

Sunday, March 17, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.
Fifth Sunday in Lent
HAPPY ST. PATRICK’S DAY!

TODAY'S FOCUS: Jesus explains the price he will pay for our new covenant with God, and what that covenant is: eternal life. What does eternal life mean to us?

PRELUDE — Blaine Lee on Bagpipes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BEYOND THE WALLS MINISTRY MOMENT — Mike Shaw on 20 years of Cowboy Fellowship!

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***OPENING HYMN** UMH #145 “Morning Has Broken”

**1. Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!**

**2. Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven, like the first dew fall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where his feet pass.**

**3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** — Bonnie Clark

One: Come worship our God, who sees us when we feel like a lone seed about to fall to the ground unnoticed.

Many: Though our life looks spent, we will bear fruit in Christ.

One: When we are tempted to follow the ways of the world, our God shows us a better path.

Many: Even when we suffer, we can survive in Christ.

One: This morning, we gather in the name of the One who overcame death and invites us to eternal life, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Many: We, too, will overcome death, through Christ.

One: Let us celebrate eternal life and let our voices thunder:

All: Hallelujah! Amen!

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OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

TFWS #2233 "Where Children Belong"

CHILDREN'S STORY — Sharon Goldade

SCRIPTURE: John 12:20-33 — Bonnie Clark

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²² Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. ²⁷ Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰ Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

MESSAGE

"The Cost of Covenant"

Rev. Lin Cheek

RESPONSIVE HYMN

UMH #451 "Be Thou My Vision"

**1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**2. Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**3. Great God of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

OFFERTORY — Anneke Toomey

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH #94

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION — Bonnie Clark**

ALL: Eternal God, our hope in all things, you promised the Israelites a new covenant, not written on stone but written on human hearts, and you faithfully delivered this covenant through your Son Jesus Christ. What we give today we give with joyful hearts, knowing that in Christ and his sacrifice our iniquity has been forgiven and our sins forgotten. We can go on from here as a redeemed people, renewed in our commitment to give all we have and all we are for the coming of your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. In the holy name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

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PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

UMH #364 "Because He Lives"

1. God sent his Son, they called him Jesus; he came to love, heal, and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

REFRAIN

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow, because he lives all fear is gone;
Because I know he holds the future, and life is worth the living just because he lives.

2. How sweet to hold a newborn baby, and feel the pride and joy he gives;
But greater still the calm assurance, this child can face uncertain days because he lives.

REFRAIN

3. And then one day I'll cross the river; I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he reigns.

REFRAIN

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE — Blaine Lee on Bagpipes

Prelude/Postlude — Blaine Lee

Song Leader — Shelley

Liturgist — Bonnie Clark

Accomp.— Anneke

Special Music — N/A

Children's Message — Sharon Goldade

Offertory — Anneke

Organ — Betsy