

**St Paul's
UCC**

**Henderson
MN**

**March
5th,
2023**



Organ Prelude

**Ringling of
the Bell**

****Call to Worship***

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?

² **My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴ **He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

⁵ The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

⁶ **The sun shall not strike you by day
nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

⁸ **The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.
Come let us worship our Lord!**

Invocation

We gather in the name of the
Father, and of the Son, and of
the Holy Spirit. Amen

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine”

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of the Spirit, washed in
Christ's blood.

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior
all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day
long.

Perfect submission,
perfect delight!

Visions of rapture
now burst on my sight;

Angels descending,
bring from above

echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior
all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day
long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am
happy and blessed;
Watching and waiting,
looking above,
filled with God's goodness,
lost in Christ's love.

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior
all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day
long.

****Confession***

Holy God. We come before you seeking your mercy. Help us to see where we have sinned against one another, and therefore, against you. Help us to turn from sin to seek out your gift of life.

Forgive us, O merciful God as you hear the words of our hearts as we confess in silence before you and our neighbor.

Silent confession.

Our sins are many and your mercy is great.

Forgive us, O merciful God.

*Words of Assurance

Our God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin and generously made us alive together with Christ. By Grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God, strengthen you through the Holy Spirit to dwell on the Word, to walk in faith, and share your blessings with others. Christ lives in your hearts through faith.

Thanks be to God! Amen

Gloria Patri

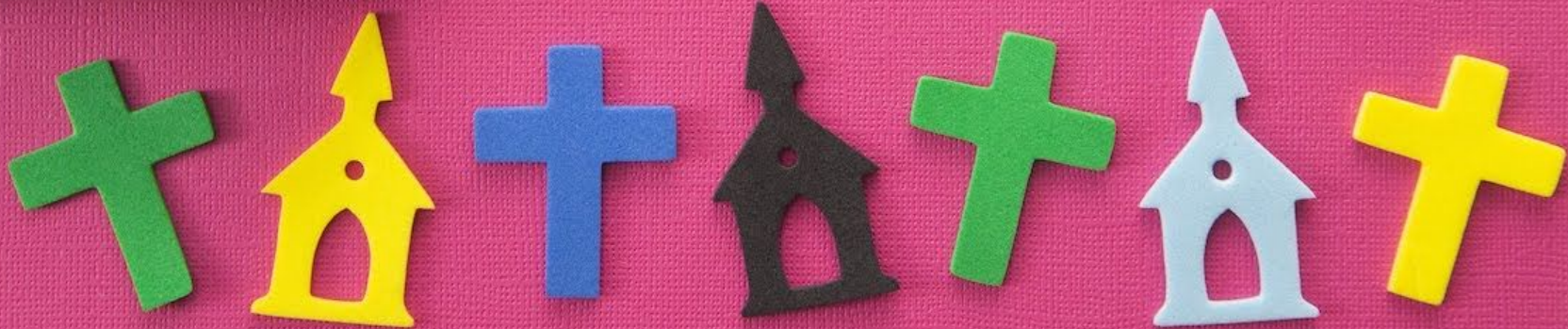
***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.***

*Welcome
&
Announcements*



Holy
Bible

CHILDREN'S SERMON



The Call of Abram

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

Nicodemus Visits Jesus

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?”

Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony.

If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

THE SERMON



“Lift High the Cross”

Come, Christians,
follow where our Savior trod,
the Lamb victorious, Christ,
the Son of God.

Lift high the cross,
the love of Christ proclaim;
Let all adore that sacred name.

O Lord, once lifted
on the glorious tree,
your death has
brought us life eternally.

Lift high the cross,
the love of Christ proclaim;
Let all adore that sacred name.

So shall our song of
triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory.

Lift high the cross,
the love of Christ proclaim;
Let all adore that sacred name.

Pastoral Prayer - 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; 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.

Cares Chorus

*I cast all of my cares upon you.
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.
And any time I don't know what to do,
I will cast all of my cares upon you.*



“For the Bread, Which Thou Hast Broken”

For The Bread,
Which Thou Hast Broken;
For The Wine, Which Thou Hast Poured;
For The Words,
Which Thou Hast Spoken
Now We Give Thee Thanks, O Lord.

By This Pledge
That Thou Dost Love Us,
By Thy Gift Of Peace Restored,
By Thy Call To
Heaven Above Us,
Hallow All Our Lives, O Lord.

With Our Sainted Ones In Glory,
Seated At Our Father's Board,
May The Church
That Waiteth For Thee
Keep Love's Tie
Unbroken, Lord.

In Thy Service, Lord, Defend Us,
In Our Hearts Keep
Watch And Ward;
In The World Where
Thou Dost Send Us
Let Thy Kingdom Come, O Lord.

The Lord's Supper

Invitation Come, let us gather round the Lord's table, a table of life and grace, of faith and promise.

Prayer of Consecration

Most Gracious God, we seek Your blessing on the bread and the cup, that they may refresh our bodies and renew our spirits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Words of Institution

And so we recall that on the night of betrayal and desertion, the Lamb of God, Jesus the Christ, took bread, broke and give it to the disciples, saying: “This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” And, in a like manner, after supper, Jesus took the cup and after giving thanks gave it to them saying, “This is the cup of the new covenant in my blood Poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink of it, for the remembrance of me.” All honor and glory are yours, O God, through Jesus Christ. Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit in your glorious creation, both now and forever. Amen

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Post Communion Prayer

**We have been fed and forgiven,
Holy One, by your presence.**

**We have been Led to faith,
Eternal One, by your light.**

**May we bask in this promise now
and forevermore. Amen**

Invitation

Offertory Music

OFFERING
WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD



Doxology

***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.***

***Offering Prayer**

God of all creation. You have blessed us to be a blessing. Open our eyes to all that we have and to the needs of those around us. Give us the faith to meet those needs with confidence in your abundant grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace;
Oh, refresh us, oh, refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.

We give thanks and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound;
May the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound:
Ever faithful, ever faithful
to the truth may we be found.

So that when your
love shall call us,
Savior, from the world away,
Fear of death shall not appall us,
glad your summons to obey:
May we ever, may we ever
live with you in endless day.

***Benediction**

As you go into the world to share God's
Word and God's Love Know that God
goes before you to show you the way,
Behind you to encourage you,
Beside you to befriend you,
Above you to watch over you. And
within you to give you peace. + **Amen**



*Benediction
& Blessing*