



DOUGLAS UCC
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

Order of Service for Sunday, March 10, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Thank you for joining us today.

For Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Prayer List, [visit this week's E-Pistle here](#), where you can also subscribe to receive it by email, if you like.

***- stand if you wish to, and are able.**

Congregational Responses in Bold

Prelude *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*
Peter Black
American Spiritual
arr. by M Hayes
(Please use this time for quiet reflection and preparation for worship)

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of Altar Candles & Ringing in the Hour

Let us recognize the light of the world within us and ring in the hour of worship.

Introit (please stand) *We Gather in Love*

We come to gather in our weakness, to reconnect as seekers, and worship one true God. We come to light our lives on fire, with mercy we inspire, we gather all as one. United in one Spirit, each different in appearance, all are welcome in the house of God. We gather in love.

Call to Worship

UCC.org

Reader: Jerry Coates

Adapted from Psalm 133

One: It is truly wonderful when we live together in peace.

Many: It is like the dew falling on mountains, where the Lord has promised to bless his people with life forevermore.

One: How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

Many: It is as if the dew were falling on God's mountain.

One: For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

Many: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

One: Oh how Good it is, this place of unity

Many: It is like the dew of which falls on the mountains, for there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

Opening Hymn

Give Me a Clean Heart

(sing twice)

New Century Hymnal No.188

(See music at the end of this document)

Unison Prayer

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Assurance of Grace and Peace

One: Peace be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

Passing the Peace

We Pray for Peace

We pray for peace, for peace among the nations.

We pray for peace, good will among the people.

'Til love comes down like a summer rain;

'til the rivers of justice flow again,

'til the day of jubilee has come;

we pray for peace upon our planet home.

Words of Integration & Guidance

Fr. Richard Rohr

Let us center ourselves during Lent with a heart bent towards forgiveness. First, identify a hurt or an offense in your life. Remember the feelings you first experienced with this hurt and feel them the way you first felt them. Notice how this shows up in your body. Paying attention to your body's sensations keeps you from jumping into the mind and its dualistic games of good guy/bad guy, win/lose, either/or. After you can identify the hurt and feel it in your body, welcome it. Stop fighting it. Stop splitting and blaming. Welcome the grief. Welcome the anger. It's hard to do, but for some reason, when we name it, feel it, and welcome it, transformation can begin. When you're able to welcome your own pain, you will in some way feel the pain of the whole world. This is what it means to be human — and also what it means to be divine. You can hold this immense pain because you too are being held by the very One who went through this process on the cross. Jesus was holding all the pain of the world; though the world had come to hate him, he refused to hate it back. Now hand all of this pain — yours and the world's — over to God. Let it go. Ask for the grace of forgiveness for the person who hurt you, for the event that offended you, for the reality of suffering in each life. I can't promise the pain will leave easily or quickly. To forgive is not to forget. But letting go frees up a great deal of soul-energy that liberates a level of life you didn't know existed. It leads you to your True Self.

No Matter What

The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Matthew 5:3-10

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 18:21-3

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

Forgiveness for Others and Ourselves

Mark Johnston

Offering

For the One

& Offertory

Jeff Spangler and Lauri Donaldson

by Paul McClure and Jennifer Louise Johnson

Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God!

Many: *Alleluia!*

One: O God,

Many: *Hear our prayer.*

*Doxology

Lenten Doxology

Praise God throughout these forty days.

Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.

And praise the Spirit who imparts

God's love in Christ into our hearts.

Amen.

***Celebration of Holy Communion**

One: God be with you.

Many: *And also with you.*

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: *We lift them up to God.*

One: Let us give thanks to God.

Many: *It is good to give God thanks & praise*

***Creation's Praise** *Isaiah 6:3*

Holy holy holy Lord, God of power and might;

heav'n and earth are full of your glory:

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

(Please be seated)

Breaking of the Bread *Let Us Be Bread*

*Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord,
broken and shared, life for the world.*

*Let us be wine, love freely poured,
let us be one with the Lord.*

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

(grape juice only on both sides of the aisle)

Receive the Bread of Life. *Amen.*

The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. *Amen.*

***The Lord's Prayer**

Our Mother/Father, always and everywhere, 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

***Hymn of Sending**

Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior
(New Century Hymnal No. 551)
(Find Music at the end of this program)

***Benediction**

Postlude

Wayfaring Stranger
American Spiritual, arr. by M Hayes
Peter Black

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and the work of our service groups here:

www.douglasucc.org

<https://www.youtube.com/douglasucc>

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Give Me a Clean Heart

Ps. 51:1-12

Margaret J. Douroux, 1970; alt.

Give me a clean heart so I may serve you.

The first system of music features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Give me a clean heart so I may serve you."

God, fix my heart so that I may be used by you.

The second system continues the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are: "God, fix my heart so that I may be used by you."

For I'm not worthy of all these blessings.

The third system continues the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are: "For I'm not worthy of all these blessings."

Give me a clean heart and I'll follow you.

The fourth system concludes the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are: "Give me a clean heart and I'll follow you."

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Luke 18:35-43

Fanny Crosby (1820-1915); alt.

1 Pass me not, O gen - tle Sav - ior, hear my hum - ble cry;
 2 Let me at your throne of mer - cy find a sweet re - lief;
 3 Trust - ing on - ly in your mer - it, would I seek your face;
 4 Be the Spring of all my com - fort, more than life to me;

While on oth - ers you are call - ing, do not pass me by.
 Kneel - ing there in deep con - tri - tion, help my un - be - lief.
 Heal my wound - ed, bro - ken spir - it, save me by your grace.
 Not just here on earth be - side me, but e - ter - nal - ly.

Refrain

Sav - ior, Sav - ior, hear my hum - ble cry;

While on oth - ers you are call - ing, do not pass me by.