Our mission is to learn the way of Jesus together as we invite others to join us at His Table.

Our Common Practices

We Gather

We gather for worship more often than not. We gather in smaller groups to connect, learn, and grow. We create hospitable space for one another.

We Grow

We attend the means of grace daily. (i.e. We attend to the presence of God through Scripture reading and meditation, prayer on behalf of others and myself, breath prayer, spiritual reading and study...). We nurture our faith. We attend to relationships that promote growth.

We develop and learn as human beings made in the image of God.

We Give

We are a generous people who give our time and resources to the mission of God and the world. We tithe as the means through which our community enjoys fiscal health so as to minister generously.

We Go

We follow Jesus into the world as His healing presence. We help the vulnerable among us. We go into the world offering Jesus' invitation to gather at His Table.

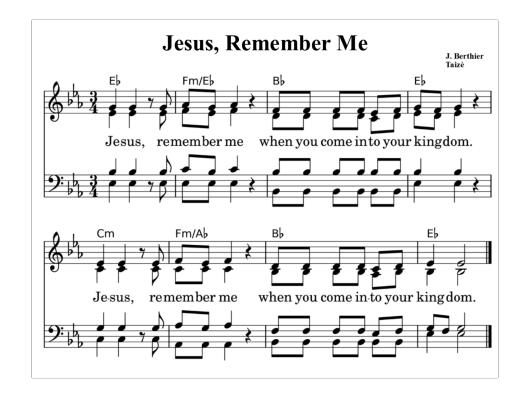
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A Breath Prayer for the Lenten Season:

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"Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me."

If you are a guest with us today, please take time to fill out a Connection Card located in the sanctuary chairs. After worship, an usher will be waiting to receive your card at the guest table in the lobby. As an expression of our hospitality, you will receive a mug filled with chocolates.



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Order of Worship 15 March 2020 The Third Sunday in Lent

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music Welcome Call to Worship Worship Reading

We Listen to the Scriptures

Pastoral Prayer Offering Sermon Series: Singing in the Dark Sermon: "A Song for the Sleep-Deprived" Scripture Reading: Psalm 95; Exodus 17.1-7

We Come to the Table

Passing the Peace of Christ Song of preparation Prayer of Consecration The Lord's Praver We Eat and Drink Together Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life Gossiping the Good Stuff Doxology Blessing and Sending

Sermon Reflection Guide

Psalm 95

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice! Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your ancestors tested me, and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways." Therefore in my anger I swore, "They shall not enter my rest."

Exodus 17.1-7

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. 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?" 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?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." 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. 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. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

(1) I've got to be honest, this pandemic is freaking me out. You'll not be seeing me for the next three months. (10) Coronavirus, what Coronavirus? I'm planning a trip to Northern Italy because air prices are low and there are no crowds. Where are you on this range?

Lenten Plan

how so?

Joyful Worship

Worshiping the God of Jesus Christ requires joyful singing with loud alleluias. Christian corporate worship is the only place where the word "alleluia" is appropriate. Why? Because of the God we worship. Alleluia means "God be praised!" It is an exuberant confession of praise. Are you a joyful practitioner of the Christian faith? Or has cynicism muted your "alleluias"?

Church

God has created a people to bear God's image and share God's limitless love. This people is called Church. To be the Church is to be the kind of people who so love and forgive and care that Jesus is the only explanation for such crazy behavior. Response?

Joy in the Days of the Coronavirus

I want you to know that no matter how this Coronavirus narrative unfolds, we will do all we can to keep our people gathered, either virtually on line or perhaps in smaller groups, maybe in smaller gatherings in the sanctuary. No matter how this unfolds, we aren't going to cancel being the Church. We won't let the virus diminish our joy or our mission. Talk about the anxiety you may be experiencing during the current pandemic. Are you a non anxious presence? Why? Why not? What's the difference between panic and appropriate precaution?

Rest

We can sleep because our God never sleeps. We can rest because our God never stops caring for us. Are you experiencing the "rest" of God? What might you need to do or stop doing to enter Divine rest?

Question for Everyone

Has your Lenten plan taken a turn that you had not anticipated? Have you needed to make adjustments along the way? If so,

Let's Pray for One Another and Our World