

**Peace United Church of Christ
March 15, 2026
Fourth Sunday in Lent
10:30am**



Jesus Washing Peter's Feet, Ford Madox Brown

1111 North 11th Avenue East, Duluth, MN 55805

www.peaceucc.org
office@peaceucc.org

Prelude

The Musical Priest, Irish Traditional

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bells

*Call to Worship

We gather as God's people:

With gifts many and varied, more than the sum of our parts.

Together we learn to see with new eyes, discovering hope in unexpected places,

Together we grow in resilience and practice joy.

With courage, let us tell a new story:

With love, let us worship God!

*Song

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant

#539, *New Century Hymnal*

***Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.***

***We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travelers on the road;
We are here to help each other go the mile and bear the load.***

***I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shadow of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.***

***I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.***

***When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.***

***Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.***

*Prayer of Confession

God of the wilderness, we stand on holy ground and behold your broken and beautiful creation. Speak to us, amidst undying flames. Open our ears to hear. Send us. Guide our feet. Lead humanity out of enslavement, away from empire's gold and greed, out of destruction. Lead us into liberation: to Beloved Communities of equity and justice, where abundance is experienced and joy is shared by all. Walk with us, God of Deliverance. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Beloved, even when we experience the brokenness of our world, God imbues us with sacred imagination to dream and live into a hopeful future.

Through Christ, we are renewed, forgiven, and set free for love. Thanks be to God!

*Passing of the Peace

Story for All Ages

Amanda McElray Hunter

Sending the Children

***Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
Gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!***

***Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

Hebrew Bible Reading

Exodus 3:1-14

Phyllis Cook, reader

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then God said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." God

said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" God said, "I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." God said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'"

Special Music

Gaelic Blessing, John Rutter

Gospel Reading

John 13:1-9, 33-35

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to God. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper Jesus, knowing that God had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!"

Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

Song

O God Beyond All Praising

see insert

Community Prayers and Pastoral Prayer

The Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sung Amen

Offertory

Danny Boy, Irish Traditional

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen!**

*Prayer of Dedication

*Song

Somewhere to Begin, T.R. Ritchie

***People say to me, "Oh, you gotta be crazy!
How can you SING in times like these?
Don't you read the news? Don't you know the score?
How can you SONG when so many others grieve?"
People say to me, "What kind of fool believes
That a SONG will make a difference in the end?"***

***By way of a reply, I say a fool such as I
Who sees a SONG as somewhere to begin
A SONG is somewhere to begin
The search for something worth believing in
If changes are to come there are things that must be done
And a SONG is somewhere to begin***

Verse 2) DREAM...

Verse 3) LOVE...

*Benediction

*Postlude

Swallowtail Jig, Irish Traditional

Assisting in Today's Service:

Laurie Berner and Darlene Leafgren, Ushers

Peggy Skylondz, Lori Williams & Glen Merrick, and Judy & Paul Hlina, Coffee Hour Volunteers

Anya Holmstrom and Kate Dean, Nursery Attendants

Tent Show Band: Carrie Kelsey and Sophia Farell, fiddles; Cyndi Brown, flute; Cathy Ameal, aut harp;
Ron Deters, Dan O'Neill, and Mike Swanoski, guitars; Matt Prois, bass; John Bankson, banjo; Diane
Swanoski, accordion; Emily Ramsey, mandolin; Corinne Freedman Ellis, oboe