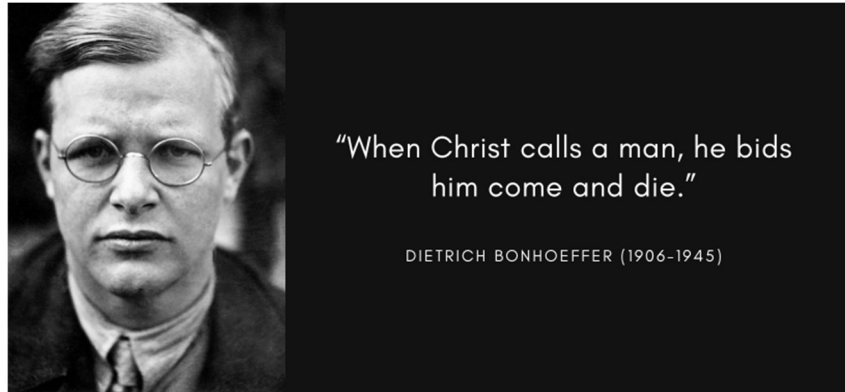


SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT  
February 25, 2024 | First Presbyterian Church, Petaluma CA



**PRELUDE**

Jenny Smith

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor John

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**  
Leader: Lift up your hearts.  
**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLES** (at FPC and in our homes)

Lonna Mulkey

We light these candles to remind ourselves of God's presence,  
not only in this place, but in all places. Amen.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Lent calls us to journey, this day and every day,  
following Jesus wherever he leads us.

**Lent calls us to practice justice,  
to bring God's hope to all people.**

Lent calls us to faithful living,  
to trust the One who gives us life.

**Lent calls us to take up our cross,  
to trust the One who bears it with us.**

Lent calls us to journey with God.

**Let us worship God, who walks with us,  
this and every day.**

### **PRAYER AND SILENT LISTENING TO GOD**

Let us pray. Strengthen us, dear Jesus, to walk with you the way of the cross, to expect to see you amid the suffering and pain of life in this world, to anticipate you wherever there is injustice or cruelty. Teach us not to be surprised that you are the suffering Savior.

Enlighten us, dear Jesus, to see you resurrected and standing with us, bringing life out of death, hope out of despair, and healing amid the pain. In our worship today, instill in us a renewed hope. Even though evil is real and death is a part of life in this world, remind us that evil does not have the last word and death is being robbed of its triumph. In these few moments of silence, prepare our hearts for worship.

### **\*SONG**            *What Wondrous Love Is This*

What wondrous love is this,  
O my soul, O my soul,  
what wondrous love is this,  
O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse  
for my soul!

When I was sinking down,  
sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down,  
sinking down,

When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown  
for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside his crown  
for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb,  
I will sing, I will sing,  
to God and to the Lamb,  
I will sing;

To God and to the Lamb  
who is the great I AM,  
while millions join the theme,  
I will sing, I will sing;  
while millions join the theme,  
I will sing!

And when from death I'm free,  
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free,  
I'll sing on;

And when from death I'm free,  
I'll sing and joyful be,  
and through eternity, I'll sing on,  
I'll sing on;  
and through eternity I'll sing on.

## CONFESSION AND PARDON

Lonna Mulkey

Trusting in God's promise of salvation,  
let us confess our sin and repent.

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not been sincere Christians. We claim to follow Jesus but have not taken his path of sacrificial love. We profess to be disciples, but we are not willing to bear the cost of discipleship. We affirm the virtue of self-denial, but we indulge our selfish desires and seek earthly gain. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for sincere repentance through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

*Silence, a time for personal confession.*

Amen. Hear the good news:  
God deems as righteous all who trust that Jesus  
has been raised from the dead for our salvation.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM**      *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

**DISCOVERY TIME**      Grete Hansen

**OFFERING**      Pastor John

**\*DOXOLOGY** (*or in your preferred version*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**PSALM**      Psalm 22:22-31      Lonna Mulkey

I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the  
congregation I will praise you:

You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob,  
glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he  
did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I  
will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall  
praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and  
all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,

and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

## **GOSPEL**

Mark 8:31-38

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **REFLECTING ON THE WORD**

Pastor John

## SONG

### *In Christ Alone*

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light my strength, my song  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My Comforter, my All in all,  
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,  
fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones he came to save.  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died,  
the wrath of God was satisfied.  
For every sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world, by darkness slain;  
Then, bursting forth in glorious day,  
up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine,  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

## OUR PRAYERS TO GOD

*Prayers of thanksgiving and petition may be offered, followed by:*

**Leader:** Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(or in your preferred version)*

**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.**

**CHARGE**

**CLOSING RESPONSE**

From where we are  
to where you need us,

**Jesus, now lead on.**

From the security of what we know  
to the adventure of what you will reveal,

**Jesus, now lead on.**

To refashion the fabric of this world  
until it resembles the shape of your reign,

**Jesus, now lead on.**

Because good things have been prepared  
for those who love God,

**Jesus, now lead on.**

Surround us with your presence,  
inspire us with your purpose,  
confirm us in your love.

**Amen.**

**BLESSING**

**CLOSING SONG**      *Go Now In Peace*

Go now in peace, never be afraid.  
God will go with you, each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,  
Know he will guide you in all you do.

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Worship Leaders: Pastor John Chase, Lonna Mulkey, Music Director Jane Shelly, Worship Ensemble, Student Ministries and Events Coordinator Grete Hansen

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Credits

Art: Janelle Hager, *Carrying the Cross*, photograph, 2010

Call to Worship adapted from Thom M. Shuman, <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/search?q=Mark+8%3A31-38>

Confession and Pardon from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year B, vol. 1*, p. 103.

Closing Response adapted from *A Wee Worship Book, Fourth Incarnation*, 2002, Wild Goose Worship Group, GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, 1999, p. 24, 79.

Music: *What Wonderous Love is This*; TEXT: American folk hymn, c. 1811

Music: *In Christ Alone*, ©2001 Keith Getty & Stuart Townend, Thankyou Music.

Music: *Go Now In Peace*, TEXT: Don Besig and Nancy Price, MUSIC: Don Besig, ©1988, Harold Flammer Music, a Division of Shawnee Press, Inc.