

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME & OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

PRELUDE

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days, arr. L. Smith¹

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Matthew 4

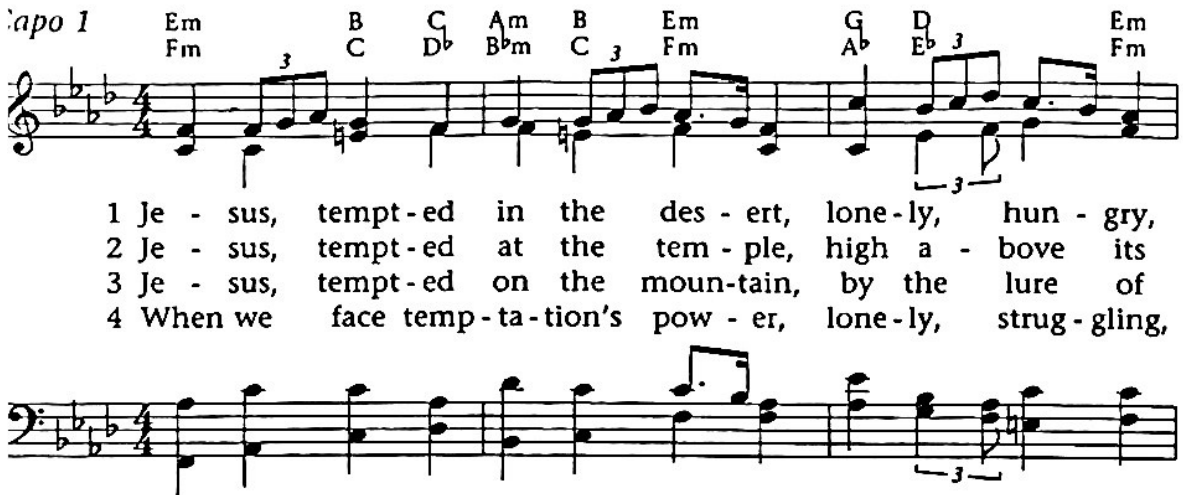
Leader: People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?
People: **The word of the Lord is our daily bread.**
Leader: People of God, in this time of temptation, how will you live?
People: **Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.**
Leader: People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?
People: **We worship the Lord our God alone.**

PRAYER OF ADORATION

***HYMN**

Jesus, Tempted in the Desert, Ebenezer²

Capo 1 Em B C Am B Em G D Em
 Fm C D^b B^bm C Fm A^b E^b Fm



1 Je - sus, tempt-ed in the des - ert, lone-ly, hun - gry,
2 Je - sus, tempt-ed at the tem - ple, high a - bove its
3 Je - sus, tempt-ed on the moun-tain, by the lure of
4 When we face temp-ta-tion's pow - er, lone-ly, strug - gling,

A B7 Em Em B C C Am B Em
B^b C7 Fm Fm C D^b B^bm C Fm

filled with dread; "Use your pow'r," the tempt-er tells him;
an - cient wall; "Throw your - self from loft - y tur - ret;
vast do - main; "Fall be - fore me! Be my ser - vant!
filled with dread, Christ, who knew the tempt-er's hour,

G D Em A B7 Em G D
A^b E^b Fm B^b C7 Fm A^b E^b

"Turn these bar - ren rocks to bread!" "Not a - lone by
an - gels wait to break your fall!" Je - sus shuns such
Glo - ry, fame you're sure to gain!" Je - sus sees the
come and be our liv - ing bread. By your grace, pro -

Em B Em Am D Em C B
Fm C Fm B^bm E^b Fm D^b C

bread," he an - swers, "can the hu - man heart be filled.
emp - ty mar - vels, feats that fick - le crowds re - quest;
daz - zling vi - sion, turns his eyes an - oth - er way;
tect, pre - serve us, lest we fall, your trust be - tray.

Em Fm B C A B Em
C C^b B^b C

On - ly by the Word that calls us
"God, whose grace pro - tects, pre - serves us,
"God a - lone de - serves our hom - age!
Yours, a - bove all oth - er voic - es,

G D G C A B7 Em
A^b E^b A^b D^b B^b C7 Fm

is our deep - est hun - ger stilled!"
we must nev - er vain - ly test."
God a - lone will I o - bey!
be the Word we hear, o - bey.

TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of Eden's morning, we know that Lent is a hard time for us. In a culture which showcases success, you call us to sacrifice ourselves for others. In a world which promotes power, you invite us to deny ourselves. In a society which encourages us to 'feel good,' you point us to the struggles of siblings, the burdens others bear. By your mercy, forgive us. Remind us that as we journey with Jesus, we learn the steps of discipleship. As we listen to his call to obedience, may we learn how to say 'no' to all that tempts us. As we see his suffering, may we live out the good news which has come to us through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ (*continue with silent confession*). Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

from Psalm 32

Leader: Happy are those whose sin is forgiven! Be glad in the Lord and shout for joy:

People: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Please turn to the back wall and wave to our online worshippers, offering them the peace of Christ and then greet each other.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

After the message, children may follow the teacher to room 11 for Spiritual Adventures.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.' Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." ' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 4:1-11

When Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every

word that comes from the mouth of God." 'Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.' Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

SERMON

Letting Go

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 783

*When We Are Tested, Angels of Healing*⁴

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

PRAYER RESPONSE HYMN 649

*Amazing Grace (verse 1), Amazing Grace*⁵

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.

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

OFFERTORY

*Dameon Irreplit Callidus, Gyorgy Orban*⁶

The Demon sneaks expertly tempting the honorable heart; he sets forth trickery amidst praise, song, and dance. However amiably the Demon acts, it is still worth less than the heart of Jesus.

The flesh is tempted by sensuality; gluttony clings to our senses; it overgrows, it encroaches, it stretches. However appealing the flesh is, it is still worth less than the heart of Jesus.

Though the Universe may confer thousands upon thousands of praises, they neither fulfill nor put out the desire of the heart. However appealing the whole universe is, it is still worth less than the heart of Jesus.

***DEDICATION HYMN 694**

*Great God of Every Blessing (verse 1), Aurelia⁷
Great God of every blessing, of faithful loving care, you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share. How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start; sincerely and completely I offer you my heart."*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

We give you thanks and praise, O God, for the free and abundant gift of grace you have given us in Jesus Christ. Let the simple gifts of our lives be a sign of our unending gratitude for your undying love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 819**

Be Still, My Soul, Finlandia⁸

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me, arr. R. Bellingham⁹

Leaders Today:

Pastor: Rev. Scott Anderson

Minister of Music: Joe Chrisman

The Chancel Choir

Ushers/Greeters: Abe & Carrie Aberle, Bob Weber, Doug Rouse (Deacon)

Liturgist: Erin Nass

AV/Tech: John Tarr

Dorothy Blotz, flute



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WPC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thoreau Food Program Volunteers Needed!

The Thoreau Weekend Food program provides healthy snacks and lunches to Thoreau students to take home over the weekend. Westminster participates in this program along with other Thoreau Adopt a School partners. Westminster has been assigned Fridays in March to deliver the weekend food bags. Those dates are March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st. We will meet at 9:15 each of those days to deliver the food to Thoreau. It would be great if we could get 2 people for these Fridays. It does require some training from MMSD to be able to go into the schools. However, if you are not trained, you can still help get the food from the church to the school. If you are able to help, please be in touch with Kathy Kamp (kstarrkamp@gmail.com or 608-575-9923) or let Katie in the office know.

Mid-Week Taizé Worship Starting Wednesday

During the month of March, and in the liturgical season of Lent, Westminster Presbyterian Church and Covenant Presbyterian Church are pleased to join together each Wednesday evening for a short mid-week service of scripture, song, and prayer in the spirit of Taizé. This service, which begins at 6:30 p.m., will alternate locations, as follows:

March 1	Covenant Presbyterian Church	326 S. Segoe Road
March 8	Westminster Presbyterian Church	4100 Nakoma Road
March 15	Covenant Presbyterian Church	
March 22	Westminster Presbyterian Church	
March 29	Covenant Presbyterian Church	

Please consider joining us. The service will not be livestreamed or recorded for later.

Local Art Display

We have such talented members! Judith Bradshaw Rouse will have her artwork displayed at UWHC on Highland Ave from March 2 to 29. If you happen to stop by the hospital, please check out her art display at G/1 next to the H elevator. If you miss the display at UWHC, the same pieces will be at Lakeview Library in June.

The WPC Friday Fish Fry Returns!

Join us for a Friday night Fish Fry on March 10th, 5:30 PM at the Thirsty Goat (3040 Cahill Main, Fitchburg) - just a short drive away!

In addition to the fish fry (panko crusted walleye, beer battered Atlantic cod or breaded lake perch), their menu includes baby back ribs (1/2 & full racks), and smokehouse items: brisket, chicken, or pulled pork. Salads will also be available. We hope that you can attend for a great dining and fellowship experience. The signup sheet is on the coat rack table in the Narthex. If you have any questions, contact Gary Stephens at stephensge1@gmail.com.

Family Lent Resources

Families and children of all ages: The Family Ministries table in the Narthex has Lenten Devotions, Lent calendars, and One Great Hour of Sharing fish banks for the taking! Come check it out!

12th Night Production in Nakoma

Our friends from the Nakoma League are busy rehearsing at Westminster for the annual 12th Night production. All are invited to this fun event! The 99th Annual Twelfth Night Theater Presents: "Only Birders in Nakoma" at Nakoma Golf Club (4145 Country Club Rd)
5:30-7:00pm: cocktails and heavy appetizers

7:00-8:00pm: Show

8:00-11:00pm social hour

The oldest social event in Nakoma is the Twelfth Night Theater. Founded in 1916, the evening presents a cocktail hour, heavy appetizers, and original musical comedy, written and performed by neighbors. To find out more or to buy tickets (\$35) go to:

www.nakomaleague.org/events

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

Care List: Sam Buffat, Lynn Chapman, Vicki Cothroll, Joel Jones

Members & Friends: Paul Quin, Peg Zimmer, Patrick Mullin, Nancy Smart, Ruth Hein, the family of Julie Madden, Karen Stephens