

**March 30, 2025- Fourth Sunday in Lent
Worship Aid for Great Kills Moravian Church**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/352704864?pwd=V28wNGtRdXFESDBzRW9OSWda
QTZGZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/352704864?pwd=V28wNGtRdXFESDBzRW9OSWdaQTZGZz09)

Call in number: 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 352 704 864 Password: 4012728

Pastor: Blondel Jones-Grant Organist: Stan Timari

Prelude

Welcome/Announcement

Watchword For The Week: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away; see everything has become new!

2 Corinthians 5:17

(Please Stand if able.)

Call To Worship:

L: Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose transgressions are covered.

A: Let us rejoice in the Lord, for He has shown us His unfailing love.

L: When we are silent about our wrongdoings, our lives disintegrate with worry
and guilt.

**A: But when we seek His truth and acknowledge our sin, we experience His
forgiveness.**

L: Let us reach out to Him in prayer, and know His protection and strength.

A: Surrounded by His grace, we sing His praise, we shout for joy.

L: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in
heart.

A: Let us rejoice in the Lord, for He is our God, our refuge, and our strength.

(Please continue to Stand if able.)

Gathering Hymn:

“Blessed Assurance”

MBW Page 714

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood. *This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight. Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blessed, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

(Please continue to Stand if able.)

Liturgy: Lent 4

Delay not your conversion to the Lord, put it not off from day to day.

Let us search and examine our ways that we may return to the Lord.

Hymn:

MBW Page 474

If my people's heart are humbled, if they pray and seek my face, if they turn away from evil, I will not with-hold my grace. I will hear their prayers from heav-en; I will pardon ev-ery sin. If my people's hearts are humbled, I will surely heal their land.

Then my eyes will see their sorrow, then my ears will hear their plea; if my people's hearts are humbled I will set their nation free. If my people's hearts

are humbled, if they pray and seek my face; if they turn away from evil, I will not withhold my grace.

(Sitting)

Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. Take words with you and return to the Lord; say to him, "Take away all guilt; accept that which is good, and we will offer the fruit of our lips." I will heal their disloyalty; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. I will be like the dew to Israel; he shall blossom like the lily, he shall strike root like the forests of Lebanon. His shoots shall spread out; his beauty shall be like the olive tree, and his fragrance like that of Lebanon. They shall again live beneath my shadow, they shall flourish as a garden; they shall blossom like the vine, their fragrance shall be like the wine of Lebanon.

Your word, O Lord, endures forever; it is firm as the heavens. My soul weeps for sorrow; strengthen me according to your words. A lamp to my feet is your word, a light to my path.

Behold now is a very acceptable time; behold now is the day of salvation.

The kindness of God leads us to repentance.

Come now, let us set things right, says the Lord. Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow.

Cleanse me of sin that I may be purified; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

The night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Hymn:

MBW Page Tune 524

I heard the voice of Jesus, "I am the dark world's light; look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright." I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and in that Light of life I'll walk, till trav-'ling days are done.

(Please stand if able.)

Our God acts not by caprice but by careful design. Thus all the important acts of salvation have followed a period of purification and preparation.

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.

Before the covenant with the human race was made to Noah, a period of rain separated the just from the unjust.

For forty days and forty nights heavy rain poured down on the earth.

Before the covenant was given on Mount Sinai, Moses underwent a period of preparation.

Moses passed into the midst of the cloud as he went up on the mountain; and there he stayed for forty days and forty nights.

Before the prophet Elijah could commune with God, he had to undergo a period of pilgrimage.

He got up, ate, and drank; then, strengthened by that food, he walked forty days and forty nights to the mountain of God.

Before the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus experienced a period of testing in the desert.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil.

Before his return to the Father, the risen Lord prepared the disciples for the church's mission.

He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking to them about the kingdom of God.

Now we are gathered to celebrate another period of forty days, a period of preparation whose goal is the glory of Easter.

Let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us; while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith.

Hymn:

MBW Page 659

Come, all Christians, be committed to the service of the Lord; make your lives for him more fit-
ted, tune your hearts with one accord, come into his courts with gladness, all your sacred vows renew, turn away from sin and sadness, be transformed with life anew.

(Sitting)

Offering Our Gifts Today:

Offertory:

(Please Stand if able.)

Doxology:

"For the Life That You Have Given"

MBW Page 819

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known, with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own: here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring. Give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

Prayer of Blessing: Please join me in the Prayer of Blessing.

O God, whose love never fails, even when we wander far from home, teach us compassion for all who are lost and confused. Thank you, for proclaiming our worth when we do not at times value ourselves. Help us to remember if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation: the old has passed away; the new has come! Thank you for welcoming us to a celebration of life with so many precious gifts. We are grateful for the privilege of sharing our offering and tithes to extend your work within the church community and the world. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen

(Sitting)

God's Word For Today:

1st Scripture Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

Pew Bible Page 225-226

The Passover at Gilgal

Then the Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." So the place has been called Gilgal to this day. On the evening of the fourteenth day of the month while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover. The day after the Passover, that very day they ate some of the produce of the land: unleavened bread and roasted grain. The manna stopped the day after they ate this food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate of the produce of Canaan.

2nd Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 (Responsive Reading)

Pew Bible Page 1211

The Ministry of Reconciliation

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

That God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he was committed to us the message of reconciliation.

We are therefore Christ ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: be reconciled to God.

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Hymn: "Come Into His Presence"

Worship/Rejoice Book Page vs. 1, 2

Come into His pres-ence sing-ing al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Come into His pres-ence sing-ing Je-sus is Lord, Je-sus is Lord, Je-sus is Lord.

The Gospel Reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Pew Bible Page 1093-1094

The Parable of the Lost Son

Now the tax collectors and “sinners were all gathering around to hear him. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” Then Jesus told them this parable:”

“There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.’ So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate. “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who

has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost is found.’”

Message: The Father’s Party

Pastor Jesus Laguerra

Hymn in Response to Message: “Come Into His Presence” (Continue)

Worship/Rejoice Book Page vs. 3, 4

Praise the Lord to-geth-er sing-ing wor-thy the Lamb, wor-thy the Lamb, wor-thy the Lamb.

Praise the Lord to-geth-er sing-ing glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God.

Prayers of The People:

The Lord’s Prayer: 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 and ever. Amen.

(Please Stand if able.)

Parting Hymn: “This Is a Day of New Beginnings” MBW Page 784

This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.

For by the life and death of Jesus, God's mighty Spirit, now as then, can make for us a world of dif-f’rence, as faith and hope are born again.

Then let us, with the Spir-it’s daring, step from the past and leave behind our dis-ap-point-ment, guilt, and griev-ing, seek-ing new paths, and sure to find.

Christ is alive, and goes before us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new be-gin-nings; our God is making all things new.

Benediction

Musical Response: (ALL) In the name of Jesus. Amen.

(Please remain seated in quiet meditation during the postlude.)

Postlude

Co Leaders for April, 2025

April 6th - Todd Hallett

April 13th - Liz Reres

April 17th - Maundy Thursday - Jim Jimenez

April 18th - Good Friday - Liz Reres

April 20th - Muriel Timari

April 27th - Donna Ziegeler

Next Sunday, April 6, 2025, we will be celebrating Holy Communion and Blessing the Prayer Shawls. Please come out and celebrate in the Lord's Supper. We look forward to welcoming you here.