



March 1, 2026—8:30 and 9:45 am  
Sanctuary

*The greater the difficulties, the easier it is for faith. As long as human possibilities for success remain, faith does not accomplish things as easily as when all natural prospects fail. -George Müller*

Prelude

Community Life Update

PRAISING THE CREATOR

Call to Worship

Psalm 40:1-3

Leader: I waited patiently for the Lord;  
**All: he inclined to me and heard my cry.**

Leader: He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog,  
**All: and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.**

Leader: He put a new song in my mouth,  
**All: a song of praise to our God.**

Leader: Many will see and fear,  
**All: and put their trust in the Lord.**

Prayer of Adoration

Choral Introit

Cherub Choir

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship you—oh my soul rejoice!  
Take joy, my King, in what you hear; may it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.  
*"I Love Your Lord" Words and music: Laurie Klein; © 1978, 1980 House Of Mercy Music; CCLI Song # 25266, CCLI License # 789870*

Hymn of Praise

**Cherubs:** *Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod, Our King victorious, Christ the Son of God.

**\*All:** O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw men unto thee.

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, till all the world adore his sacred name.*

For thy blest cross which doth for us atone, creation's praises rise before the throne.

*"Lift High the Cross" Words: George Kitchen, Public Domain, 1887. Music: Sydney Nicholso, Public Domain, 1916*

\* Please stand if you are able.

\*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

New Testament Reading

2 Corinthians 4:5-10, 16-18

Hymn of Trust

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His word;  
Just to rest upon His promise, just to know "Thus saith the Lord!"

O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust His cleansing blood;  
Just in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing, cleansing flood!

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!*

I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee, precious Jesus, Savior, friend;  
And I know that Thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end.

*"'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" Words and Music: Louisa Stead and William Kirkpatrick, Public Domain, 1882*

#### LAMENTING THE FALL

Confession of Sin

**All: Heavenly Father, we humbly confess that we are an anxious, fearful people.  
We do not trust you as we should, and often try to control our circumstances  
to prevent hardship and pain.**

**We are slow to seek you in prayer and quick to forget your faithfulness.**

**Forgive us for the folly of self-preservation and self-trust.**

**Forgive us for doubting your goodness.**

**By your mercy, renew our minds and hearts that we might walk by faith and not by sight.**

**Through Christ Jesus we pray, Amen.**

Moment of Silent Confession

#### CHERISHING REDEMPTION

Words of Grace and Peace

Philippians 1:6, 9-11

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

\*Song of Worship

*K4-K5 may leave for Kids Ministry.*

*8:30 am—One parent will need to escort the child to volunteers in the Commons Area for Kids Church.*

*9:45 am—One parent will need to escort the child downstairs to join Kids Sunday School.*

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer. There is no more for heaven now to give.  
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom, my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.  
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus, for my life is wholly bound to his.  
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus for he has said that he will bring me home.  
And day by day I know he will renew me until I stand with joy before the throne.  
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus, all the glory evermore to him.  
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat, Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus, all the glory evermore to him.  
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat, yet not I, but through Christ in me!

*"Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me" Words and Music: Robinson, Darren, Thompson © 2018 Song No. 7121852, CCLI No. 789870*

LONGING FOR RESTORATION

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

Number 13:1-33

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.                      **All: Thanks be to God**

Sermon

*Trusting God With Overwhelming Odds*

Adam Betterton

Communion Prayer

Heidelberg Catechism, 75

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*An usher will invite you forward. The elements offered by the elders can be taken at your pew at any time.  
If you are unable to come forward, raise your hand to be served at your pew.*

\*Communion Hymns

Beneath the cross of Jesus I find a place to stand,  
And wonder at such mercy that calls me as I am;  
For hands that should discard me hold wounds which tell me, "Come."  
Beneath the cross of Jesus my unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus his family is my own;  
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams, now one through grace alone.  
How could I now dishonor the ones that you have loved?  
Beneath the cross of Jesus see the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus—the path before the crown—  
We follow in his footsteps where promised hope is found.  
How great the joy before us to be his perfect bride;  
Beneath the cross of Jesus we will gladly live our lives.

*"Beneath the Cross of Jesus" Words and music: Keith and Kristyn Getty; © 2005 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); CCLI Song No. 4610917; CCLI License No. 789870*

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face,  
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

Turn your eyes to the hillside where justice and mercy embrace;  
there the Son of God gave His life for us, and our measureless debt was erased.

*Jesus, to You we lift our eyes—Jesus, our glory and our prize.*

*We adore You, behold You, our Savior ever true; O Jesus, we turn our eyes to You.*

Turn your eyes to the morning and see Christ the lion awake!  
What a glorious dawn fear of death is gone, for we carry His life in our veins.

### Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

#### \*Hymn of Response

Turn your eyes to the heavens: our King will return for His own;  
every knee will bow, every tongue will shout, "All glory to Jesus alone!"

*"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" Chorus: Helen H. Lemmel (1922); Additional words and music: George Romanacce, Kevin Winebarger, Nathan Stiff, Nic Trout; © 2019 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI Song 7120053, CCLI No. 789870*

#### \*Benediction

#### \*Postlude

*Giving is an act of worship. As we give, we ascribe worth to our God (Ps. 96:8), and it puts money in its proper place in our hearts (Matthew 6:21). Your giving to MRPC supports Gospel ministry on this campus, in our community, and among our global partners. Give online, via our app, or in the giving boxes, "As you feel led, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 9:7)*

#### **Assisting in Worship Today:**

Preacher: Adam Betterton, Church Planting Pastor

Liturgist: Curtis DuBose, Equip the Church Pastor (8:30); Mark Reed, Executive Pastor (9:45)

### **Today! March Elective - Hope Explored (Learning Commons at 9:45 am)**

Come and discover how the gospel infuses life with the hope, peace, and purpose we all long for. You'll see how Jesus was Himself the fulfilment of a promise of hope made to God's Old Testament people and how His life, death, and resurrection are the guarantee of an even greater fulfilment to come. This class will explore select passages from Luke and will be taught by Alan Avera on March 1, 8, 15, and 22.

### **Mark Your Calendar for these Upcoming Events!**

March 29 - April 5—Holy Week

April 10 - 12—New Members Weekend (sign up on Church Center)

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