



**commit your work to the LORD and
your plans will be established** *Proverbs 16:3*

INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



est. 1837

6624 Public Sq - office@ipcusa.org - (216) 524-6307 - ipcusa.org

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, March 12, 2023



C.J. Briggs, Music Director
Julie Lehmann, Church Secretary

Ryan Smith, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

“Water is the first medicine ... It nourished us inside our mother’s body.
As it nourishes us here on Mother Earth. Water is sacred.”

~ Carol Lindstrom, *We Are Water Protectors*

~ *GATHERING* ~

LENTEN PRAYER *(from Celebrating Sabbath)*

Stop within the circle of time called Sabbath.

Set aside your responsibilities; they will wait.

Abide with the Lord of the Sabbath. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from Psalm 95)*

Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness.

O come, let us sing to the Lord;

Let us sing to the rock of our salvation.

Come into God's presence with thanksgiving!

Let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise!

Even in the deserts of our lives,

God is among us.

Come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

***HYMN**

AS THE DEER

GTG #626

by Martin J. Nystrom

CHILDREN OF GOD

All: May God be with you there. **Kids:** May God be with you here.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, as we wander through the wilderness this Lent, we are more aware of our thirst for your presence, your love, your guidance on life's journey. Forgive us for turning away from you. Forgive our doubt and uncertainty that led us to place our faith in worldly comforts that don't run deep enough and don't last. We come to your well today desperate and thirsty for Christ's living water. Quench our thirst, we pray. Grant us your forgiveness and your grace. Amen. *[Silent Confession]*

***RESPONSE**

LAMB OF GOD
Trad. liturgical text

GTG #603
AGNUS DEI (Vasile)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Come, drink deep, and know that you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

***INSTRUMENTAL**

~ *THE WORD* ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE

EXODUS 17:1-7

(Wigger)

HYMN

YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART
by Omer Westendorf

GTG #626
BICENTENNIAL

GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 4:5-42

(NRSV)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

IS THE LORD AMONG US OR NOT?

~ *RESPONDING TO THE WORD* ~

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from A Brief Statement of Faith*)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. Amen.

***INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

***RESPONSE**

LORD, PREPARE ME
by John Thompson and Randy Scruggs

GTG #701
SANCTUARY

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

~ *SENDING* ~

***HYMN**

WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER
by Horatio F. Spafford

GTG #840
VILLE DU HAVRE

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING**

GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN
by Jeremiah Eames Rankin (RANDOLPH)

GTG #541
Verse 1

POSTLUDE



Pieces of today's liturgy are from: *Book of Common Worship* (PCUSA); *Call to Worship* from the Office of Theology and Worship; *Presbyterian Outlook*, Teri McDowell Ott.

Cover Image: *Woman at the Well*, by Cara B. Hochhalter