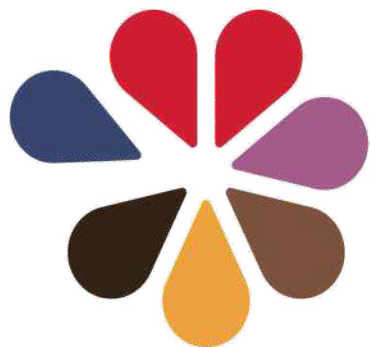




DOWNTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*We Live Into Jesus' Inclusive Call
to Love Every Person,
Care for Creation,
and Work for*



Third Sunday in Lent

*If you have a joy or concern you would like to have lifted in prayer today, please complete a **Prayer Request Card**, including the name of the person or event, and additional information you'd like to share. Prayer Requests will be collected during the **hymn following the sermon** to share with the pastor and/or Deacons.*

During this season of Lent, our gathering music will draw inspiration from the rhythm of our feet on this journey. You are invited to walk your own path through the sanctuary during this prelude time each week. Notice the rhythms of your feet and of your breath. How do we take steps together and individually that nourish our spirit and move us forward? You are encouraged to help everyone experience this time of meditation by greeting friends silently and saving conversation for after worship.

*"Divine Love overflows into everything,
From the very depths raised high above the constellations of stars,
And tender—most tender toward all creation,
So that it gives, to the highest king (Jesus), the kiss of peace."*

Many: We will listen for God's word and live in the hope it inspires!

One: Come! Let us worship God together!

Many: We come to worship God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength!

*Prayer of Invocation (Let Justice Roll Down, Linda Jones, 35, mod.)

Gracious God, in a world full of fear, open our hearts to your love.

Especially when we walk in desolate valleys, open our minds to your hope.

As we seek paths in the darkness, open our eyes to your light.

We turn away from hatred, towards love.

We turn away from intolerance towards understanding.

As the body of Christ, we commit ourselves to compassion.

Together - not alone - we pray to you in the name of Jesus
who taught us to prayer together...

† Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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 Spirit,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn

Here in This Place

GATHER US IN

(Verses 1, 2 and 4—Music may be found on page 8.)

Prayer for Transformation and New Life (Chalice Worship, 323, mod.)

One: Great and giving God, we have entered into the wilderness this Lenten
season with mixed feelings. We appreciate the disciplines of Lent and
the opportunities for growth. Yet we balk at the effort it takes to be faithful:

Many: We are often more comfortable in our customary places and spaces.

We are often content to rely upon sources of sustenance other than

Your Presence. We are more inclined to trust our own sense of direction
and are reluctant to follow the leadings of Your Spirit. Forgive us. Give us
the will to continue the journey with renewed aspiration.

(A moment of silence is observed for listening and personal prayer.)

One: May this season of lengthening days be a season of strengthening
spirits.

Many: With lives open to transformation, we pray our earnest prayer. Amen.

All singing together (*Let All Things Now Living, Verse 1a*):

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise.
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.

Speaking Response:

One: O come, let us sing to our God;

Many: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

One: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;

Many: let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

One: For the Holy One is a great God

Many: and a great Creator above all gods.

One: In God's hand are the depths of the earth;

Many: the heights of the mountains are his also.

One: The sea is the Creator, for God made it,

Many: and the dry land, which God's hands have formed.

One: O come, let us worship and bow down;

Many: let us kneel before the Source, our Maker!

One: For the Holy One is our God,

Many: and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

All singing together (*Let All Things Now Living, Verse 2a*):

By law God enforces the stars in their courses,
The sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains the rivers and fountains,
The depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.

Time with Young Disciples

Rev Kristina Hansen

Music for Reflection

As by the Streams of Babylon

Arr. R. Nathaniel Dett

*"As by the streams of Babylon far from our native soil we sat,
Sweet Sion, thee we thought upon, and ev'ry thought a tear begat.
Aloft the trees that spring up there, our silent harps we pensive hung:
Said they that captive us, 'Let's hear some song which you in Sion sung!'
Is then the song of our God fit to be profaned in a foreign land?
O Salem, thee when I forget, forget his skill may my right hand!"*

Text: Thomas Campian, *First Book of Ayres* (1613)

Hebrew Scripture Lesson

Exodus 17:1-7

Sermon

Recall and Reflect

Rev. Hansen

*Hymn

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT
(Music may be found on page 9.)

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for Healing and Justice

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

To Sit and Dream

Rosephanye Powell

*"To sit and dream. To sit and read. To sit and learn about the world.
Outside our world of here and now. Outside our world, our problem world.
To dream of vast horizons of the soul, Of dreams made whole, unfettered free.
Help me, help me! All you who are dreamers too.
Help me make our world anew. I reach out my hand to you."
Text from "To You" by Langston Hughes*

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Let songs rise up from earth below;
Let stars and galaxies enthrone;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One! Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
(Music may be found on page 10.)

FAITHFULNESS

Benediction

Postlude

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Arr. Joel Raney
for piano duet

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us extend the Peace of Christ to one another.

Thank you to...

Rev. Kristina Hansen

Liturgist: Gail Mott

Chancel Choir Members

Soprano: Cecelia Allchin*, Isa Apodaca, Nicole Knickerbocker*,

Lindsey Puc, Joan Sussman

Alto: Alyssa Koh, Leah Rosenman

Tenor: Olivia Anderson, Jason Cloen, Mark Darling

Bass: Rob Brown, John DeHority, Elijah Gebers,

Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd, Sumner Tessier*

*on temporary leave

Live Stream Team: Don Fairman, David McDowell, Jim Parks, Sally Allison

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Coming up at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 8

9:45AM Sunday Forum, Hybrid

10:00AM Choir Warm-up

10:45AM Nursery

11:00AM Worship

11:15AM Sunday School

12:00PM Refreshments, Sanctuary

Tuesday, March 10

10:30AM Psalms+ Bible Study

6:30PM Deacon's Meeting

Wednesday, March 11

3:00PM DEIB Mtg, Zoom

7:00PM Choir Practice

Thursday, March 19

11:00AM Worship Team Mtg, Hybrid

5:00PM Finance Team Mtg, Zoom

7:30PM Property Team Mtg, Zoom

Sunday, March 15

9:45AM Sunday Forum, Hybrid

10:00AM Choir Warm-up

10:45AM Nursery

11:00AM Worship

11:15AM Sunday School

12:00PM Refreshments, Sanctuary

Pie-Day

7:00PM Sophia Circle, Zoom

Welcome Visitors!

**We live into Jesus' inclusive call to love all people,
care for creation, and work for God's Justice.**

Nursery Care is available for young children beginning in the library and moving to C-23 on the second floor. Parents are welcome to come up with their children if they would like.

Sunday School - Children not in nursery care will be invited forward during the "Time with Our Youth" and then will follow their teacher to the Sunday School room.

You may place your offering in the offering plates as they are passed. If you would like to donate online, you can use the QR code to the right to make your contribution to the church.



This is a Hearing Loop equipped sanctuary – please switch your hearing aid to the "T" (telephone) position.

† **We seek** to use diverse images and liberating language about divine presence in our services of worship. Please feel free to adapt the words in hymns and prayers as needed so that they express your faith.

* **An asterisk indicates** "please rise in body or spirit."

We hope you will join us after worship for conversations and refreshments! Cookies and drinks are available in the front of the sanctuary.

Joys and Concerns – If you have a joy or concern that you would like to lift in prayer today, please complete a Prayer Request card (available by the worship bulletins) naming the person (s), situation or event, and any other information that you would like to be shared. The requests will be collected during the hymn following the sermon and provided to the Deacons.

If you would like to honor someone or a special event with flowers you can purchase a bouquet (\$35) for a future worship service by contacting Deacon Helen Ganotis at <helenganotis@gmail.com>.

Here in This Place

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Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your child-ren to--ge--ther
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



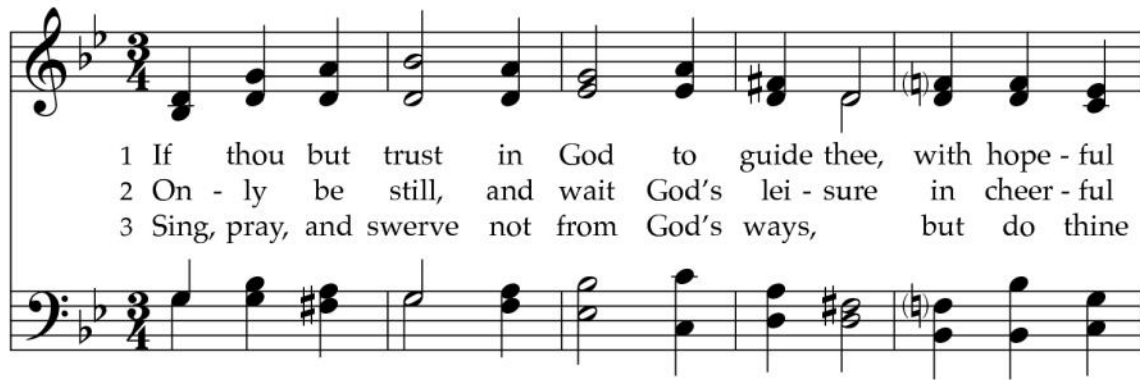
blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



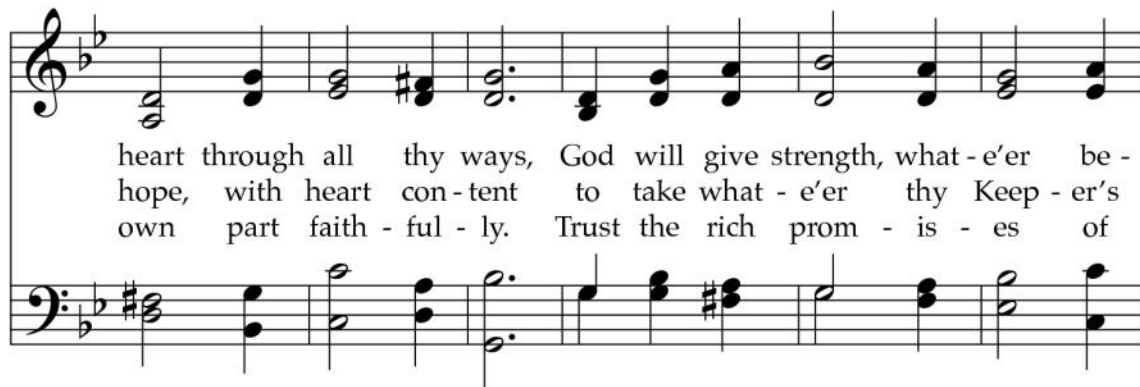
we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

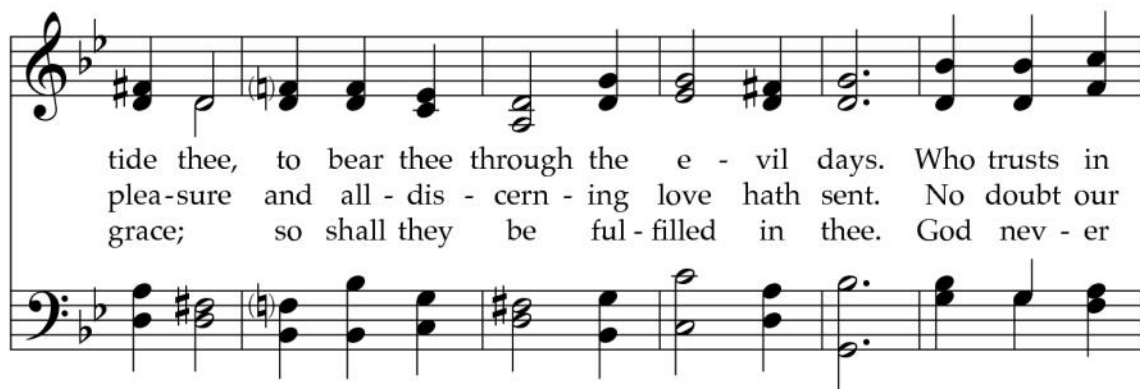
If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee 816



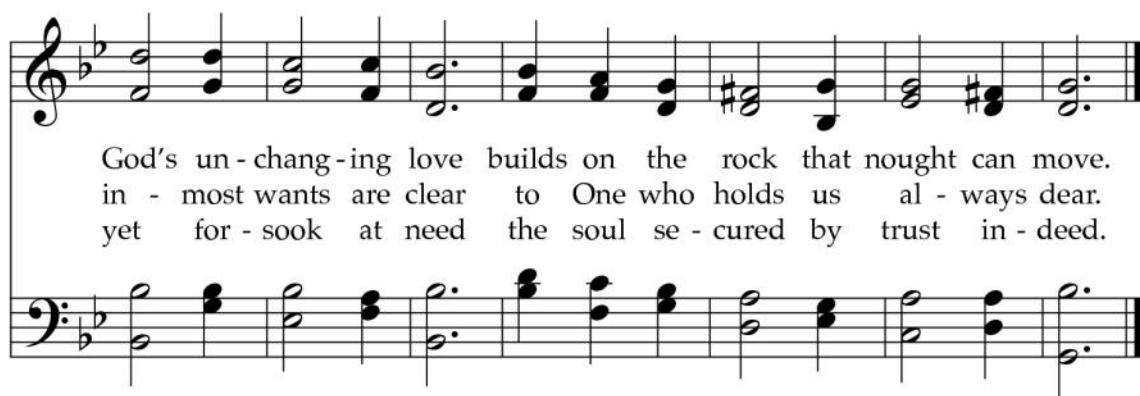
1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, with hope - ful
 2 On - ly be still, and wait God's lei - sure in cheer - ful
 3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways, but do thine



heart through all thy ways, God will give strength, what - e'er be -
 hope, with heart con - tent to take what - e'er thy Keep - er's
 own part faith - ful - ly. Trust the rich prom - is - es of



tide thee, to bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in
 plea - sure and all - dis - cern - ing love hath sent. No doubt our
 grace; so shall they be ful - filled in thee. God nev - er



God's un - chang - ing love builds on the rock that nought can move.
 in - most wants are clear to One who holds us al - ways dear.
 yet for - sook at need the soul se - cured by trust in - deed.

This hymn is a testimony of experience. The original seven-stanza German text (based on Psalm 55:22) and its tune were created by the author/composer at the age of twenty in thanksgiving for finding employment many weeks after being left almost penniless following a robbery.

39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
 날 마 다 자 비 를 배 푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주



The Downtown Church Staff

Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations
Rev. Kristina Hansen, Senior Pastor
Alan Jones, Associate Musician
David Mear, Business Manager
Baker Mohammed, Bookkeeper
Moses Nhial, Maintenance
Penelope Paredes, Nursery Coordinator

Robin Sheikh, Office Administrator &
Sunday School Teacher
Ebony Smalls, Evening Receptionist
Michael Stagles, Maintenance Lead
Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Ed Verna, Maintenance
Lee S. Wright, D.M.A.,
Director of Music Ministry

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Pat Tweet - Clerks of Session
Jacque Hancock and Carol Samuel - co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Kristina
Hansen, Moderator
Nancy Brown

Jason Cloen
John DeHORITY
Sally Allison

Jim Vesper
Pat Tweet
Mary Rees

Deacons

Andrea Folan
Helen Ganotis
Jacque Hancock
Elizabeth Katz

Stephen Lloyd
Grania Marcus
Sandy Morales
Gie Oey

Becky Parks
Carol Samuel
Kelley Sheils
Marilyn Terpening

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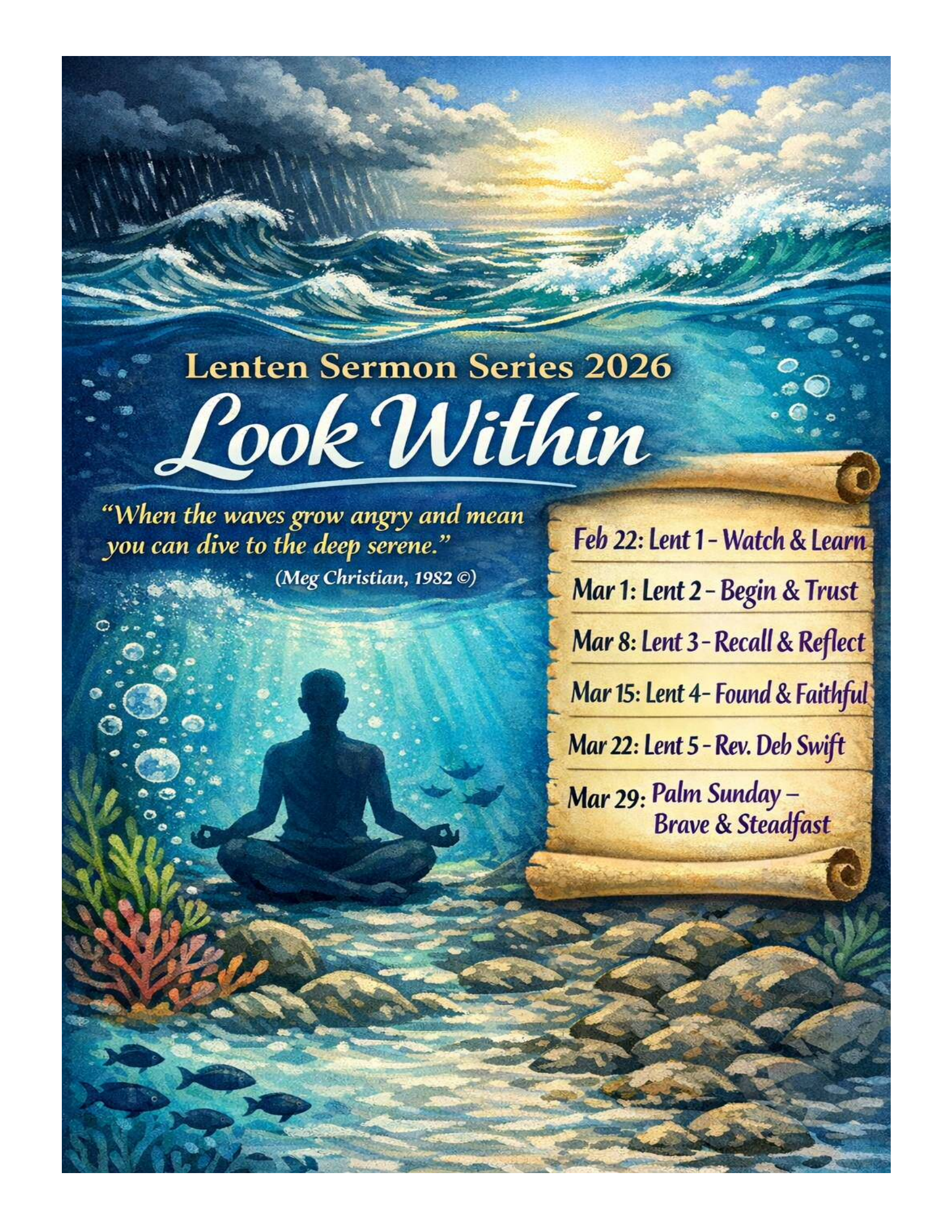


A Call to Lent 2026



Downtown United Presbyterian Church is challenging every member and friend to pick a Lenten Discipline this year. A Lenten Discipline is something that you choose in addition to your usual daily routine. Its intention? As the song says, "Just a closer walk with Thee."

You can find a Lenten Disciplines pamphlet with suggestions and a commitment card in the rear of the sanctuary, or ask any of the ushers. Imagine what blessing God might have for you on this journey!



Lenten Sermon Series 2026

Look Within

*"When the waves grow angry and mean
you can dive to the deep serene."*

(Meg Christian, 1982 ©)

Feb 22: Lent 1 - Watch & Learn

Mar 1: Lent 2 - Begin & Trust

Mar 8: Lent 3 - Recall & Reflect

Mar 15: Lent 4 - Found & Faithful

Mar 22: Lent 5 - Rev. Deb Swift

Mar 29: Palm Sunday -
Brave & Steadfast



Sunday Forums—March 2026

From Integrating Water Fountains to Marching on Washington, A Justice Journey

March 1

Presenter: Windsor Wade



Windsor's parents, Louis and Katie, fled the Jim Crow South in 1952. Ten years later, on a trip South to visit family, Windsor drank from a "Whites Only" fountain. Heeding the Dalai Lama's admonition, "It's not enough to be compassionate, you must act," Windsor became a teacher and has continually worked for progressive justice, including service with two Rochester organizations, Metro Justice and the Gandhi Institute. He also is a long-time member of Veterans for Peace, and a member of its national board.

Replacing Exploitation & Scarcity with Sustainability Caring for Creation

Community Gardens and Farms: Creating Sustainable Prosperity

March 8

Presenter: Erin Turpin

From building community gardens at St. John's and St. Mark's Episcopal Church to introducing RIT students to Foodlink's Community Farm, recent college graduate Erin Turpin has been putting into practice her major in Sustainability and Sociology. Erin believes in nature-based learning and helping organizations understand and advance environmental justice.

Climate Action Plan: Making Monroe County Sustainable

March 15

Presenter: Madison Quinn

Protecting the environment is key to maintaining quality of life and preserving natural resources for the future. Learn about projects currently underway and next steps in improving our county's sustainability, adapting to climate change, energy conservation, and social equity. These include eight LEED Certified facilities, a 400+ vehicle green fleet, the Waste to Watts Program, solar initiatives, and Ecopark. County residents help shape priorities and provide feedback.

Achieving Sustainability: Can We Reduce Food Waste?

March 22

Presenter: Callie Babbitt

Immense natural resources are used in agriculture and food processing in this country, but over one-third of that food ultimately goes uneaten and ends up in landfills. This waste leads to added climate impacts and higher costs to consumers and businesses. Callie will discuss the challenges of food waste and what we as individuals can do to minimize waste and better manage excess food to improve sustainability outcomes.



Sundays, 9:45AM—The Shaw Room



On **Easter Sunday, April 5**, the Worship bulletin will again include an insert which will list your loved ones, remembered or honored, when you make a donation in any amount to the **One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering**. Payment can be made with cash, check (payable to Downtown Church **with OGHS in the Memo line**) or via credit/debit card through the church website on Tithly. (Please check "Other Gift" and include a note in the memo field.). Please submit your gift and information **by Monday, March 30, 2026**. (You can also make a donation to OGHS on Easter Sunday using the special envelopes that will be in the bulletin that day.)

To remember a loved one or honor a special person with your gift, complete and return the form below.

Please print or type:

In memory or in honor of: _____

From: _____

**Please return the completed form with your donation
by Monday, March 30, 2026**

or send an email to the church office at
office@downtownpresbyterian.org.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.