



Service of Worship March 3, 2024 9:30am  
Third Sunday in Lent

## Gathering

SONG TO GATHER

“I Need You More”

by Cooley & Haynes

**ALL**

**CHORUS**

**I need you more, more than yesterday,  
I need you more, more than words can say;  
I need you more than ever before,  
I need you, Lord, I need you, Lord.**

**Verse 1**

**More than the air I breathe, more than the song I sing;  
More than the next heartbeat, more than anything.  
And Lord, as time goes by, I'll be by your side;  
'Cause I never want to go back to my old life.**

**CHORUS**

**Verse 2**

**Right here in your presence is where I belong;  
This old broken heart has fin'ly found a home,  
And I'll never be alone.**

**CHORUS**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Karen Wright

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The heavens are telling the glory of God

**ALL: May our worship reflect God's glory.**

ONE: The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

**ALL: May we see each other as the handiwork of God.**

ONE: Let our prayer and praise, our singing and proclamation project the love of God.

**ALL: We commune with Christians around the world,  
with Christians throughout time.**

ONE: With Christians across geography and across time,

**ALL: Let us worship.**

## \*SONG OF PRAISE

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

arr. Sandra Eithun

Spirit! Ringers (5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders) & Adults

Text by Isaac Watts

Rebecca Prater, director

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.  
Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.*

## A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*(Children ages 4 through 1st grade may go to Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time. Greeters at the back of the Sanctuary will go with children to Room 12 downstairs where parents may pick up their children following worship. Our Nursery welcomes young children and our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children's wing. Worship bags are available for children who stay in worship.)*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Karen Wright

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Everlasting God, fountain of all life and the true home of every heart: our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Yet we confess that our hearts have been enslaved by selfish passion and base desire. We have sought after many things and have neglected the one thing needful. We have not loved you with our whole hearts; help us to turn to you and find forgiveness. Lead us home, that we may again find in you our life and joy and peace. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**ALL: And also with you and all others!**

\*SONG OF PEACE

“In Christ Alone”

by Getty & Townend

**ALL**

**In Christ alone my hope is found, he is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow’r of Christ in me;  
From life’s first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow’r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till he returns or calls me home, here in the pow’r of Christ I’ll stand!**

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:18–25 (NRSVue)

Carrie DeVries

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

SONG TO REFLECT

“Unstoppable God”

by Elevation Worship

Praise Team

*Heaven thundered and the world was born. Life begins and ends in the dust you form.  
Faith commanded and the mountains moved. Fear is losing ground to our hope in you.  
Unstoppable God, let your glory go on and on. Impossible things in your name, they shall be done.*

*Freedom conquered; all our chains undone. Sin defeated; Jesus has overcome.  
Mercy triumphed when the third day dawned. Darkness was denied when the stone was gone.*

*Unstoppable God, let your glory go on and on. Impossible things in your name, they shall be done.  
Nothing shall be impossible. Your kingdom reigns, unstoppable.  
We'll shout your praise forevermore.  
Jesus, our God, unstoppable.*

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 20:1–17 (NRSVue)

Rev. Karen Wright

Then God spoke all these words,

“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

“You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

“You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

“Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

“Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

“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 your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words  
**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

“Rules to Live By”

Rev. Karen Wright

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

SONG FOR GIVING

“Firm Foundation”

by Gordon & Harvill

Praise Team

*Jesus, you're my firm foundation, I know I can stand secure;  
Jesus, you're my firm foundation, I put my hope in your holy word,  
I put my hope in your holy word.*

*I have a living hope, I have a future.  
God has a plan for me, of this I'm sure.*

*Jesus, you're my firm foundation, I know I can stand secure;  
Jesus, you're my firm foundation, I put my hope in your holy word,  
I put my hope in your holy word.*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION  
AND FIRST COMMUNION

Rev. Karen Wright and Rev. Don Wilson

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving and 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People – *partake of the bread first and then drink as instructed.*

Music During Communion

“Communion”

based on recording by Brooke Ligertwood

Praise Team

*This is communion, your body broken. The cup we're drinking is bittersweet.  
The gift of friendship, truest salvation borne of your suff'ring on Calvary.*

*We remember the sacrifice of love. We remember the blood poured out for us.  
We remember the only Son of God upon the cross.*

*From stained to spotless, from wrath to favor, through you our Savior the work complete.  
In full repentance led by your kindness, partake of presence as we receive.*

*We remember the price you had to pay. We remember the wounds that made a way.  
We remember the Lamb for all was slain upon the cross.*

*How can it be! There is a table for all who would come.  
Taste now and see there is a table for all who would come.*

*We remember the sacrifice of love. We remember the blood poured out for us.  
We remember the only Son of God upon the cross.  
This is communion.*

## Sending

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### \*SONG TO SEND

“Firm Foundation”

by Gordon & Harvill

ALL/Praise Team

**Jesus, you’re my firm foundation, I know I can stand secure;  
Jesus, you’re my firm foundation, I put my hope in your holy word,  
I put my hope in your holy word.**

*I have a living hope I have a living hope  
I have a future I have a future  
God has a plan for me God has a plan for me  
of this I’m sure of this I’m sure!*

**Jesus, you’re my firm foundation, I know I can stand secure;  
Jesus, you’re my firm foundation, I put my hope in your holy word,  
I put my hope in your holy word.**

*Your word is faithful Your word is faithful  
mighty in power mighty in power  
God will deliver me God will deliver me  
of this I’m sure of this I’m sure!*

**Jesus, you’re my firm foundation, I know I can stand secure;  
Jesus, you’re my firm foundation, I put my hope in your holy word,  
I put my hope in your holy word,  
I put my hope in your holy word.**

## GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

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11100 College Boulevard ♦ Overland Park, KS 66210  
Phone (913) 345-1256 ♦ [www.gcpc.org](http://www.gcpc.org)

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