



Sunday, March 22, 2026
Fifth Sunday in Lent

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

During the Prelude, you are invited to meditate on the Psalm of the day as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Welcome and Gathering Prayer

Nathan Wannemacher

Prelude

Prelude in C minor BWV 546
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 147:5-11

Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
his understanding has no limit.
The Lord sustains the humble
but casts the wicked to the ground.
Sing to the Lord with grateful praise;
make music to our God on the harp.
He covers the sky with clouds;
he supplies the earth with rain
and makes grass grow on the hills.
He provides food for the cattle
and for the young ravens when they call.
His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse,
nor his delight in the legs of the warrior;
the Lord delights in those who fear him,
who put their hope in his unfailing love.

***Call to Worship – Psalm 47:1-2, 5-6**

Bemi Okorodudu

Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

People: For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

Leader: God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

People: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

***Hymn of Praise #83** “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

Leader: God of love, in the wrong we have done, and in the good we have not done,

People: we have sinned in ignorance; we have sinned in weakness; we have sinned through our own deliberate fault and intentions. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to you. Forgive us and renew our lives through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon – Isaiah 1:18, Romans 8:1

Leader: Come now, let us argue it out, says the LORD:

People: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

Leader: There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

God’s Gracious Will for Our Lives – Proverbs 3:5-6

Leader: Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;

People: in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

***Gloria Patri #579** “Glory Be to the Father”

RECEIVING THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Reading – Psalm 2 (p. 543)

Bemi Okorodudu

New Testament Reading – Mark 15:16-20 (p. 1022)

Sermon – “In the Praetorium - Were You There?”

Nathan Wannemacher

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***Hymn of Response #102** “Were You There?”

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Tariq Dennison, Treasurer

Offertory

“Ten Thousand Angels”

Cheyne Davidson, Baritone

Text and Music: Ray Overholt

***Doxology #592** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Prayers of the People

Tariq Dennison

The Lord’s Prayer (*in unison in English or the language of your choice*)

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.

GOING WITH GOD’S MISSION AND BLESSING

Welcoming of Guests & Announcements

Tariq Dennison

Testimony

Roselyne & Margaret Oelsner

***Hymn of Dedication #78** “Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”

***Sending and Pastoral Benediction**

Nathan Wannemacher

Benediction

“A Gaelic Blessing”

Text: William Sharp

Music: John Rutter

Cheyne Davidson, Baritone

Ruth Pfister, Organ

Postlude

Fugue in F minor BWV 534

Johann Sebastian Bach

Ruth Pfister, Organ

****Please stand if you are able.***

Today’s bulletin cover is the oil on canvas painting “Jesus in the Praetorium” (1845) by French painter François Léon Benouville (1821-1859). This painting is part of the collection at the École nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris.