

Order of Worship for 3/17/24

10:00am CST

Online at www.calvinchurch.net || via phone at (952) 208-6020 || parking lot

radio on 87.9FM

* Please rise in body/spirit | Congregational responses are in bold

The beautiful flowers today are from Rob & Tammy Wenz in celebration of the arrival of our 4th grandchild, Carson Robert, on March 12th. We thank God for the blessing of our four grandchildren, Myla, Mason, Ella & Carson, and are beyond grateful to have them in our lives!

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Jesus said, "When I am lifted up, I will draw all people to myself."

All: Blessed be the God of our salvation who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

OPENING PRAYER (all)

Holy God, by the cross and resurrection of Jesus, you lift the suffering world toward hope and transformation and open the way to eternal salvation. As we move ever closer to the passion of Christ, may your law of love be written on our hearts as he draws all people to himself revealing your love for the world. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN #308

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

1 O sing a song of Bethlehem, Of shepherds watching there, And of the news that came to them From angels in the air: The light that shone on Bethlehem Fills all the world today; Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth The angels sing alway.

2 O sing a song of Nazareth, Of sunny days of joy, O sing of fragrant flowers' breath, And of the sinless Boy; For now the flowers of Nazareth In every heart may grow; Now spreads the fame of His dear Name On all the winds that blow. 3 O sing a song of Galilee, Of lake and woods and hill, Of Him who walked upon the sea And bade the waves be still: For though, like waves on Galilee, Dark seas of trouble roll, When faith has heard the Master's word, Falls peace upon the soul.

4 O sing a song of Calvary, Its glory and dismay; Of Him who hung upon the tree, And took our sins away: For He who died on Calvary Is risen from the grave, And Christ, our Lord, by heaven adored, Is mighty now to save.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (all)

Redeeming God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart and we have not loved our neighbors as we ought; we have strayed from your commandments. Do not remember our sins, but forgive our iniquities, that we may fix our eyes on you and sin no more, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: In the name of Jesus Christ,

All: We are forgiven.

*HYMN #82

O Lamb of God, Most Holy!

(Congregation sings first verse only.)

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

SCRIPTURE LESSON

SERMON

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From the Confession of 1967

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Old Testament page 733

New Testament page 106

John 12:20-33

God expressed God's love for all humankind through Israel, whom God chose to be God's covenant people to serve God in love and faithfulness. When Israel was unfaithful, God disciplined the nations with God's judgments and maintained God's cause through prophets, priests, teachers, and true believers. These witnesses called all Israelites to a destiny in which they would serve God faithfully and become a light to the nations. The same witnesses proclaimed the coming of a new age and a true servant of God in whom God's purpose for Israel and humankind would be realized. Out of Israel God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

*HYMN #92

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock
Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness,
A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat,
And the burden of the day.

2 Upon that cross of Jesus Mine eye at times can see The very dying form of One Who suffered there for me; And from my stricken heart with tears Two wonders I confess: The wonders of redeeming love And my unworthiness.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY #592

Praise God for Whom All Blessings Flow

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal p. 16

SENT IN GOD'S NAME

*CLOSING HYMN #384

O love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

2 O light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee; My heart restores its borrowed ray, That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day May brighter, fairer be.

3 O joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to Thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, And feel the promise is not vain That morn shall tearless be.

4 O cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from Thee; I lay in dust life's glory dead, And from the ground there blossoms red Life that shall endless be.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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