



LENT I
03.09.2025
Wilderness

Greeting & Orientation – Joanna White

“Speak words of hope, be human in this most inhuman of ages. Guard the image of man for it is the image of God.”

- Thomas Merton

Song – Kyrie - Mr. Mister – The Band

**The wind blows hard against this mountainside
Across the sea into my soul
It reaches into where I cannot hide
Setting my feet upon the road**

**My heart is old, it holds my memories
My body burns a gemlike flame
Somewhere between the soul and soft machine
Is where I find myself again**

**Kyrie Eleison, down the road that I must travel
Kyrie Eleison, through the darkness of the night
Kyrie Eleison, where I'm going, will you follow?
Kyrie Eleison, on a highway in the light**

**When I was young I thought of growing old
Of what my life would mean to me
Would I have followed down my chosen road
Or only wished what I could be**

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Community Welcome – Betty Russell

Prayer of Confession

One: Let us confess our sins against God and neighbor:

All: God of grace and mercy

You see us as we are

Beloved, separated and yearning for wholeness

We cannot imagine our worth; so, we claw out a place of belonging

We have not treated ourselves as you treat us

We have not treated others as beloved siblings

Collectively we have made choices that treat each other as numbers and data points (as though

they were not made in the image of God)

Instead of siblings

Gather up the broken pieces of your people

So that we might understand and live into what has always been true

We are one, we are holy, we are forgiven

And now, steeped in your love

We boldly do justice

Love mercy

And walk humbly

Amen.

Kyrie, Kyrie, Give Us Your Peace

Kyrie, kyrie eleison

Kyrie, kyrie give us your rest

Kyrie, kyrie God forgive us

Lighten our burdens and give us your peace.

Children's Message - Joanna White

**God be in my head
God be in my words**

**God be in my heart
God be in my hands
God be in my whole self**

Reading One – from CHRISTIANITY and the SOCIAL CRISIS by Walter Rauschenbusch

The tainting of the moral atmosphere.

Our moral character is formed by choosing the right when we are offered the wrong. It is neither possible nor desirable to create a condition in which the human soul will not have to struggle with temptation. But there are conditions in which evil is so dominant and its attraction so irresistible, that no wise person will want to expose themselves or their children to such odds. We can't completely conceal ourselves from the temptations of modern life that are so virulent that characters and reputations are collapsing all around us with sickening frequency. The curtain to the workings of all levels of government is being pulled back to reveal the behavior of those we put into positions of authority, and we see that it's not only the weak who fall but the strong.

Paraphrased for the purpose of making the language more understandable than the dated parlance of the early 20th Century.

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 - You are My Refuge

REFRAIN:

I say to the Lord,
"You are my refuge,
You are my stronghold!
You are my God."

Living in the Most High's shelter,
camping in the Almighty's shade,
I say to the Lord, "You are my refuge, my stronghold!
You are my God—the one I trust!"

Refrain

Because you've made the Lord my refuge,
the Most High, your place of residence—
no evil will happen to you;
no disease will come close to your tent.

Refrain

Because he will order his messengers to help you,
to protect you wherever you go.
They will carry you with their own hands
so you don't bruise your foot on a stone.

Refrain

You'll march on top of lions and vipers;
you'll trample young lions and serpents underfoot.
God says, "Because you are devoted to me,
I'll rescue you.
I'll protect you because you know my name.

Refrain

**Whenever you cry out to me, I'll answer.
I'll be with you in troubling times.
I'll save you and glorify you.
I'll fill you full with old age.
I'll show you my salvation."**

Refrain

Prayers of the People – Amy Sens

Song – When Jesus Walked the Wilderness – Amy Sens – The Band

**When Jesus walked the wilderness,
alone and cold up in the hills,
Without a friend those forty days,
Just endless sky and time to pray,**

**The tempter came and whispered near:
“Make bread from these dull stones appear,
Or jump from off the tallest tower,
Bow down to me, receive my power.”**

**But Jesus knew it wasn't right.
He sent that tempting voice to flight;
God's power does far exceed your own;
One does not live by bread alone.**

**When we walk through the wilderness,
Alone and cold up in the hills
God grant us faith to walk each day,
An endless sky; the will to pray.**

**The space between is not the end;
There's manna that can be our bread.
Christ knows the road of blank distress,
And walks us through the wilderness.**

Reading Two: Luke 4:1-13 (NRSVue)

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’ ”

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’ ”

Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,'
and

'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' ”

Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Song – Blessed We Are - Peia - The Band

**Blessed we are to dance on this ground,
With the rhythm of the saints to carry the sound
We hold a prayer for the earth and the ones yet to come,
May you walk in beauty and remember your song**

**Blessed we are to dance on this ground,
With the rhythm of the saints to carry the sound
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**Remember why you came here
Remember your life is sacred**

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May you walk in beauty and remember your song**

Sermon – Joanna White

Celebration and Offering

Friday visitor

Song – Come Sunday - Duke Ellington – The Band

Lord, dear Lord of love
God almighty, God above
Please look down and see my people through

Lord, dear Lord of love
God almighty, God above
Please look down and see my people through

I believe the sun and moon
Will shine up in the sky
When the day is gray
I know it's clouds passing by

He'll give peace and comfort
To every troubled mind
Come Sunday, oh come Sunday, that's the day

Oh but we'll feel weary
But he knows our every care
Go to him in secret
He will hear your every prayer

Lilies on the valley
They neither toil nor spin
And lord, will bloom and springtime birds sing

Oh but we'll feel weary
But he knows our every care
Go to him in secret
He will hear your every prayer

Up from dawn 'til sunset
Man work hard all day
Come Sunday, oh come Sunday, that's the day

Eucharist & Post Communion Prayer – Jim Hamilton

All are welcome at the Eucharistic table. If you do not wish to participate, feel free to take this time for meditation or personal reflection.

Prayer and Blessing – Jim Hamilton

Announcements – Vaughn Vigil

- **Lent Bible Study starts March 10. We are looking at spiritual practices in Lent, both for Bible study and for the sermon series. Matt and Chosei are hosting**

- Food Learning Art at 5:30pm downstairs. What world are you living in? This week we explore World 1: Separation and Reunion
- Meditation online Wednesday at 8pm
- March 22 - Book Club. Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal
- Easter is coming! We like to have a big old Easter egg "hunt" and a potluck lunch to celebrate. Talk to Amy or Vaughn if you'd like to help out.
- Coming Soon, Guiding Members classes in April and May. Talk to Jim or Amy if you're interested - we're currently thinking through what time to hold them.
- Also, mark your calendar for May 18 for celebrating the new guiding members during worship and meeting as a congregation after worship.
- Cleanup: altar, hospitality, name tags?

Song – Boundless Love - by John Prine – The Band

I woke up this morning to a garbage truck
 Looks like this old horseshoe's done run out of luck
 If I came home, would you let me in
 Fry me some pork chops and forgive my sin?

Surround me with your boundless love
 Confound me with your boundless love
 I was drowning in a sea, lost as I could be
 When you found me with your boundless love

Sometimes my old heart is like a washing machine
 It bounces around till my soul comes clean
 And when I'm clean and hung out to dry
 I'm gonna make you laugh until you cry

Surround me with your boundless love
 Confound me with your boundless love
 I was drowning in a sea, lost as I could be
 When you found me with your boundless love

If by chance, I should find myself at risk
 Of falling from this jagged cliff
 I look below and I look above
 I'm surrounded by your boundless love

Surround me with your boundless love
 Confound me with your boundless love
 I was drowning in a sea, lost as I could be
 When you found me with your boundless love
 You dumbfound me with your boundless love
 You surround me with your boundless love

Dismissal – Vaughn Vigil
