



BRITE

DIVINITY SCHOOL

**Preparation for the Lenten Season
With Liturgy of the Table
Chapel Service**

Leadership Provided by:

Dr. Natalya Cherry (she/her) and Dr. Lance Pape (he/him)

Tuesday, March 1, 2022



Prelude Music
Worship Leader/Musician Scott Ayers (he/him)

Words of Welcome
Dr. Natalya Cherry (she/her),
Assistant Professor in Methodist Studies and Theology

Worship Song
I Want Jesus to Walk with Me, Traditional African American Spiritual

I want Jesus to walk with me,
I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey,
I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Christ, walk with me.
In my trials, Christ, walk with me.
When my heart is almost breaking,
I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm in trouble, Christ, walk with me.
When I'm in trouble, Christ, walk with me.
When my head is bowed in sorrow.
I want Jesus to walk with me.



Upcoming Events

Matt McGraw (he/him), M. Div. Student

Call & Response – Music and Scripture

Create in Me a Clean Heart by John Michael & Terry Talbot

2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10 NRSV read by Dr. Lance Pape (he/him)

Create in me a clean heart, oh God!
Let me be like you in all my ways.
Give me your strength, teach me your song,
Shelter me in the shadow of your wings.
For we are your righteousness
If we die to ourselves and live through your death.
Then we shall be born again to be blessed in your love!

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake God made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Create in me a clean heart, oh God!
Let me be like you in all my ways.
Give me your strength, teach me your song,
Shelter me in the shadow of your wings.
For we are your righteousness
If we die to ourselves and live through your death.
Then we shall be born again to be blessed in your love!

As we work together with Christ, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For God says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!



Create in me a clean heart, oh God!
Let me be like you in all my ways.
Give me your strength, teach me your song,
Shelter me in the shadow of your wings.
For we are your righteousness
If we die to ourselves and live through your death.
Then we shall be born again to be blessed in your love!

We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Create in me a clean heart, oh God!
Let me be like you in all my ways.
Give me your strength, teach me your song,
Shelter me in the shadow of your wings.
For we are your righteousness
If we die to ourselves and live through your death.
Then we shall be born again to be blessed in your love!

Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline
(adapted from *UM Book of Worship*, Nashville: UMPH, 1992)
Dorian Condre (they/them), M. Div. Student



Dear siblings in Christ:

the early Christians observed with great devotion
the days of our Christ's passion and resurrection,
and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration
there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation.

During this season converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism.

It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins
and had separated themselves from the community of faith
were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness,
and restored to participation in the life of the Church.

In this way the whole congregation was reminded
of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ
and the need we all have to renew our faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church,
to observe a holy Lent:

by self-examination and repentance;

by prayer, fasting, and self-denial;

and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word.

To make a right beginning of repentance,
and as a mark of our mortal nature,

let us now bow in our hearts before our Creator and Redeemer in silent prayers of confession.

Pastoral Pardon

Dr. Natalya Cherry (she/her)

May the almighty and merciful God, who desires not the death of a sinner
but that we turn from wickedness and live, accept our repentance, forgive our sins,
and restore us by the Holy Spirit to newness of life. **Amen.**



Song of Reflection:

At This Table by Idina Menzel & Jonas Myrin

At this table, everyone is welcome
At this table, everyone is seen
At this table, everybody matters
No one falls between

At this table, you can say whatever
At this table, you can speak your mind
At this table, everything's forgiven
There's enough for everyone

So come as you are
Remember that the door is always open
Yes, come as you are
The perfect gift that you could bring is your heart

So come, come as you are
At this table, there will be no judgment
At this table, mercy has a seat
At this table, we're all God's people
There's no place I'd rather be

So come as you are
Remember that the door is always open
Come as you are
The perfect gift that you could bring is your heart
Come, come as you are

At this table, everyone is welcome
At this table, everybody cares
At this table, everybody matters
So come, pull up a chair



The Great Thanksgiving for Early in Lent
(adapted from UM Book of Worship, Nashville: UMPH, 1992)
Dr. Natalya Cherry and Dr. Lance Pape

The Holy One be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Holy One.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O Holy One, creator of heaven and earth.
You brought all things into being and called them good.
From the dust of the earth you formed us into your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.
When rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights,
you bore up the ark on the waters, saved Noah and his family,
and made covenant with every living creature on earth.
When you led your people to Mount Sinai for forty days and forty nights,
you gave us your commandments and made us your covenant people.
When your people forsook your covenant,
your prophet Elijah fasted for forty days and forty nights;
and on your holy mountain, he heard your still small voice.
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Holy One. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
When you gave him to save us from our sin,
Your Spirit led him into the wilderness,
Where he fasted forty days and forty nights to prepare for his ministry.
When he suffered and died on a cross, you raised him to life,
Presented him alive to the apostles during forty days,
And exalted him at your right hand.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
You gave birth to your Church, delivered us from the oppression of sin and death,
And made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
Now, when we your people prepare for the yearly feast of Easter,
you lead us to repentance for sin and the cleansing of our hearts,
That during these forty days of Lent we may be gifted and graced
to reaffirm the covenant you made with us through Christ.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving,
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and cup.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Distribution of Elements

Closing Song

What Wondrous Love is This by Anonymous

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 Christ 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!

Benediction

Dr. Lance Pape (he/him)

Postlude

Scott Ayers (he/him)