



the good news is...

together, the impossible
is possible

March 8, 2026 – 10am

The Third Sunday in Lent

Covenant is an accepting, welcoming community sharing the glory of God's love with all.

PRELUDE

"Mourning into Dancing" by Tommy Walker

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: If you need good news,

People: settle into this space. We have good news to share.

Leader: If you need a word of hope,

People: then trust us when we say, there is hope enough to go around.

Leader: If you need a glimmer of joy,

People: then you're in luck! We have resilient joy abounding.

Leader: If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

People: then know that this is God's house.

Leader: This is the good news of the gospel.

People: God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move. Let us worship together!

*Please rise in body or spirit

*HYMN #409

“God is Here!”



1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

2 Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

3 Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God,
with you the impossible is possible.
5,000 can be fed.
The blind can see.
The hopeless can find hope.
With you the impossible is possible,
but we are quick to forget that.
We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done.
We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd.
We forget that you are always with us.
Forgive our small-minded ways.
Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come.
But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it.
With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.**

(Silence for personal confession)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

HYMN #582

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

2 World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.



PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord, be with you all. **And also with you.**

HYMN #188

"Jesus Loves Me"

TALK WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE FIRST READING

Ephesians 3:20-21 (NRSVUE)

We live not by bread alone, but by every word that comes from God.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL READING

Mark 6:32-44 (NRSVUE)

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

"The Good News is...Together, The Impossible is Possible"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven... (Hymnal p. 35. We say "debts & debtors.")

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING



OFFERTORY

"Be the Light" by Franklin Willis

*DOXOLOGY #606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**



*PRAYER OF DEDICATION



*HYMN #761

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”



This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

1 Called as partners in Christ’s service,
called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment
fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring
to fulfill God’s chosen end.

2 Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring,
Christ’s clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering,
reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
all God’s people, young and old,
blending human skills together
gracious gifts from God unfold.

3 Thus new patterns for Christ’s mission,
in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other’s burdens,
breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action,
make us colleagues, free and fair.

4 So God grant us for tomorrow
ways to order human life
that surround each person’s sorrow
with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving
hope and confidence and peace.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Old Church Choir” by Zach William

Liturgy from this service is by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Assisting in Worship Today:

Pete LuPiba – Liturgist

Allie Garner – Vocalist

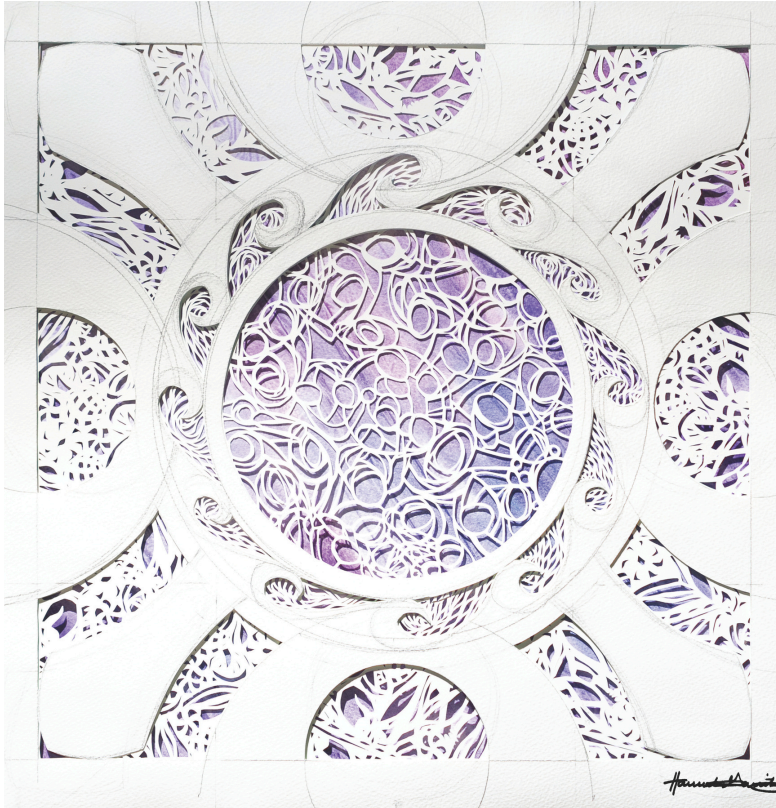
Dave Powers – Pianist

Cherie Brooks – Director of Music & Technology

Brian Biller – Media Production Specialist

Erin Wise – Director of Children's & Youth Ministries

Rev. Joel A. Esala – Pastor



“Scarce Abundance”
by Hannah Garrity
Inspired by Mark 6:32-44

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT



Bible Study - Wednesday at 1:00pm in the Lounge. Join Bible Study with the QR code.

Preacher from the Pew - Wednesday at 7pm. This Week: Arthur Vazquez
Centering Prayer - Thursdays at 8:30am in the Lounge



The Ukrainian Cultural Association of Ohio is hosting an egg-decorating workshop for adults. Learn about the ancient art of wax batik and decorate an egg to take home.

\$5 - All Supplies Provided
[All proceeds to humanitarian medical aid for Ukraine]



Scan QR code or email Megan to RSVP!

Begin the conversation.

Legacy Giving Lunch 4/19 11:15-1:30pm

RSVP

<https://bit.ly/CPCLegacyLunch>
or contact Megan

PER CAPITA

\$46/ per person



Monday, March 23, 2026 12 - 6pm

BLOOD DRIVE

Give in March for a \$15 Gift Card by email & successful donations get A1c testing!
rcblood.org/March



SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT:
Scan the QR Code
Call 1-800-733-2767 OR
Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: covenant



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING 3.29.26

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The work done in support of the causes supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) — disaster, hunger, poverty, climate change, and immigration/migration and refugees — serves individuals and communities in need. This work provides people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Typically received during the season of Lent, this Offering helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



PALM SUNDAY | MARCH 29

MAUNDY THURSDAY | APRIL 2 7PM

GOOD FRIDAY | APRIL 3 7PM

EASTER SUNDAY | APRIL 5 10AM

PREACHER FROM THE PEW | WEDNESDAYS 7PM
BEGINNING FEBRUARY 25



PREACHER Wednesdays 7pm FROM THE PEW

Arthur Vazquez

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 11, 2026
7 PM

Morgan James

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 18, 2026
7 PM

Jude McLean

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 25, 2026
7 PM



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