



**3rd Sunday in Lent**  
**Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
**Redemption Lutheran Church**  
**8001 Bustleton Ave.**  
**Philadelphia PA 19152**  
[www.redemptionphiladelphia.org](http://www.redemptionphiladelphia.org)

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GATHERING

(The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God)

*The assembly stands.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:  
Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:  
Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign,  
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,  
and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For disregarding voices from the margin,  
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:  
Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,  
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:  
Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.  
Through faith, the free gift of God,  
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.  
In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead  
dwells in you,  
pours God's love into your hearts,  
and gives you life and peace.

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** – *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty - ELW 533*

### **GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of  
the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

# KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

P: Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

(God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.)

### FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

A: A reading from Exodus

<sup>1</sup> From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup> But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup> I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: 95

*The Psalm is read responsively.*

<sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing <sup>1</sup> to the LORD;  
let us shout for joy to the rock of <sup>1</sup> our salvation.

<sup>2</sup> **Let us come before God's presence <sup>1</sup> with thanksgiving**

**and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup> For you, LORD, | are a great God,  
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.

<sup>4</sup> **In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**

<sup>5</sup> The sea is yours, | for you made it,  
and your hands have molded | the dry land.

<sup>6</sup> **Come, let us worship | and bow down,  
let us kneel before the | LORD our maker. R**

<sup>7</sup> For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the  
sheep | of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would | hear God's voice!

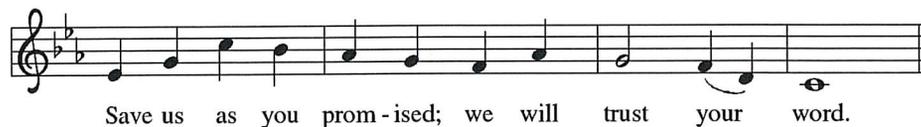
<sup>8</sup> **"Harden | not your hearts,  
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah | in the desert.**

<sup>9</sup> There your ancestors | tested me,  
they put me to the test, though they had | seen my works.

<sup>10</sup> **Forty years I loathed that gener- | ation, saying,  
'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not | know my ways.'**

<sup>11</sup> Indeed I swore | in my anger,  
'They shall never come | to my rest.' " **R**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



## **GOSPEL: John 4:5-42**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to John

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.<sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."<sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)<sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."<sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"<sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"<sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."<sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,'<sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"<sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."<sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem."<sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews."<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such

as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” <sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” <sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup> “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” <sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” <sup>32</sup> But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” <sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup> Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Rev. Ron Wesemann**

*The assembly remains seated.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** – *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* - ELW 611

*The assembly stands.*

## **CREED**

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Each prayer ends with the words, "Hear us, O God" and the congregation responds, "Your mercy is great".*

## **PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you", or similar words.*

## MEAL

(God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.)

### *The Assembly Stands*

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

P: O God, maker of heaven and earth,  
your steadfast love embraces all creation.  
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth  
and bring forth its bounty.

Through these gifts of bread and wine,  
draw us into the death and life of your Son,  
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.  
We ask this in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen.**

#### **DIALOGUE**

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

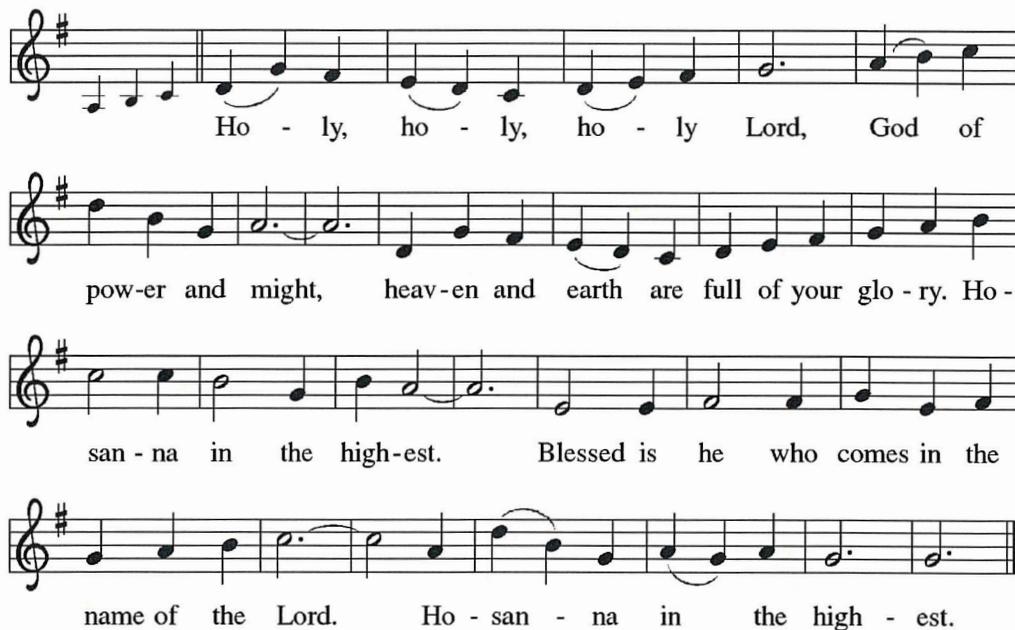
**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

*The presiding minister continues:*

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

**C: Amen.**

P: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

**C: Amen.**

P: Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

*The assembly may be seated. The bread is broken for communion.*

## COMMUNION

*You may come to the rail to receive communion. The bread is gluten free, and you may dip it in the wine or grape juice. If you can't come to the rail communion will be brought to you.*

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -



way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*The assembly stands.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Let us pray.

P: God of our salvation,  
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,  
reconciles us to you and strengthens us for the journey.  
Through the body and blood of your Son,  
may we become Christ's body in the world,  
bearing witness to your love for all creation,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING**

(God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.)

### **BLESSING**

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:  
God, who calls all things into existence,  
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,  
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,  
✚ bless you now and always.

**C: Amen**

**SENDING HYMN** – *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me* – ELW 623

### **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in Peace. Believe the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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## **Worship Permissions**

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## **Our Prayer List**

**Our Community:** Bob Conn, Mabel Turner, Ethel Metz, Doris LaMar.

**Our Friends:** Terry Gara, Lea and Paul Ressler, Melissa Kuchler, Linda Moore, Robert Donnelly and Family, Patricia Weiser, Kathy Schultz, Shannon Puitro, Josh, Sue & Dave Goldstein, Jack Horvath, Joe Wolf, Mason Family, Nina Liptak, Barbara Laudenbacker, Mark Strenger, Freddie Schrat, Karen Giampietro, Dave Speece.

## **Announcements**

During this time of pastoral transition, we want to share our financial status with the congregation by reporting the amount budgeted for monthly offering income, versus actual monthly offering income. Budgeted monthly offering income for March is \$5,800, and to date we have received \$483.

**Feast of Justice Collection** – Personal Care items are needed. Full-sized bottles of shampoo, conditioner and body wash. Soap, toothpaste, deodorant and especially feminine products would be greatly appreciated. You can place the items in the box in the Narthex.

**School Supplies Collection** – We are collecting colored pencils, tissues, markers, scotch tape and Clorox wipes for Julie's class at Community Academy of Philadelphia Charter School. You can place the items in the basket in the Sanctuary.

The theme of this year's NE/NW Philly Conference Midweek Lent Supper and Worship is Forgiveness. Supper at 6:00p.m., Worship at 7:00p.m. on the following Wednesdays:

**March 11** - St. Paul, 5918 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St.

**March 18** - St. David, 9169 Academy Rd.

**March 25** - Redemption, 8001 Bustleton Ave.

Pastor Ron Wesemann will lead worship for Redemption on March 25.

Please see the sign-up sheet for soup, salad, bread and dessert contributions in the back of the Sanctuary.

In conjunction with the Midweek Lent Supper and Worship, St. John will present a Book Study on Forgiving. You will read the Book of Forgiving by Desmond and Mpho Tutu. Monday's at 7:00p.m., starting February 23. In person or on-line. Instructions are:

Meet.google.com/yvo-bysa-pgu

#515-890-5268 PIN: 952 621 452#

**Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** – Rescheduled Congregational & Transition Meeting. We will approve the second half of our fiscal year 2025/2026 Budget (January - June 2026). The Transition Team will hold an information meeting. Pizza will be provided.

**Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Rescheduled MLK Day service project after worship. We will prepare snack bags for the non-profit “Caring for Friends”. Our goal is 40 bags.

### **Save the Date**

**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** – Join our inaugural Book Club Meeting at 12:00p.m. We will discuss “The Book Club of Troublesome Women” by Marie Bostwick. Light Refreshments.

**Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>** – The Faithful Travelers will take their 2<sup>nd</sup> Bus Trip to the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA. We will see the 11:00a.m. performance of Joshua and have a family – style luncheon at the Plain and Fancy Restaurant. The cost is \$250 for adults and \$190 for children (under 12). Sign up will begin in April. A \$125 deposit will be due on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Pastor Ron Wesemann will present a Bible Study on the book of Joshua before the trip.