



GRACE UNITED CHURCH
Worship Service
March 5, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.
Lent 2

Minister: Rev. Dr. Thomas Shin
Lay Presider: Alex MacMillan

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Gathering Music:

1. I Come to the Cross
2. Above All

Batstone/Somma
LeBlanc/Baloche

Welcome & Announcements

Acknowledgment of the Traditional Land

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship:

One: Come into the wilderness. Come away from the world and all that is so familiar and begin wandering through all that lives here.

All: We see there is life here. It is not as barren as we had thought.

One: Come into the wilderness and discover that you are not alone. There is nothing to fear. The Spirit leads us here. We are together in this sacred place.

All: We come to find ourselves changed and restored in this wilderness together.

One: Let us enter into conversations about what really matters.

Opening Prayer:

God of love and mercy, we come together from different places. Some of us arrive content, others muddled and broken, and others somewhere between. We come seeking the way of faithfulness. We aren't sure what we will find wandering through this wilderness. As we step forward, make our steps curious and bold. Help us to experience your companionship along the way. Grant us eyes to see new things and hearts to feel new feelings. Lead us to greater wisdom and flexibility as we seek to grow in your grace and love. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Praise and Worship 1: Praise Team

1. Blessed Assurance Crosby/Knap
2. Great is Thy Faithfulness VU #288 Chisholm/Runyan

Prayer of Confession:

O God, the Season of Lent is not an easy place for us to be. It is not a place we would choose because the wilderness is so unpredictable and unknown. The uncertainty challenges us and brings us closer to doubt. There are so many voices enticing us to seek "more"- more success, more power, more credibility, more possessions, more independence from you. We confess that this wilderness place is not a place we expect to find you. Yet, your Spirit calls us and leads us here. Hold us in your grace, O God. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

God is slow to anger and full of compassion. He forgives all who humbly repent and trust in his Son as Saviour and Lord. There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Youth & Young at Heart Song: Know that God is Good
Traditional Song Congo MV #104

Time for Children & Youth Story Time
Children leave for Sunday School

TO DISCOVER THE WORD OF GOD FOR TODAY

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:1-11 Mirabelle Habakkuk
One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: Reasons for Successful Ministry Rev. Dr. Thomas Shin

TO RESPOND IN FAITH AND HOPE

Offering Invitation

Offertory Music: Come unto Me Rev. Alan Craig

Offertory Prayer

Praise and Worship 2: Praise Team

1. How Great is Our God / How Great Thou Art (Chorus Only)
Tomlin, Cash and Reeves / Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

THE CHURCH SCATTERS TO LIVE ITS FAITH IN THE WORLD

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude: Lord Be Glorified Bob Kilpatrick

Next Sunday: Lent 3