

March 22, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Lent

PRELUDE (A Time for Quiet Meditation)

It Is Well With My Soul

Robert W. Thygerson

WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #828

More Love to Thee, O Christ
(verse 1)

More Love to Thee

***More love to thee, O Christ, more love to thee! Hear thou the prayer I
make on bended knee. This is my earnest plea: more love, O Christ, to
thee; more love to thee, more love to thee!***

***RESPONSIVE OPENING SENTENCES (from Psalm 130)**

One: Out of the depths we call to you, O Lord.

All: Let your ears hear our supplication.

One: We wait for you, O God. In your word is our hope.

All: We wait for you, O Lord, for with you there is mercy.

One: Come. Let us worship God.

***GATHERING SONG #336**

We Gather Together
(verse 1)

Kremser

***We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; he chastens and hastens
his will to make known; the wicked oppressing now cease from
distressing. Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.***

(verse 2)

***Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining
his kingdom divine; so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!***

(verse 3)

***We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant, and pray that thou still
our defender wilt be. Let thy congregation escape tribulation; thy name
be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!***

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Psalm 130 reminds us that our God is loving and merciful. Let us come before God, together and then silently, to confess our sin:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we are distracted and busy people. We become pre-occupied with the demands of work, our relationships, and our communities. We tend to focus on our own needs and fail to see the needs of those around us. We do the things we should not and fail to do what we should. We ask for your forgiveness and for your guidance in faithfully following the path you have set before us. Hear us now as we humbly come before you silently and privately to confess our sin.

*Please stand as you are able.

One: For the enemy has pursued me, crushing my life to the ground, making me sit in darkness like those long dead.

All: Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.

One: I remember the days of old, I think about all your deeds, I meditate on the works of your hands.

All: I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.

One: Answer me quickly, O Lord; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me, or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.

All: Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning, for in you I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Carry Him Sweetly

Schram & Cabaniss

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:13-22

¹³ When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha.

¹⁴ Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, 'Here is your King!' ¹⁵ They cried out, 'Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Shall I crucify your King?' The chief priests answered, 'We have no king but the emperor.' ¹⁶ Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus; ¹⁷ and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹ Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.' ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹ Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, 'Do not write, "The King of the Jews", but, "This man said, I am King of the Jews."' ²² Pilate answered, 'What I have written I have written.'

THE MESSAGE

"Jesus Is Condemned"

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

UNISON PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, in this season of contemplation, help us to understand that you revealed yourself in Jesus, who walked among us and was handed over to be crucified. May we be strengthened by his presence among us today. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY

*Soldiers of the Cross
(From Come Touch the Robe)*

Choplin

Soldiers, see the setting sun. Now your work is almost done, soldiers of the cross. Cast your lots to win His robe, soon a shroud will be His clothes. Soldiers of the cross. Soldiers, listen, lift your eyes, now He prays for you. Hear Him whisper as He dies, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." Hear Him take His final breath. Now His body is at rest, soldiers of the cross. Standing silent with your thoughts, could this be the Son of God, soldiers of the cross?

***DOXOLOGY #658**

*God Is So Good
(verse 1)*

God Is So Good

God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to us.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION**SENDING SONG #306**

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds
(verse 1)*

Dennis

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love. The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

(verse 2)

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

(verse 3)

We share our mutual woes; our mutual burdens bear. And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

(verse 4)

When we are called to part, it gives us inward pain; but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Come As You Are

Rand & Rand

FINAL BLESSING*POSTLUDE**

Crowned With Honor

Tom Birchwood

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



Ground beef, hard / soft tacos, taco seasoning, sour cream, shredded cheddar, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, refried beans, corn bread, anything for tacos, or anything you would like to donate. There will be a Taco Tuesday distribution on March 24th.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations. You can, also, leave them in the blue donation bin in the Narthex.

Knitting For Others

Inviting all folks from 12-100 years of age, who like to knit or who would like to learn, to be a part of Valley's Knitting Group.



The group will meet Sunday, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.:
March 22, April 12 & 26

This group has been busy knitting prayer blankets and shawls for members of our congregation. It takes a lot of yarn to knit or crochet these items. Many of us have made items in the past but have not used quite all the yarn. Knitting for Others can use the leftover yarn to make items to share with others. We are currently making items for babies and young children. If you have any size-3 or 4 yarn that you will not be using and could share with Knitting for Others, we certainly would appreciate your donation. Yarn can be left in the box marked “yarn” in the Library. Thank you so much for your help.

For questions, please call one of our Co-Chairs, Beverly or Bev:

Beverly Wahl
502-553-7255

Bev Keough
330-888-5385

“Stations of the Cross, Stations of the Street” at North Church **Thursday, March 26, at 6 p.m.**

Valley has been a long-term partner congregation with North Presbyterian Church, which serves a predominantly homeless or housing insecure population in downtown Cleveland. During Lent, North Church's urban setting allows for a unique "Stations of the Cross, Stations of the Street" service that brings together people from all walks of life to reflect on Jesus' sacrifice for us.

If you are interested in attending / carpooling to North Church for this event, please contact Pastor John or the church office.

Holy Week (and beyond) Worship Schedule

Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday – palm fronds and crosses available

Thursday, April 2

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Worship Service – 7:00 p.m. in Sanctuary

Friday, April 3

Good Friday Stations of the Cross - at noon - starting and ending at Chagrin Falls Triangle Park

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday Celebration of the Resurrection

Sunday, April 12

Holy Humor / Bright Sunday Worship

Celebrating the Life of Shirley Copeland

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held for Shirley Copeland at Valley Presbyterian on Saturday, March 28, at 3:30 p.m. All are invited to a reception in Fellowship Hall that will follow the service.

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, April 17 (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, April 18 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at 440-829-7841 or passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com.

Donations – Credit Card or Zelle

Credit card donations are available on-line at the Valley Presbyterian website below:

<http://valleypresbychurch.org>

Look for “Give Now” button. Can only be used for donations.

Can not pay for holiday flowers, VBS, books, etc. at this link.

Use the following QR Code to donate via **Zelle**:



VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

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Greeter: Ruth Gurd