



St Peter and St Paul United Church of Christ

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024

\*Please stand if you are able and comfortable

**Congregation reads text in bold print**

Bringing Christ's light into Worship

*Matthew Westermeyer, Acolyte*

Welcome

*Deb Boland, Council President*

Prelude

*Garrett Woods, Music Director*

\*Call to Worship

*Deb Boland, Liturgist*

L: Into the house of God we are called to enter,

**A: to worship and receive the gift of grace.**

L: As we step towards this sacred space,

**A: we acknowledge all that can distract or exploit.**

L: God calls upon us to cleanse our houses of all that does not find its source in God's love.

**A: Together we give ourselves in worship and right relations with our neighbor. Let us worship God.**

Hymn

*"How Great Thou Art"*

No 33

Invocation

P: O God of temples and tables turned over, we enter this sacred space of worship seeking your transformation and healing. Make us ready for the kind of turned upside down world you are seeking to build among us. We have come to this place of worship to be changed, so turn over our tables and make us whole. In the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

\* Call to Confession

P: Let us call to mind our need for change, openness, and greater love.

\*Prayer of Transformation and New Life

**Holy God, this is a time when we choose to bring our folly and many reckless ways of exploiting the impoverished in body, mind, spirit or finances. These are the poor in your house, and we sin against them, sometimes without our even knowing it. And so, when our houses of worship need to change, or when we have wandered from your ways, help us to**

**turn towards you. Not because of what we can gain from you, but because your love is a gift unearned and unwavering. Grant us your grace, in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Words of Grace

God's compassion is deep and wide, from everlasting to everlasting. In seeking to transform this world, God's love reaches towards each of us with a tender embrace. Let this be our assurance this day and always. Amen.

\*Gloria Patri (Glory be to the Father)

No 35

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

Pastoral Prayer

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Silent Prayer

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. Amen.**

Prayer Through Song

*"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"*

No 306

**Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord; incline thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

Psalm 19 (All read responsively by whole verse) **God's Glory in Creation and the Law**

<sup>1</sup> The heavens are telling the glory of God,  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

<sup>2</sup> **Day to day pours forth speech,  
and night to night declares knowledge.**

<sup>3</sup> There is no speech, nor are there words;  
their voice is not heard;

<sup>4</sup> **yet their voice goes out through all the earth  
and their words to the end of the world.**

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,  
<sup>5</sup> which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,  
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.  
<sup>6</sup> **Its rising is from the end of the heavens  
and its circuit to the end of them,  
and nothing is hid from its heat.**  
<sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect,  
reviving the soul;  
the decrees of the LORD are sure,  
making wise the simple;  
<sup>8</sup> **the precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear,  
enlightening the eyes;**  
<sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever;  
the ordinances of the LORD are true  
and righteous altogether.  
<sup>10</sup> **More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey  
and drippings of the honeycomb.**  
<sup>11</sup> Moreover, by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.  
<sup>12</sup> **But who can detect one's own errors?  
Clear me from hidden faults.**  
<sup>13</sup> Keep back your servant also from the insolent;  
do not let them have dominion over me.  
Then I shall be blameless  
and innocent of great transgression.  
<sup>14</sup> **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable to you,  
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

Anthem

*"Who Is That Man"* by Don Besig

Choir

## **The Gospel – John 2:13-22**

<sup>13</sup> The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup> Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, with the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup> He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” <sup>18</sup> The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” <sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” <sup>20</sup> The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” <sup>21</sup> But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup> After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

***Message***

***“Filled Full of Grace”***

***Pastor Teri Lynn Stackhouse***

\*Affirmation of Faith – “The Jesus Creed”

**We have confidence in Jesus  
who healed the sick, the blind, and the paralysed.  
And even raised the dead.  
He cast out evil powers  
and confronted corrupt leaders.  
He cleansed the temple.  
He favoured the poor.  
He turned water into wine,  
walked on water, calmed storms.  
He died for the sins of the world,  
rose from the dead, and ascended to the Father,  
sent the Holy Spirit.**

**We have confidence in Jesus  
who taught in word and example,  
sign and wonder.  
He preached parables of the kingdom of God  
on hillsides, from boats, in the temple, in homes,**

at banquets and parties, along the road, on beaches, in towns,  
by day and by night.  
He taught the way of love for God and neighbour,  
for stranger and enemy, for outcast and alien.

We have confidence in Jesus,  
who called disciples, led them,  
gave them new names and new purpose  
and sent them out to preach good news.  
He washed their feet as a servant.  
He walked with them, ate with them,  
called them friends,  
rebuked them, encouraged them,  
promised to leave and then return,  
and promised to be with them always.  
He taught them to pray.  
He rose early to pray, stole away to desolate places,  
fasted and faced agonising temptations,  
wept in a garden,  
and prayed, 'Not my will but your will be done.'  
He rejoiced, he sang, he feasted, he wept.

We have confidence in Jesus,  
so we follow him, learn his ways,  
seek to obey his teaching and live by his example.  
We walk with him, walk in him, abide in him,  
as a branch in a vine.  
We have not seen him, but we love him.  
His words are to us words of life eternal,  
and to know him is to know the true and living God.  
We do not see him now, but we have confidence in Jesus. Amen.

- The Jesus Creed was first used at the Emergent Convention, Nashville, May 2004. ©  
Brian McLaren

\*Invitation to the Offering

The richness of God's love extends to all persons and in response to God's abundant compassion, we are invited into a spirit of generosity so that God's love may be known to the very ends of the earth. Let us give generously.

\*Doxology (Praise)

No 46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

**O God, whose richness is not found at the tables of those willing to exchange goods for the sake of acquiring earthly riches, but rather is found at the table of extravagant love for neighbor, we entrust these gifts to your care that they may abound in your steadfast love for all persons. Use them for the building of your beloved community here on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

\*Hymn

*"Lift High the Cross"*

No 108

\*Benediction

God has turned our world upside down and called us to a life of transformation. Now, go forth changed, called anew, and turned towards a God who makes us whole. Amen, and Amen!

\*Benediction Response

**God be with you till we meet again,  
By His counsels guide, uphold you,  
With His sheep securely fold you,  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet;  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again. Amen.**

\*Postlude

*Thank you for worshipping with us at St. Peter and St. Paul United Church of Christ!*

3001 Queen City Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45238

Current Office Hours: T, W, Th, & Fri. 10:00am – 2:00pm + 513-661-3745

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## Announcements



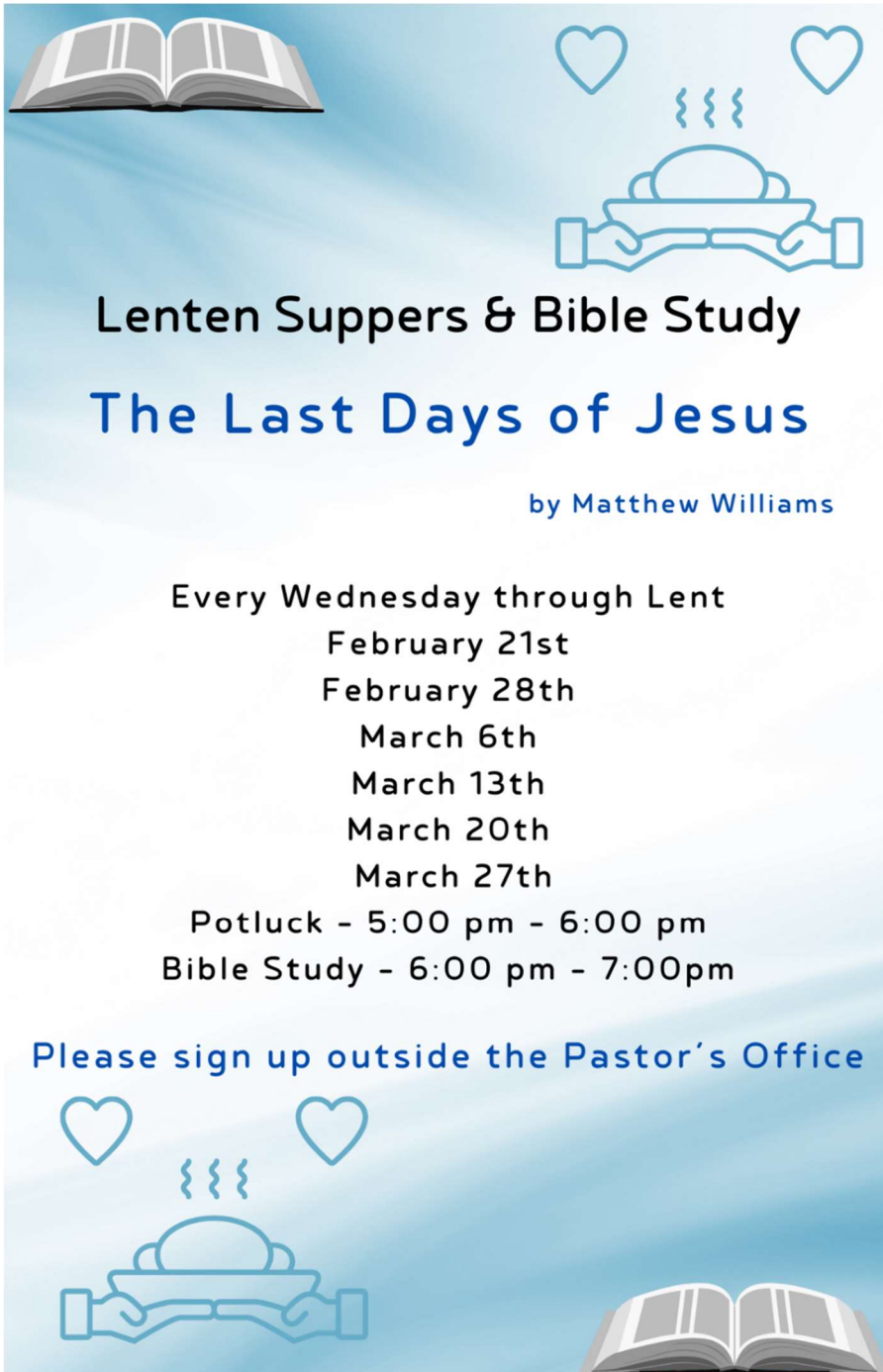
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I'm excited to announce, we have given an official name to the "bulletin board outside the Pastor's Office", and are calling it...

"Communication Corner"

We will continue using this as a spot for all signs-ups, event info, etc. so remember to check it often.





## Lenten Suppers & Bible Study

# The Last Days of Jesus

by Matthew Williams

Every Wednesday through Lent

February 21st

February 28th

March 6th

March 13th

March 20th

March 27th

Potluck - 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Bible Study - 6:00 pm - 7:00pm

Please sign up outside the Pastor's Office

23RD MARCH, 2024

# EASTER *Hunt* EGG



GRAB YOUR BASKET AND A FRIEND! JOIN THE FUN! CHILDREN WILL ENJOY A LIGHT LUNCH, PICTURES W/ THE BUNNY, A CRAFT, AND A FUN EGG HUNT. AGES 10 AND UNDER EVERYONE'S WELCOME!

2:00 pm - 3:30 pm  
Egg Hunt at 2:45

Small individually wrapped candy  
and monetary donations would  
be greatly appreciated

# March Food Pantry Events



*Free  
Food  
Distribution*

**JOIN US  
MARCH 5TH 2024**

**12PM - 2PM**  
St. Peter & St. Paul UCC  
3001 Queen City Ave  
513-661-3745

Our free food pick-up is open to all. No documentation needed, no questions asked.



**MONTHLY  
COMMUNITY MEAL**



**March 16th 2024**  
**10:30am - 12:00pm**  
(3rd Saturday every month)

Join us for a free meal, food bag to take home as well the opportunity to go through all clothing and houseware donations that you may need. All are welcome, no documentation required.



# MARCH 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Steering Committee / Congregation Discussion - 11:00 am F.H.	4 Church & Ministry - 11:30 am F.H.	5 Food Pick-up - 12-2 pm.	6 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Lenten Suppers / Study-5:00-7:00 F.H.	7	8	9
10	11	12 Property - 7pm - Par.	13 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Lenten Suppers / Study-5:00-7:00 F.H.	14	15	16 Community Meal 10:30 - 12 - F.H.
17	18	19	20 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H. Lenten Suppers / Study-5:00-7:00 F.H.	21	22	23 Easter Egg Hunt - 2:00-3:30 
24/31 31st - Easter Breakfast - 8:30 am F.H. 	25	26 Council - 7 pm - Rm. 107	27 Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Lenten Suppers / Study-5:00-7:00 F.H.	28	29	30