

New Covenant Community Church
Akron, Ohio
First Sunday in Lent



March 1, 2020

10:30 a.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Robert Roth

Leader: May God accompany us as we embark into the Lenten wilderness.

People: May God bless us with clear vision as we move toward new horizons.

Leader: As disciples, let us follow Jesus even when we must make difficult decisions and uncomfortable choices.

People: Let us not retreat in fear, but let us confront the challenges of the world with faith.

Leader: Let us listen for God's message, and let us look for signs of God's grace.

People: Along our Lenten journeys, may the Lord lead us on the path of reconciliation and renewal.

*HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

#276

KINESTHETIC PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: People of God, the prayer of confession will be a kinesthetic prayer, which means that we will use both our hearts and our bodies to pray. I invite you to join me in prayer, responding with actions as you are prompted. Let us pray:

*CANTICLE

Grace Greater Than Our Sin

see screens

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.

*PASSING THE PEACE

Robert Roth

Leader: The psalmist reminds us that God "will speak peace to His people" (Psalm 85:8). In Luke's gospel, Zechariah stated that God's light would "guide our feet in the way of peace" (Luke 1:79). Therefore, with these Scriptural references to inform us, let us now greet one another with the peace of Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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. Amen.

READING FROM THE WORD

Genesis 3:1-8

*HYMN

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

#81

READING FROM THE WORD

Matthew 4:1-11

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD *Lenten Choices*

Tom Ulrich

REFLECTIONS ON THE WORD

(The congregation is invited to offer any thoughts and share any questions concerning today's proclamation.)

*HYMN

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

#80

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell;

the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;

the holy catholic Church;

the communion of saints;

the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body;

and the life everlasting. Amen.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

We Give Thee but Thine Own

#428 (verse 1)

We give Thee but Thine own,

Whate'er the gift may be;

All that we have is Thine alone,

A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER *(The Lord’s Supper will be served by intinction. Please come forward by the center aisle and return to your seat by the outer aisles.)*

Invitation to the Table
Prayer of Thanksgiving
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise . . .

Words of Institution and Communion of the People
Prayer after Communion and the Lord’s Prayer
We have “open” communion, and therefore all who desire a closer relationship with God and want to share in the love of Jesus Christ are invited to participate fully in the sacrament.

*HYMN	<i>Lord, I Lift Your Name on High</i>	see screens
	Lord, I lift Your name on high. Lord, I love to sing Your praises. I’m so glad Your in my life. I’m so glad You came to save us. You came from heaven to earth to show the way. From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay. From the cross to the grave, From the grave to the sky, Lord, I lift Your name on high.	

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE	<i>Surely the Presence of the Lord is In This Place</i>	see screens
	Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. I can feel His mighty power and His grace. I can hear the brush of angel’s wings, I see glory on each face. Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.	



ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Primary Election Day, March 17, at our church, we are again having a bake sale with people putting a freewill offering in the marked container. We need items in ziplock bags such as 4 muffins, 6 cookies, 4 pieces of coffee cake, etc. Sign the sheet on the hall table if you are willing to contribute. You may bring the items to the kitchen on Sunday, March 15, before the service. Please mark your items. You can also bring them to the church on Monday, March 16, between 10-11 a.m. All money collected will be used to buy books for the two book fairs that our Mission Committee is sponsoring on May 12 and 21. This should be a bigger election than the one in November so please consider donating.

At their Feb. 24 meeting, the Governing Board approved hiring the company TECHVRSE (Bradley Van Tyne) to rebuild our website, to make it user friendly, emphasizing the fact that our church is reaching out to the community.

Free screening of SISTER, by local filmmaker, Josh Gippin, documenting the life and work of Sister Catherine Walsh and her work with immigrants, will be held this Tuesday, March 3, at 4 p.m., at Myers School of Art at the University of Akron.

AAIC Meeting, 12:00-1:30, First Congregational Church of Akron, March 3. Bring a brown bag lunch.

Looking ahead.....Easter is Sunday, April 12. Four persons are needed to work on an expanded Coffee Hour/ Easter breakfast to be held in Fellowship Hall beginning at 9:30. Please sign the sheet on the hall table.

Pastor Tom Ulrich	Liturgist Robert Roth	Director of Music Marlys Hershberger
Audio-Visual Carol Davis Joan Lannoch	Communion Hal and Jackie Horton	Ushers Barbara Clough, Tim Meyer, Betty Miller, John Sezna

New Covenant Community Church
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Office Hours
Monday – Thursday | 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.