

Second Sunday in Lent
February 28, 2021



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org
Worship on Facebook Premiere
Sundays at 10:30am

Gathering

Music to Prepare Us for Worship

Gathering Songs - Change My Heart O God & Better is One Day

Welcome

*Wherever you are on your journey of faith,
we believe God meets you right where you are, and you are welcome here.*

No Longer Strangers Prayer

Let us pray: **Gracious God, help us to see your image revealed in all of creation, especially in those whom we call stranger. Guide us as we seek to join you in journeying alongside all in need. Amen.**

Time with Kids

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

Dear Friends, Let us confess that God is God and we are not.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Fountain of living water,

pour out your mercy over us.

Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.

**Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.**

Wash us in your cleansing flood.

Make us alive in the Spirit

to follow in the way of Jesus,

as healers and restorers of the world you so love.

Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails.
The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.
Amen.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit is with you all. **And also with you.**

Only By Our Lonesome

Kyrie

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray: **Merciful God, You long for your people to bear the fruits of mercy and repentance. Tend and guide our growth as we seek to serve you and the people you love, Amen.**

The Story

Narrator: Our story and God's story continues with a reading from the gospel of Luke (Luke 13:1-9, 31-35)

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? 3No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. 4Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." 6Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. 7So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' 8He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. 9If it bears fruit next

year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'” 31At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” 32He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. 33Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ 34Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 35See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – My Son Is Love Unknown

As we sing together, we know that God hears all our prayers, those spoken aloud and those carried in the quiet of our hearts. For those gathering on the Facebook Premiere, you are invited to write your prayers in the comment section on the right side of your screen. Wherever we are this day, God is with us, and God hears our prayers.

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in a God who is everywhere and right here,
Bigger than the sky and in the smallest details,
All at once and in every moment.
We believe that God meets us where we are—
In heartbreak and high hopes,
Around crowded tables and in quiet homes,
In joy and in suffering, In loneliness and in connection,
In sanctuaries and in living rooms, In marches and in waiting rooms.
We believe that nothing we do or leave undone
Can distance us from God's love.
God is forever drawing us close and pulling us in.
Again and again, God meets us where we are
And invites us into wholeness.
Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Prayers for the World

Together we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*Each petition will close with the words: God of Mercy
And you are invited to respond: **Hear our prayer***

Offering

*This year we are supporting McLeod Alliance with our special lenten offering.
Since 1992, McLeod Alliance has provided free and confidential assistance to those affected by domestic violence in the McLeod County and surrounding areas.*

Please consider giving directly to McLeod Alliance, either through mail (McLeod Alliance for Victims of Domestic Violence P.O. Box 393 Hutchinson, MN 55350) or by giving electronically on their website (<https://www.mcleodalliance.org/donate/>).

If you let the church office know of your contribution, we will include that information in our record as we seek to meet our goal of \$1,000.00 raised. Thank you for your continued generosity and for your partnership together in God's work for the world.

Offering Music – Lord, Whose Love In Humble Service

The Feast

Setting the Table

*As we prepare our tables with gifts of bread, wine/juice, the children lead us as we pray together: **Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. And let these gifts to us be blest. Blest be God who is our bread, may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.***

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord is with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

On the night in which he was betrayed...

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to the Meal

This is not my table or River of Hope's table, but rather this is Christ's table and all are welcome. If you hunger and thirst for grace and mercy that comes through Jesus Christ, then Christ has set this table just for you. Bring all that you are and all that you have to the table. You will be fed. You are forgiven. There is enough.

"This is the body of Christ given for you and the blood of Christ shed for you."

Communion Song – Mess with Us

Blessing and Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. Compassionate God, **you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Sending

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose? **We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.**

MILESTONES - Lord, Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

It's time for sharing milestones - a time where we join together as a community to share the big, small, good, and hard milestones in our life. Splash in the water this morning and remember that God joins us in hearing these milestones today. If you gather with us on Facebook Premiere you are invited to share your milestones in the comment section.

Blessing

As you leave this space,
May our mouths speak of God's goodness.

May our arms hold those in need.
May our feet walk toward justice.
May our hearts trust their worth.
May our souls dance in God's grace.
And may this be our rhythm— Again and again and again,
Until God's promised day.

In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself,
Go with courage, go with heart, go in peace. **Amen**

Sending Song – Go Make A Difference

Go in peace – serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God**



Music to Send You Out

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