



**GRACE UNITED CHURCH**  
**Worship Service**  
 March 19, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.  
 Lent 4  
 Minister: Rev. Dr. Thomas Shin  
 Lay Presider: Maria Stevens

**GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD**

**Gathering Music: Grace Band**

**Just A Closer Walk with Thee**  
**Lord, I Lift Your Name on High**

**Traditional Folk Song**  
**Rick Founds**

**Procession: O Holy Lord (Instrumental)**

**Don Salfarlie**

**Welcome, Announcements & Traditional Land Acknowledgment**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Call to Worship:**

One: God of all mercy, have mercy on us.

**All: There are times in our lives when broken dreams and crushed hopes threaten to overwhelm us.**

One: God of all mercy, have mercy on us.

**All: Sometimes death seems to reign, and you seem absent.**

One: God of all mercy, have mercy on us.

**All: Sometimes we choose death over life, pettiness over compassion, anger over love.**

One: Lead us, God, into your future.

**All: Touch us with the power of your truth. Bless us with your spirit of inspiration. And lead us, God, into your future.**

**Opening Prayer:**

God of the ages, who sweeps throughout the whole of history. We are but simple creatures who need your guidance and your care. It is to you we must turn, in our joy and sadness, in our triumphs and despair. You protect us, uphold us; hear us as we come in worship. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Praise and Worship 1: Praise Team**

**Ancient Of Days**

**G. Sadler & J. Harvill**

**Prayer of Confession:**

**Loving God, we want to be your true disciples.**

**When we forget you, God, forgive us.**

**When we forget our friends, forgive us.**

**When we break our promises, forgive us.**

**When we care not for our fragile planet Earth, forgive us.**

**When our actions fail to follow your words despite our best determination, we stand in constant need of your forgiving love, your power to try again.**

**Silent Prayer: Sweet Hour of Prayer**

**W. Bradbury**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Affirmation of Faith**

**Praise and Worship 2: Praise Team**

**I, the Lord of Sea and Sky**

**Daniel Schutte**  
**VU #509 (all three verses)**

**Time for Youth & Young at Heart - Led by Keith Mayers**

**I Sing Praises**

**Terry MacAlmon**

*Children leave for Sunday School*

**TO DISCOVER THE WORD OF GOD FOR TODAY**

**Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:34-40 & Leviticus 19:18 Sanarita Kendal**

One: Hear what the spirit is saying to the church.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Special Music: Maria Stevens There is a Balm in Gilead**

**Trad. Spiritual, arranged by Mark Hayes**

**Sermon: Take Up the Cross (2)**

**Rev. Dr. Thomas Shin**

**TO RESPOND IN FAITH AND HOPE**

**Offering Invitation**

**Offertory: Open My Eyes, that I May See/Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord**

**Scott & Allen / Paul Baloché**

**Offering Response: Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow VU #541**

**T. Ken & Genevan Psalter**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Praise and Worship 3: Praise Team**

**You're Worthy of My Praise**

**David Ruis**

**THE CHURCH SCATTERS TO LIVE ITS FAITH IN THE WORLD**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

**Choral Blessing: Go Now in Peace**

**D. Besig & N. Price**

**Band Postlude: Turn Your eyes upon Jesus**

**H. Lemmel**