

Liturgy for the Celebration of Worship

3RD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 8, 2026 | 10:00 AM
Liturgist: Chuck Victor

WHAT'S THE LEAST
I CAN
BELIEVE
AND STILL BE A
CHRISTIAN?

Am I Accepted?

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

WELCOME

The chimes call us to a time of worship

Greeting Liturgist

Prelude

"His Eye Is On the Sparrow" - Gabriel/Hamlin

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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(Please stand.)

***Call to Worship** Liturgist

One: O come, let us worship and bow down;

All: let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

One: The hour is coming and is now here.

All: In spirit and truth, let us worship God.

*Opening Hymn

"O for a World" vs. 1-2

O for a World

Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

Acts 4:32-35; 1 Cor. 1:26-31; 1 Pet. 3:8-12



1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,
2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,
3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the fool - ish ones are wise.
5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,



Where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
Where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
That o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.



Inspired by Charles Wesley's phrase "O for a thousand tongues" and the familiar tune Azmon, Miriam Therese Winter wrote this hymn envisioning a new world order for the Presbyterian Women's Triennial Conference in 1982. It was later recrafted and recorded by the Medical Mission Sisters.

Tune: AZMON C.M.
Carl G. Gläser, 1828

Adapt. Lowell Mason in Modern Psalmody, 1839

***Call to Confession**

***Opening Prayer**

Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water, so that we may never thirst again. Amen.

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

***Passing the Peace**

One: As a forgiven and reconciled people - let us offer signs of Christ's peace to one another

Greeting: "The peace of Christ be with you!"

Response: "And also with you"

Special Music

"Mallet Madness" - Kirsty Michell

Chancel Bells, Director: Rev. Daniel Doty

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A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

Children's Message

Wendy Brown

Anthem

"Oh, How He Loves You and Me" - Kaiser/Purifoy

Chancel Choir, Director: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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WE LIFT OUR PRAISE & PRAYER TO GOD

Naming our Prayers before God

Moments of Silent Prayer

Intercessory Prayer w/ Lord's Prayer (using debts/debtors)

HEARING GOD'S WORD FOR THE DAY

Scripture Lessons

First Lesson: Psalm 95

- ¹ O come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- ² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
- ³ For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.

⁵ The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

⁶ O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

⁷ For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!

⁸ Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,

⁹ when your ancestors tested me,
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

¹⁰ For forty years I loathed that generation
and said, 'They are a people whose hearts go astray,
and they do not regard my ways.'

¹¹ Therefore in my anger I swore,
'They shall not enter my rest.'

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

Everyone: THANKS BE TO GOD

*Hymn of Preparation

"Help Us Accept Each Other" #596

(words and music on the following page)

Gospel Lesson: John 8:1-11

¹While Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ²Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. ³The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, ⁴they said

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

596 Help Us Accept Each Other

Unison
G A7
G G Cdim Am7(b5) Gmaj7 G6 A7

1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;
2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
3 Let your ac - cept - ance change us, so that we may be moved
4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,

Bm Em Emsus2 Em Cmaj7 Bm7 Am7 D7sus2 D7

teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.
we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.
in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;
who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for right - eous - ness and bread,

Bm7 Emsus2 Em Em(#7) Em7 Am9 Bm7 C D/C C#dim7

Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve
Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,
to prac - tice your ac - cept - ance un - til we know by heart
we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:

G C#dim7 Am7 Bm Am C G

we are *our - selves* ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.
to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.
the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!

WORDS: Fred Kaan (1929-)
MUSIC: John Ness Beck (1930-1986)
Words © 1975 Hope Publishing Company
Music © 1977 Hope Publishing Company

BECK
7.6.7.6.D.

to him, 'Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. ⁵Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?' ⁶They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁷When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, 'Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.' ⁸And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰Jesus straightened up and said to her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' ¹¹She said, 'No one, sir.' And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.'

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

Everyone: THANKS BE TO GOD

Sermon

"What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?: Jesus' Grace: Am I Accepted?" - Rev. Daniel Doty

THE OFFERING

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

"Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" - arr. Page

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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GIVE ONLINE HERE



(Please stand.)

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host.

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

O Lord, you are our God; we are the people of your pasture, the sheep of your hand. As you have fed us by your mercy, may it be our daily bread to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE ARE SENT BY GOD TO BE THE GOOD NEWS

***Closing Hymn**

"O for a World" vs. 3-5

(words and music on page 2)

***Benediction**

*Congregation Response

**“Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you, each hour of every day.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.”**

Go Now in Peace—Besig, © Harold Flammer Music, A division of Shawnee Press, Inc.

Postlude

“In Thee Is Gladness” - Bach/Manz

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH OUR SERVICE TODAY

Tech Team:	Scott Newcomer, Diana Fiocca, Anne Pertick
Liturgist:	Chuck Victor
Ushers:	Sandy Haydu, Karen Huth, Kim Darkow, Jane Charles
Greeters:	Tom and Joe Labay

Today's altar flower are provided by: Jack and Helen McKee

“In Honor of our Grandchildren.”

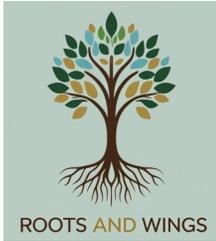
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UPCOMING EVENTS



YOUTH SUNDAY PLANNING MEETING | SUNDAY, MAR. 8, AFTER WORSHIP

Youth Sunday is coming up on April 26th. It's time to start planning. Join us after worship on Sunday, March 8th and bring your good ideas!



ROOTS AND WINGS | SUNDAY, MAR. 8, 4 PM

Roots and Wings is a fellowship group for grandparents and grandchildren to grow in faith and friendship together. This month's activity is Games, games and more games. **Please bring four quarters per person for the games.**



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SPAGHETTI DINNER | THURS., MAR. 19, 4:30-6:30 PM

Our spaghetti dinners will be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Save the date! This is a community dinner. We have saved a place at the table for friends, family and neighbors. Please encourage others to give us a try! Short on time.. call in for a dinner to go. 330-630-0704.



YOUTH FELLOWSHIP | SUNDAY, MAR. 15, 4:00 PM

We are going to Scene 75. Invite a friend and join us!



Tallmadge Good Neighbors will give gift cards to families in need of assistance at this time of year. Gift cards from grocery stores and department stores like Walmart, Target, and Meijer would be appreciated. In order to support these families, please bring gift cards to church and put them in the offering plate or give them to Cathy in the office by March 30th.

Rev. Daniel J. Doty, *Senior Minister*
Nancy Lynn Robinson, *Choir Director/Organist*
Wendy Brown, *Director of Family Ministries*

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 am—3:00 pm
Fridays—9:00 am—12:00 pm

IN PERSON | PARKING LOT | ONLINE WORSHIP
SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM

85 HERITAGE DR | TALLMADGE, OH 44278

THE PRAYER CHAIN CONNECTION

We pray for the names listed below and also for many other church members and their concerns, which remain confidential. You may call or text Diana Caldwell with your prayer concerns @ 330-265-5723. *Bless be God who did not refuse me the kindness I sought in prayer. Psalm*

Brad Ashley
Noreen Ashley
Tim Ashley
Debbie B.
The Becking Family
Katie Ann Bickett
Margarete Boschert
Jim Brown
John Calvarese
Patti Calvarese
Sue Canavan
Jim Caplinger
Patty Conely
Rylin Davis and family
Sean and Sara Doty
Elaine Engle

Ron Evans
Debbie Fickes
Karen Ford
Darrell Goodson
Eleanor Hall
Sue Hamilton
Alleen Hilbish
Jim Jackson
John James
Nancy Johnson
Anita Kelly-Lahrmer
Zell Lambert
Yvonne Larson
Roberta Lewis
Melba Moor
Gary Miller

Ron Mitchell
George Nehrenz
Bob Poff
David and Jackie Parker
LTJG John Norton
Heather Read
Richard Reynolds
Alice Sheeler
Eddie Showalter
Ensign 5 Kaylie Spear
Lt. Maxwell Spear
Richard & Karen Thomason
Kim and Noel Walters
Ensign 3 Kaitlyn Wetter
Don Woerz
Alzheimer's Care Giver Support Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS



2026 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS: 2026 Memorial Scholarship Applications are now available online. All parts of the application are due on Thursday, April 2nd, by 3:00 pm.



DIRECTORY UPDATE: We have completed the approval process and picture collection for our online directory. You can now access the directory via your Realm account. Because this directory is digital, pictures can be added and contact information can be changed at any time. If you need assistance accessing your Realm account or uploading a family photo, please scan the QR code and fill out the form.



We prefer that you use the online version of our directory, but if you would like a printed copy, you can request one by emailing Cathy Cotter, info@fcctallmadge.org. Please consider a \$5 donation if requesting a paper version, to help defer the cost of printing.



The 2nd and 3rd grade Sunday school class will be touring the Ronald McDonald House on April 19th. Please bring your pop tabs in by then so we can donate them that day.

Questions: Dianne Drummond 330-701-8231.

EASTER FLOWERS ORDER FORM 2026

Easter morning, April 5, we will adorn the Chancel with beautiful flowers. We are offering a selection of colorful potted spring flowers along with the traditional Easter lilies. The cost is \$10.00 per plant. Please complete this form, then bring it to the church office or place it into the offering plate on Sunday morning. Checks may be made out to First Congregational Church. Names of those honored will be listed in the bulletin. *The last day to order is March 9th.*

Name _____ Phone No. _____

of Easter Lilies _____ # of Tulips _____

of Daffodils _____ Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Message _____

Please check one: Pick up flowers _____ Donate your flowers _____

If you are ordering flowers and donating money for music, PLEASE PROVIDE 2 SEPARATE CHECKS

Easter Special Music Donation 2026

The 10:00 AM Easter service on April 5 will feature a brass quintet sponsored by our "Special Music Fund." Please consider contributing to this fund as a memorial or honorary gift. Simply fill out this form, then place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office with your check made out to First Congregational Church of Tallmadge. In the memo line at the bottom of your check, please write "Easter Special Music Donation." Names of those honored will be listed in the bulletin.

Forms must be returned to the office by March 22nd.

Name _____ Phone No. _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

If you are ordering flowers and donating money for music, PLEASE PROVIDE 2 SEPARATE CHECKS

Message _____