

Prairieland Parish

As we unite in worship today, we extend a warm welcome to each one present.
May we together experience the presence of God

+++++

We Gather to Prepare Our Hearts to Meet Our Lord



Prelude – Welcome - Announcements

Opening Meditation

Now is the time for us to worship!
Now is the time for us to come!
So, come, you who in God’s sight are perfectly imperfect!
Come, you who want more of God!
Come, you who heard God remind you
that you are special and loved beyond measure!
Come, People of God, those unified in the waters of baptism!
Come!

A Call to Worship

Come, Beloved! Let us worship!
We are gathered to worship the One in whom we place our trust!
God, who does all things well, is here! God is among God’s people!
God is merciful, and God is kind!
Together, we have come to praise the One
Who keeps covenant and decrees! Let us worship!

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

God of the baptized, we come to the shores of your presence, reminded that it is here that you cleanse us, restore us, shower upon us, and clean us. Rain down upon us as you reign over us! May your Spirit rest on us. May we, as one body unified at Calvary, experience the blessing and favor of you being pleased with us. Come into this time and space, we pray. Move as only you can. Get the glory, not just now but forever! In Christ’s great name, we pray. Amen.

Praise Hymn UMH #140 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Author: Thomas O. Chisholm (1923)
Copyright: © 1923, renewed 1951 Hope Publishing Co.
Notes: Now Public Domain.

**1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;**

as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Refrain**

**3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain**

Gospel Reading..... Mark 1:9-15 (NRSV)

The Baptism of Jesus

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. 11 And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved;[a] with you I am well pleased."

The Testing of Jesus

12 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. 13 He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him.

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news[b] of[c] God 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;[d] repent, and believe in the good news."[e]

This is the Word of God, for the people of God, **Thanks be to God!**

Faith Hymn UMH #395 "Take Time to Be Holy"

Author: William D. Longstaff (ca. 1882)

Composer: Geoge C. Stebbins (1890)

**1. Take time to be holy,
speak oft with thy Lord;
abide in him always,
and feed on his word.
Make friends of God's children,
help those who are weak,
forgetting in nothing
his blessing to seek.**

2. Take time to be holy,

**the world rushes on;
spend much time in secret
with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus,
like him thou shalt be;
thy friends in thy conduct
his likeness shall see.**

**3. Take time to be holy,
let him be thy guide,
and run not before him,
whatever betide.
In joy or in sorrow,
still follow the Lord,
and, looking to Jesus,
still trust in his word.**

**4. Take time to be holy,
be calm in thy soul,
each thought and each motive
beneath his control.
Thus led by his spirit
to fountains of love,
thou soon shalt be fitted
for service above.**

Message

Joys/Concerns Pastoral Prayer

God, As we take this journey into the Lenten season that draws us ever closer to you
Walk with us
Sustain us,
Nurture us.

As we go through the wilderness of lent and of our lives,
Send your manna to us,
give us wisdom to turn from temptation
And your grace to turn to.

As we walk through the pot holes of life, the valleys, the pits of life,
Guide us with your hand
Keep our feet steady,
And our vision on you.

God, whether we choose to give up something for lent
Or do something positive,
Let us not do it out of obligation
Or the tyranny of oughtness,
But out of love for you.

Keep us in your paths of love, mercy and grace.
Lord help us to remember we are not alone
but that we are walking with our fellow/sister travelers .
And as we come to you this day we raise those who need your care (names of those
presented during joys and concerns)

We thank you for being our God and walking this journey with us. As we praise you this
day we come united in voice as we pray...Our Father...

Offertory/Doxology

Offertory Prayer

Righteous God, we mark these early days in the Lenten journey with reminders of your covenant with your people. In your judgement, you sent upon creation the great flood – yet you saved a faithful remnant. You followed with a covenant not to use the flood again. As we prepare to offer our gifts to you, we are reminded that we have been spared from judgment by the one, your son, our Savior, who took on our guilt and bore our judgement. May gratitude for his sacrifice move us to offer not only money, but our whole being. In Christ, we pray. Amen. (Genesis 9:8-17)

Departing Hymn UMH #536 “Precious Name”

Author: Lydia Baxter (1870)

Composer: William H. Doane (1871)

**1. Take the name of Jesus with you,
child of sorrow and of woe;
it will joy and comfort give you;
take it then, where'er you go.**

Refrain:

**Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.
Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.**

**2. Take the name of Jesus ever,
as a shield from every snare;
if temptations round you gather,
breathe that holy name in prayer.**

(Refrain)

**3. O the precious name of Jesus!
How it thrills our souls with joy,
when his loving arms receive us,
and his songs our tongues employ!**

(Refrain)

**4. At the name of Jesus bowing,
falling prostrate at his feet,
King of kings in heaven we'll crown
him,
when our journey is complete.**

(Refrain)

BENEDICTION

Now and always, may the God of your baptism be the God of your every blessing!
May favor and peace be multiplied to you so much that you have to give some away!
May you forever be reminded each time you encounter water that its power, which
comes from God alone, sustains and makes you whole!

Postlude