



Strengthening Servanthood



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT - MARCH 9, 2025

Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful spirit.

~ Psalm: 51:10-12

Merciful God you know me better than I know myself. I thank you for your love. Wash me from all my sin, create in me a clean heart, and strengthen me by your Holy Spirit. Help me hear the calling you have put on my life. This Lent I am focused on following where you lead me.

Amen.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

**please stand as you're able*

WELCOME & OPENING SENTENCES

PRELUDE

We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace, arr. U. Smith Moore¹

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 43:1-3

Leader: But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:

People: "Do not fear for I have redeemed you I have called you by name you are mine.

Leader: When you pass through the waters I will be with you, and through the rivers they shall not overwhelm you,

People: When you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. .

Leader: For I am the Lord your God the holy one of Israel, your Savior."

*HYMN 166

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days, St. Flavian²

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Lord Jesus Christ,

All: have mercy on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING THE PEACE

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 20:1-17

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Amy Poland

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

NEW TESTAMENT

Luke 4:1-13

SERMON

The Call to Service

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

(The Study Catechism Confirmation Version, approved by the General Assembly of the PCUSA for teaching in the church, 1998.)

One: What do you believe when you confess your faith in the Holy Spirit?

All: The Holy Spirit is the divine person who enables us to love, know, and serve Jesus Christ.

One: How do we receive the Holy Spirit?

All: Jesus Christ is the one Word of God. We receive the Holy Spirit by receiving the Word of God. The Spirit arrives with the Word, brings us to rebirth, and assures us of eternal life. The Spirit nurtures, corrects, and strengthens us with the truth of the Word.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 783

When We Are Tested (sung to the tune Slane)⁴

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER RESPONSE HYMN 314 (vs. 5)

*Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness*⁵

Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Intermezzo, A. Summers (b. 1996)⁶

*DEDICATION HYMN 761 (vs. 1)

Called as Partners in Christ's Service⁷

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to grace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SEALING THE WORD

*HYMN

Christ, You Call Us All to Service, In Babilone⁸

1 Christ, you call us all to service, call us all who follow you,
plant in us a deep commitment all your work and will to do.
Fire a passion for your justice, in us kindle love of peace;
help us heal the broken-hearted, to the captive bring release.

2 Teach us how to work together, brothers, sisters, side by side,
equal partners in the struggle, in the cause of truth allied.
To each one some gift is given, man or woman, young or old;
help us use each skill and talent your great purpose to unfold.

3 Let us be a servant people, reconciling, ending strife,
seeking ways more just of sharing and of ordering human life.
Fill us with a glowing vision of this world as it should be;
send us forth to change that vision into blest reality.

*CHARGE

BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (insert)

Make Me a Servant, Make Me a Servant⁹

POSTLUDE

Sonata II, E. De Gambarini (1731-1765)¹⁰

Worship Note:

In March 2021, the Society of Women Organists in the United Kingdom inaugurated Woman Composer Sunday as a day when church musicians are encouraged to include pieces by women composers in worship services. The Royal College of Organists collaborated in the inaugural Sunday and the American Guild of Organists joined in 2022. At Westminster, we have participated annually in Woman Composer Sunday and we regularly worship through music chosen from diverse resources. All music used in worship today was either authored by women hymn writers or composed by women. As our Lenten journey continues, we recognize the beauty of diversity in the body of Christ and appreciate these musical gifts from our sisters in faith.

—Joe Chrisman, Minister of Music—

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Leaders Today:

Preacher: Pastor Sara Tonje

Minister of Music: Joe Chrisman

The Chancel Choir

Ushers/Greeters: Ed Cothroll, Connie Evans, Richard Appen, Doug Evans (Deacon)



Liturgist: Karen Hansen

AV/Tech: John Tarr

Make Me a Servant

Unison

Make me a ser - vant, hum - ble and meek, Lord, let me

lift up those who are weak; and may the prayer of my

heart al - ways be: make me a ser - vant, make me a

ser - vant, make me a ser - vant to - day.