



LOOKIN' FOR...

LOVE
IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES

LENT 2023

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT,
MARCH 19, 2023

CHRIST UMC,
GREENEVILLE, TN

Music licenses: Christ United Methodist Church

CCLI Credits

Streaming/Music License: #2025914

Video License: #2007294

All CCLI numbers are for use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

One License Licensing Permission:

Reprinted/Podcast/streamed with permission under One License #A-401877

All Rights Reserved

Original liturgy and leader parts by Dr. Marcia McFee. Materials used with permission by Worship Design Studio. ©www.worshipdesignstudio.com/goodenough. Worship Design Studio is not affiliated with CCLI.

“*Show Us How to Love*” CCLI Song #7128526. Lindy Thompson | Mark Miller. ©2019 Chorister’s Guild. Used with Permission of composers and Worship Design Studio.

“*Kyrie Eleison*” (*New World*). CCLI Song #26911048. *Words: Ancient Greek | Music: Based on Mvt II from Symphony No. 9 by Antonin Dvorak; arr. by Ruth Elaine Schram; adapt. by Gary Alan Smith. ©1998 Alfred Publishing Co.*

“*Love Us into Fullness.*” CCLI Song #5196227. WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon, 2002. *Words and Music © 2005 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.*

“*Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us.*” CCLI Song #24078. Attr. To Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1836, Public Domain | William B. Bradbury, 1859. Public Domain

“*Spirit Song.*” CCLI Song #27824. John Wimber, 1979. ©1979 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing.

“*As the Deer.*” CCLI Song #1431. Martin Nystrom. ©1984 Universal Music – Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

"Look for the Shepherd" Lent Week Four

WE GATHER **Prelude** **Welcome**

Threshold Moment

Hearts open, minds awake,
change us now for heaven's sake.

Leave us not alone in hatred's wake.

Congregation: Show us how to love.

Show us how to love.

Show us how, show us how to love.

Eyes open, shocked awake,

Much to learn from our mistakes.

Draw us closer in our heartache,

Congregation: Show us how to love.

Show us how to love.

Show us how, show us how to love.

Confession and Assurance

Holy and Merciful One,

in this season of discernment, we come bringing our deepest longings,
and our failed attempts at satisfying them.

We have often looked for love, for acceptance and security,

in halls of the perceived power of public opinion

or unexamined presumptions about others not like us

rather than the real power of love and care for one another.

**People: We yearn for lives that matter,
we desire relationships that thrive,
we want less regret.**

At times we fail to see that you have already given us what really matters:
your love and acceptance.

You provide opportunities all around us
to make a difference in the lives of others.

You give us a fresh start each day,
inviting us to do better.

In this silence, we bring to you our pleas for openness
to a different way of living.

Silence

My friends, be assured by the Psalmist who says that

“the Lord is our shepherd... whose goodness and mercy follows us all the days of our lives.”

Let us respond together:

**All: We open our hearts, our minds, our souls, our vision
to the ways of love
created by God,
embodied in Jesus,
and already moving in us by the Spirit.
We are forgiven, loved, and freed!
Amen!**

Passing the Peace

Pastor: The love and peace of Christ be with you!

People: **And also with you!**

Opening Hymn/Song

*“Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us”
UMH 381*

Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

We are thine, thou dost befriend us,
be the guardian of our way;
keep thy flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray,
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Hear, O hear us when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Hear, O hear us when we pray.

WE PROCLAIM
Preparation for Hearing the Word of God
“Love Us into Fullness”: 1st verse only

Love Us Into Fullness

♩ = 80

1 Love us in - to full - - ness,
 2 Love us in - to full - - ness,
 3 Love us in - to full - - ness

touch us with your grace; Je - sus, in your
 hold us in your care, cheer us with your
 and we will be strong; Je - sus, walk be -

mer - cy, draw us to your face.
 pre - sence here and ev - ery - where.
 side us, fill our hearts with song.

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon, 2002

BURLINGAME
6.5.6.5

Words and Music © 2005 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

First Reading
Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
 He makes me lie down in green pastures;
 he leads me beside still waters;
 he restores my soul.
 He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
 I fear no evil;
 for you are with me;
 your rod and your staff — they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
 you anoint my head with oil;
 my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
 and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

“Love Us Into Fullness”: 2nd verse only”

Second Reading

John 9: 1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?"

He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"

Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely

we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

"Love Us Into Fullness": 3rd verse only

SERMON

The Rev Dr. Cynthia Thompson

WE REPOND

Prayers of the People

"Kyrie Eleison" (New World)

TFWS 2275

Kyrie, Kyrie eleison,
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.
Christe, Christe eleison
Christe, Christe eleison.
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

Prayers for the World

"God have mercy"

Prayers for Our Community

"God have mercy"

Prayers for Our Relationships

"God have mercy"

Prayers for Our Selves

Kyrie, Kyrie eleison,
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.
Christe, Christe eleison
Christe, Christe eleison.
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

The Prayer of Jesus

The Offering and Blessing of our Gifts

WE GO FORTH

Nurturing Love

(Announcements)

Closing Hymn/Song

"Spirit Song"

UMH 347

O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love.
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life and make you whole.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

O come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy.
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.
O give him all your tears and sadness; give him all your years of pain,
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Benediction

Leader: Go forth into the world, looking for love in all the right places!

People: **We will look for signs of The Shepherd,
tending to the world around us with love!**

POSTLUDE

Spiritual Disciplines

Nurture: Evelyn Murphy Sunday School Class, 9:30 a.m. Chapel

Wednesday Lenten Study: Wednesday evening, 6:00 p.m. Chapel.

Mission/Ministry: Food Bank: Peanut Butter, saltines, 2# sugar.

Administration: Leadership Team Meeting: April 2, 11:45 a.m. Church Chapel

Worship: Choir Practice: Thursday evening, 5:00 p.m.

Holy Week Services:

April 2	Palm Sunday Worship
April 6	Maundy Thursday Dinner/Service
April 9	Easter Sunday



“Love Looks for Us: A Feast of Love” Maundy Thursday, April 6

Gathering Time: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner/Remembrance Service will begin at 5:45 p.m.

Reservations will be needed to prepare properly for the service of food, fellowship and remembrance.
Donations will be accepted.

Please see Betsy Keller to make your reservations.

This celebration of remembrance will gather participants around the table as we re-tell through word and actions the story of Jesus’ last meal with his disciples. Come prepared to enjoy good food as we hear the story, come prepared to experience the story as we participate in the actions of the story and come prepared to encounter Christ through the love of those we gather with at the table. Reservations will be open next Sunday along with the menu for the evening.

Stewardship of our Finances: Donations are also received on the website (cumcgreenville.com) or mail to 307 S. Main Street, Greenville, 37743. For more information, please see our website. (cumcgreenville.com) or use the QR code to take you directly to the website on your smart device.



Worship Service streaming on YouTube ([CUMC, Greenville](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUMC_Greenville)) each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

On-going and special events:

Monday evenings: *Evergreen Woodcarvers meeting