

*Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.*

**“Light Up!” 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

**March 10, 2024**

*The asterisk (\*) indicates to please rise in body or spirit.*

## **Lighting Up Our Hearts**

*Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may Light up our cross and worthily magnify your holy name through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

## **Gathering Music**

### **Gathering Up**

## **Music for Centering**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

arr. Gregg Sewell

## **Welcome and Announcements**

## **Pause for Poetry**

Jacquie D’Angelo

## **Entering God’s Presence**

“Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord” (from *Elijah*)

Felix Mendelssohn, 1846

Cast thy burden upon the Lord;

And He shall sustain thee:

He never will suffer the righteous to fall;

He is at thy tight hand.

Thy mercy, Lord, is great, and far above the heavens.

Let none be made ashamed that wait upon Thee!

## **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Jesus says, “the way to be saved from sin is by looking to Jesus on a cross!”.

**People: How can we be saved?**

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

**People: We praise you for providing a way for us to be saved from our rebellion.**

Leader: By your grace, Christ lights up the world!

**People: By what you have done for us, Christ lifts up the light for us to see!**

Leader: Oh Jesus, we look to you and we yield to you. We surrender to you.

**People: You are our Savior, our Lord, our king, and we worship you. Amen!**

**\*Hymn**

**“Lift High the Cross”**

**# 826**

**We Acknowledge What’s Up**

**\*Call to Confession**

Leader: John 3:16 is probably ... Josh Groban singing “You Raise Me Up”.

**People: When I am down and, oh my soul, so weary  
When troubles come and my heart burdened be  
Then, I am still and wait here in the silence  
Until You come and sit awhile with me  
You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains  
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas  
I am strong, when I am on Your shoulders  
You raise me up to more than I can be**

Words and Music by Brendan Graham and Rolf Lovland

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## **\*Prayer of Confession**

**Illuminating God, we gather together today to call one another in from the shadows and bask in the light of your mercy. In this moment of quiet, we lift up to you those things we'd like to give up for good ... for the sake of The Good. Give us strength when we are weak, be our voice when we need to speak, be our eyes when you want us to see, let our light shine as you bring out the Christ in me! Amen!**

(Silent prayer of confession.)

## **\*Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.

People: **In the name of Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God, Amen!**

## **\*Response Hymn**

“Change My Heart, O God”

#695

## **The Word Uplifts**

## **Prayer for Illumination**

## **What's Up? with Children**

## **First Scripture Reading**

John 3:14-21

## **Music For Soaring**

“The Beatitudes”

Thomas Lloyd, 1980

Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness

For they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when all shall revile you and persecute you

And shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.

Blessed are the peacemakers

For they shall be called the children of God.

**Building Up****\*Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.**

**\*Hymn**

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

#377

**“Let My Prayers Rise Up”**

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the  
lifting up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time, G major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Text: Psalm 141; Marty Haugen  
 Music: *Holden Evening Prayer*, Marty Haugen  
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**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.**

**Uplifting Messages of Support**

## \*Response

“What R U Up 2 for My Sake?”



What are you up to for my sake? What are you up to “for the  
Good?” Would you come now, follow, join, up? Let us take up, wake up a -  
new; Let us build up, fill up with you! Let us lift up the gifts we  
raise up. For the sake of, for the shape of, heaven on earth.

Words: Dr. Marcia McFee  
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## \*Prayer of Dedication

### Living It Up

## \*Closing Hymn

“Come Live in the Light”

#749

## \*Blessing for the Journey

## \*Congregational Response

“On Eagle’s Wings” (refrain)

#43

## \*Music For Movin’ On Up

“Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens Adore Him”

arr. Anna Laura Page

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**Pastors:** Steven A. Watters

**Music Director:** Thomas Lloyd

**Liturgist:** Joyce Lloyd

**Organist:** Carol Welk

*ABOUT OUR LITURGIST: Joyce Lloyd and her husband, Tom, moved from Pittsburgh, PA, to London, OH, in 1974. They had just graduated from college and were newlyweds. Joyce and Tom were anxious to start their new life together and to start new jobs. London turned out to be a very welcoming town. They were able to find new friends and a new church family.*

*Joyce has a twin sister, an older sister, and an older brother, who live across the US, giving them a chance to visit some beautiful cities. Joyce is fortunate to have her brother-in-law, John, and sister-in-law, Margaret, living nearby.*

*Retirement is the best job Joyce has ever had, allowing her to enjoy more time with Tom, their dog, Sasha, and their cat, Meow Mix. Even in retirement there never seems to be enough time to be involved in as many volunteer projects as she would like. Joyce enjoys her time with friends, and being outside walking the dog or working in the yard. Goal in life: “Make me an instrument of your peace.”*