not a plant or flow'r below  
But makes Thy glories known.  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
By order from Thy throne,  
While all that borrows life from Thee  
Is ever in Thy care,  
And everywhere that we can be,**

**Thou God, art present there.**

**BENEDICTION:**

**NORRIS CLARK, ELDER,**

**PULPIT SUPPLY**

**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.**

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1. *God Welcomes All* - CCLI Song #549555
2. *How Great Thou Art*: Stuart Wesley Keene Hind ; CCLI #14181
3. *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*: Catherine Winkworth, Joachim Neander ; CCLI Song #43073
4. *Gloria*: Public Domaine - not used during the Sunday's of Lent
5. *Doxology* - CCLI Song # 1149
6. *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*: Isaac Watts, John E. Coates, from *Glory to God Hymnal*; CCLI Song #4046512