



February 26, 2023 - 10:30 AM
First Sunday in Lent

Gathering

Words of Greeting and Life of the Church

L: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: And also with you!

L: This is the day that the Lord has made;

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Prelude

Lead Me to Calvary (Hymn #251)
Dr. Craig Ralston

arr. Dan Forrest

(Please stand as you are able)

Call to Worship

L: People of God, on this wilderness journey,
what will you eat?

Matt. 4:1-11

P: The word of the Lord is our daily bread.

L: People of God, in this time of temptation,
how will you live?

P: Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.

L: People of God, at this kingdom crossroad,
whom will you serve?

**P: We worship the Lord our God alone.
Let us worship God!**

(Please remain standing)

Opening Hymn #516

Like a River Glorious

WYE VALLEY

(Please be seated)

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Lord God,
you know the ways of good and evil.
You know the ways that tempt us
and the things that give us life.
You know our nakedness,
and you know our sin.**

Gen. 2:15-17; 3:1-7

**We confess that we have disobeyed your word,
denying your providence and care
and relying on our own cleverness.**

**Have mercy on us, we pray:
cover us with your grace,
feed us with the bread of life,
and re-create us in your image;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.**

(Silent Confession)

L: Amen.

(Please stand as you are able)

Gloria Patri, Hymn #670

GLORIA PATRI (GRETOREX)

Declaration of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

(Please be seated)

Anthem

I Love To Tell The Story

arr. John Leavitt

Call to Offering

Offertory

God Hears My Prayer
Dr. Craig Ralston

Faye López

(Please stand as you are able)

Doxology, Hymn #668

OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

The Word

Reading of Scripture

Romans 5:12-19

12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— 13 for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. 14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. 16 And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. 17 For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

18 Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. 19 For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

L: The Word of our Lord.

P: Thanks be to God!

(Please remain seated)

Response, Hymn #674

Christ, We Do All Adore Thee

ADORE THEE

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture

Matthew 4:1-11

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” 4 But he answered, “It is written,

‘Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple 6 and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’

and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.’”

7 Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” 10 Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

‘You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.’”

11 Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

P: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

“Out in the Boondocks!”
The Rev. Dr. Gene Grimm

(Please stand as you are able)

Hymn of the Day #473

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

CLOSER WALK

Affirmation of Faith

**WE BELIEVE in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
WE BELIEVE in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
WE BELIEVE in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
WE BELIEVE in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

Remembering Sam Stimple

Prayers of the People, concluded with The Lord's Prayer in unison:

**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.**

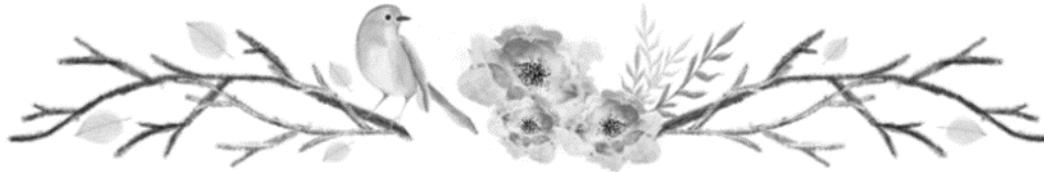
**Sending
Charge**

Benediction

Postlude

Holy, Holy, Holy (Hymn #68)
Dr. Craig Ralston

arr. Dan Forrest



Flowers today are in memory of Sam Stimple.

Assisting in Worship:

Liturgist: Eileen Klein

Ushers: Beth Wingate, Sharon Tootle, Sandy Stamper, Jean Risdon

Larry & Shirley Culver, Mike Vest & Lolly Platt

Greeter and Coffee Fellowship Coordinator: Karen Thorstad



Mountain Reformed Church

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Welcome to Mountain Reformed Church!

We are so grateful that you have chosen to worship with us today! The vision of our church is to provide an open door to relationship with God for all through worship, teaching God's Word, and by celebrating with music and the arts. Our mission is simple: All Glory to God! Our church is independent and non-denominational, with a theology based in the reformed way of being Christian. Please see our website at www.mountainreformed.org for more information about our church.

Let Go for Lent

Let go for Lent! The women's group of MRC once again is offering you the opportunity to relieve your crowded closets! On March 5th and 12th, we will hand out empty bags for you to fill with clean, gently used clothes and linens. Filled bags can be returned on March 19th and 26th. Collected items will be donated to the Stepping Stones, St. Vincent de Paul and DAV thrift stores, benefiting local people. As you plan your spring cleaning, please consider giving to this effort! For more information, contact Sheri Simpson. Thank you!

MRC Women's Meetup Saturday 3/11 at 1pm

The women's ministry will be meeting at the home of Barbara Poland this month! All women are invited and encouraged to attend. We will be working on our upcoming and ongoing mission projects along with enjoying snacks and fellowship. Please let us know if you are planning to attend! Lyndi Peacock coordinates this ministry: 928-899-2085 lyndi@milehighlending.com.

The Passing of Sam Stimple

Our dear friend, Sam Stimple passed away in hospice care at his son's home in Anthem on 2/15/2023 surrounded by his loving family. We will make sure to publish any details we hear regarding services for Sam. If you would like to send a sympathy card to Sam's family, that address is Kevin and Amy Stimple 2636 W Wayne Lane Anthem AZ 85086. Kevin is Sam's son, and Amy is Sam's daughter in law.

Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather on a Sunday morning, please check our website (www.mountainreformed.org) for service updates or cancellation notices.

Facility Fund

We are growing! MRC is now looking for a semi-permanent location and we are creating a facility fund to support this effort. If you would like to contribute, please write "facility fund" on your offering envelope.

Pastor on Call

The Rev. Dr. Gene Grimm is the Pastor on Call. If you would like to get in touch, feel free to email eugenegrimm@me.com or call 928-925-6057.

MRC Bulletin and Weekly Email

Would you like to place an announcement in the Sunday bulletin or “This Week at Mountain Reformed Church” email? Please send your info to Ryan Gastonguay at ryan@mountainreformed.org. The deadline is Monday evening of each week for the coming weekend, but we always appreciate as much notice as possible.

Prayer Ministry and Prayer Chain

Prayer cards are now available at the usher’s table. If you would like to be a part of our prayer ministry and prayer chain, please indicate this on your welcome card. Lyndi Peacock coordinates this ministry, and she will send prayer requests to you by email: lyndi@milehighlending.com. You can also call or text Lyndi at 928-899-2085.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls serve as a tangible reminder of God’s love for those who are walking through difficult times. A prayer shawl can bring great comfort! Shawls can also be given in celebration of milestones such as graduations, weddings, and new babies. Our shawls are lovingly created by Sharon Tom, Barbara Poland, Sheri Simpson, and Debra Ochoa. Please let us know if you have someone who needs a prayer shawl! Recipients do not have to be local. Anyone with a love for knitting or crochet is welcome to participate in this ministry as well. Please email Sharon: sharonctom@yahoo.com.

Card Ministry

Cards for encouragement, celebration, sympathy, get well, birthdays, and more can be mailed out via our Card Ministry. Sheri Simpson, Carolyn Peterson, Lyndi Peacock, and Beth Wingate are coordinating this ministry and can always use donations of cards and stamps. Please let us know if you have someone whose day would be brightened by receiving a card from Mountain Reformed Church! Please email Sheri: charlieandsheri@gmail.com.

Flowers

Sheri Simpson coordinates our Flower Ministry. If you would like to commemorate a special occasion by providing flowers, please ask an usher to guide you to the flower sign-up chart.

2/19/2023 Worship Attendance: 72
Bank Balances as of 2/22/2023: \$55,891