



Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church

April 6, 2025

Fifth Sunday in Lent

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SHARED JOYS AND CONCERNS

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST (all singing) *The Lord is My Light*



The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Inspired by Psalm 126)

One: When the Lord restores our fortunes,

All: **We are like those who dreamed.**

One: Our mouths were filled with laughter,

All: **our tongues with songs of joy.**

One: The Lord has done great things for us,

All: **And we are filled with joy. Let us worship God!**



PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOR THE LENTEN JOURNEY (inspired by Psalm 51)

Invitation to Prayer: We make our confession with confidence that God's abundant mercy and constant love is already ours. Together, let us confess both our mistakes and our hopes for this Lenten season.

Spoken Prayer: Have mercy on me, O Gracious One, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant kindness, forgive me where my thoughts and deeds have hurt others. Teach me that I may know my weaknesses, the shortcomings that bind me, the unloving ways that separate me, that keep me from recognizing your Life in me. Create in me a clean heart, O Gracious One, and put a new and right spirit within me. Restore in me the joy of your saving grace and encourage me with a new spirit.

SILENT PRAYER

Sung Prayer: Hymn #572

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

ORDINATION OF NEW RULING ELDERS

One: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

All: **God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.**

One: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

All: **Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.**

CONGREGATIONAL QUESTIONS

All: **We do!**

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (All)

O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ, Amen.



SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down; they cannot rise; they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

One: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us,

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Renewal

Rev. David Annett

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God,
who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs.**

**We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God,
and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.**

**We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God
who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.**

**We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures,
and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts.**

**We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination,
and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine.**

**We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road,
and that we are called to love one another as God loves us.**

This is our faith, and we are humbled to profess it in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***HYMN #275**

God of Our Life



GIVE THANKS TO GOD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: May the God of the Table be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

One: Seek God with all your hearts.

ALL: We bring them to the One who fills them with life.

One: Join all creation in praising our God.

ALL: We lift glad songs to the One whose love is constant.

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people, because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. May we live to your glory. Amen

SENDING

*HYMN #391

Take My Life

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE AND CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD (please be seated for a moment of quiet as we contemplate the God we met today and the light that dwells within us)

Prayer and Practice for the Week:

What kind of renewal are you looking for in your life today? How can God be a part of that renewal with you?

What new thing can you do around you and for others because of your renewal?

