

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 17, 2024, 9:00AM

MAKING CONNECTIONS

GROWING TOGETHER

GATHERING

** indicates to please stand as able*

Gathering & Greeting



***Introit**

To God Be the Glory

UMH #98

Hymn by Fanny J. Crosby; Tune by William H. Doane

To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

REFRAIN: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (Refrain)

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)

***Call to Worship¹**

Leader: God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

**People: Let those who know they are redeemed
celebrate it!**

Those who have been reclaimed from deep trouble!

Though we were as good as dead,
God made us alive with the grace of Christ
through whom we are rescued and healed.

**O give thanks to God for such unswerving love,
for such wonderful deeds for the children of earth.**

***Hymn**

Love Lifted Me

Hymn by James Rowe; Tune: SAFETY

I was sinking deep in sin, far from the peaceful shore,
Very deeply stained within, sinking to rise no more;
But the Master of the sea heard my despairing cry,
From the waters lifted me – Now safe am I.

**REFRAIN: Love lifted me! Love lifted me!
When nothing else could help, Love lifted me!
Love lifted me! Love lifted me!
When nothing else could help,
Love lifted me!**

All my heart to Him I give; Ever to Him I'll cling,
In His blessed presence live, ever His praises sing.
Love so mighty and so true merits my soul's best songs;
Faithful, loving service, too, to Him belongs. (Refrain)

Souls in danger, look above; Jesus completely saves;
He will lift you by His love out of the angry waves.
He's the Master of the sea, billows His will obey;
He your Savior wants to be – be saved today. (Refrain)

***Passing the Peace**

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

The Church's Letter

Ephesians 2:1-10, NRSV

2:1 You were dead through the trespasses and sins
2 in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient.

3 All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love

with which he loved us

5 even when we were dead through our trespasses,
made us alive together with Christ--by grace you have
been saved--

6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in
the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

7 so that in the ages to come he might show the im-
measurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in
Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and
this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God--

9 not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

10 For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Je-
sus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to
be our way of life.



Word in Song

Depth of Mercy

Chancel Choir

Hymn by Charles Wesley; Music by Penny Rodriguez

The Psalter

Psalm 32:1-5, NRSV

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

2 Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

3 While I kept silent, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

The Word of God for the people of God:
Thanks be to God!

Small Talk & Noisy Offering

Jodi Gutierrez

*a special message for children, followed by a special
collection for UMCOR Sunday.*

The Message

Lucky or Blessed? Eilene Wollslager



***Hymn**

Grace Greater Than our Sin

UMH #365

Hymn by Julia H. Johnston; Tune: MOODY

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,
there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

**REFRAIN: Grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that is greater than all our sin!**

Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold,
threaten the soul with infinite loss;
grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,
points to the refuge, the mighty cross. (Refrain)

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide.
What can avail to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide,
brighter than snow you may be today. (Refrain)

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,
freely bestowed on all who believe!
You that are longing to see his face,
will you this moment his grace receive? (Refrain)

PRAYER & THANKSGIVING

Prayer of the People

Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us a little child one
of us, flesh and blood, to share in our humanity
For God so loved the world
That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as carpenter
and yet in whose creative hands a world was fashioned
For God so loved the world
That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as fisherman
and yet pointed to a harvest that was yet to come
For God so loved the world
That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as teacher
and opened eyes to truths that only the poor could un-
derstand

For God so loved the world
That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as healer
and opened hearts to the reality of wholeness
For God so loved the world
That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as prophet,
priest, and king, and yet humbled himself to take our
place upon the cross
For God so loved the world
That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as servant
and revealed to us the extent of his Father's love for hu-
mankind
For God so loved the world
That all might have eternal life.

Blest are you, Lord Jesus, who rose from the ignominy of
a sinner's death to the triumph of a Savior's resurrection
For God so loved the world
That all might have eternal life.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son
for the sake of me and you
and other sinners too
God so loved the world
Blest are you Lord Jesus,
our Savior and Redeemer. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Giving Options

Mobile App or Online: www.schertzumc.com/give

Text: 210-361-9146

Mail: 3460 Roy Richard Drive, Schertz, TX 78154



Offertory

Blessings

by Laura Story

Sally Osborne
& Leah Krennek
Kim Spivey, piano

*Doxology

UMH #95

Tune: Old 100th

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.

SENDING FORTH

Discussion

*Hymn

Christ Beside Me

TFWS #2166

text from St. Patrick's Breastplate, adapt. James Quinn; Tune: BUNESSAN

Christ beside me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me King of my heart;
Christ within me, Christ below me,
Christ above me never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me shield in strife;
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising light of my life.

Christ beside me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me King of my heart;
Christ within me, Christ below me,
Christ above me never to part.



***Dismissal with Blessing**

***Benediction Hymn**

1. Call to Worship

written by Rev. Bruce Pewer

<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2015/03/call-to-worship-god-so-loved-world.html>

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday: March 24. Services at 9:00 & 11:15,
Egg Hunt at 10:15

Maundy Thursday: March 28. Service at 6:30pm

Good Friday: March 29. Service at 6:30pm

Easter Worship

7:00am Sunrise Service (Courtyard)

9:00am Traditional Service (Sanctuary)

10:15am Butterfly Release (Courtyard)

11:15am Praise Service (Sanctuary)

11:15am The Gathering (Fellowship Hall)