

LENT 2021 - COVENANTS

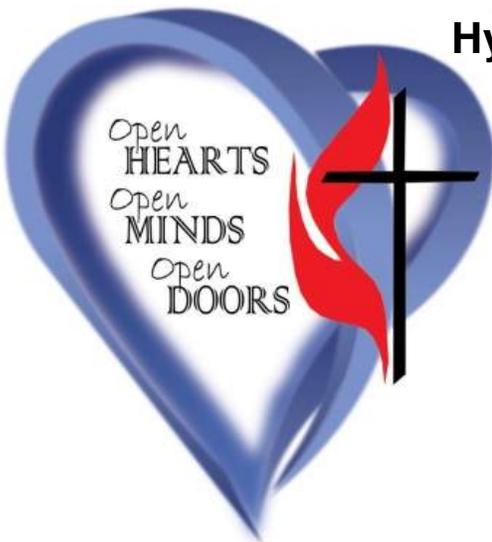
3rd Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

The Covenant Mediated through Moses



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Hyattstown-Clarksburg United Methodist Parish

Pastor: Dave Hodsdon, revdwhodson@verizon.net

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPzJQEvd60apduOgx0Jm3Q>

Clarksburg United Methodist Church

<https://www.facebook.com/clarksburgmdumc/>

<https://clarksburgmdumc.org/>

23425 Spire St., Clarksburg, Maryland

CUMC Accompanist: Rick Beede

CUMC Choir Director: Cathy Warfield

Hyattstown United Methodist Church

<https://www.facebook.com/Hyattstown-United-Methodist-Church-146846181999711/>

26121 Frederick Rd, Clarksburg, Maryland

HUMC Accompanist: Tim Bossler

On YouTube this Week

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLY5iZ1NS28HTiZRftyrzqqmMD8rlcivF1>

Sunday Worship 1 - Prayers and Praise - 9:00am

Sunday Worship 2 - Hearing "the Word" - 9:30am

Lenten Reflection #4 - Wednesday Morning, 7am.

Previous Lenten Reflections, from Ash Wednesday on, are still there.



Closed Captioning

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PART 1 - PRAISE AND PRAYERS

PRELUDE *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* 89

OPENING WORDS / WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP *Ps. 19:1-4* *FotW*

*Heaven is declaring God's glory;
the sky is proclaiming God's handiwork.*

**One day gushes the news to the next, and
one night informs another what needs to be known.**

*There is no speech; there are no words;
their voices cannot be heard by us.*

**Yet their sound extends throughout the world;
their words reach the ends of the earth!**

HYMN OF PRAISE *I Sing the Almighty Power of God* 152

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *Ps. 19:1-4; 1 Cor. 1:21* *FotW (alt)*

**God of Glory, we cannot hear the heavens
proclaiming your handiwork,
though the speech of the skies must be magnificent.**

**We cannot hear what day and night are singing about you,
though their song must be both bright and deep.**

**Yet, somehow you are made known to us
through our own foolish proclamation.**

**It is only by the power of the Holy Spirit
that your Word can be heard in our words.**

**Open our ears to what you are saying to us today, we pray;
and perhaps we may also hear echoes of your glory
in the broad firmament above.**

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

FIRST LESSON **EXODUS 20:2-17** *FotW*

CALL TO CONFESSION

(from Psalm 19)

Roger Gench & FotW

The law of the Lord is perfect,

Reviving the soul;

The decrees of the Lord are sure,

Making wise the simple;

The precepts of the Lord are right,

Rejoicing the heart;

The commandment of the Lord is clear,

Enlightening the eyes.

*We have been called to love our God
with all of our heart, mind, strength and soul,
and to love our neighbor as ourselves,
but our lives are constricted and self-consumed.*

We have failed to love God, neighbor and ourselves as we should.

*In the cross of Christ, we find forgiveness and grace.
We confess our sins, trusting in God's wisdom and strength
rather than our own.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Roger Gench & FotW

Merciful God, you have commanded us

to love you above all and to have no other gods.

You have called us to love others as you love them.

But we are personally and socially deformed

by the love of other "gods"

**— the false gods of prosperity and materialism,
of racial and ethnic privileging,
of gender exclusivity
and of nationalistic imperialism.**

Forgive us our sins and transform us by your Spirit

Clear us, we pray, of any unknown sin,

and save us from willfully ignoring your way,

that we might learn to love as you love

and to live as people

who have been baptized as your own children.

[Silent Prayers]

Rick-Hymnal 064-20Jul19.mp4

EPISTLE LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18–25

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Roger Gench & FotW

Brothers and sisters,

in Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and coming again,

we are forgiven and set free to live in faithfulness

with God and with one another!

Let us remember our baptisms

and trust in God's mercy

to restore our right standing as God's own.

Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE HYMN

Wonderful Words of Life

600

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Roger Gench

This Is My Father's World

144

O God, your commandments give us
a sense of direction for renewing our discipleship.

...
Empower us to live by your way in the world.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

... Empower us to live out of your love in all that we do,
healing divisions, addressing enmity
and reaching out to those we perceive as enemies.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

... move us all to attend to the cries of the marginal in our midst.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray all these things in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us
to pray saying, Our Father...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come;

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen

ANTHEM SUGGESTION

You'll Never Walk Alone

Note from Cathy

"Last August I sent you a YouTube of "You'll Never Walk Alone," and I am attaching another version sung by Susan Boyle. Through this pandemic it is comforting to hear the words and music in this beautiful song, once again. We have all walked together through this pandemic, and we know our dear Lord is always with us, and if we "walk on with hope in our heart," we will "never walk alone."

INTERLUDE

This Is My Father's World

144

MEDITATION ON PSALM 19,

VIDEO FROM FESTIVALOFHOMILETICS.COM

ORDER OF WORSHIP
3RD SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 7, 2021
PART 2 - HEARING THE WORD

INTERLUDE

Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know

163

OPENING WORDS / WELCOME

1 Cor. 1:18, 23–25

FotW

*The message of the cross sounds foolish to the world;
But to us it is the power of God!*

We proclaim the scandal of Christ crucified.

**The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,
and the weakness of God is stronger than our strength.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Roger Gench (alt)

**O God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
so that the Scripture we are about to hear
will become the Word of God for us
in this day and time of our lives
through Christ, the Living Word, we pray. Amen.**

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 2:13–22

SERMON

Ps. 19:14

Holy Spirit of God,

*let the words of my mouth and the meditations of our hearts
be acceptable in your sight,*

O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

PRAYER

Ps 19; Ex 20

FotW

**Merciful God,
Help us to speak words of blessing and kindness,
rather than words that belittle or destroy.**

**Turn us away from violence, falsehood,
and selfishness.**

**Help us to depend on you alone
and to rest in your peace.**

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(from a Brief Statement of Faith)*

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.**

**But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and
threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.**

**We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah
chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.**

**Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

John 2:16

Roger Gench & FotW

*... God has given us life and resources for it,
Let us bring our tithes and offerings to God.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Exod. 20

Roger Gench, GBoD, & FotW

**God of holiness and grace,
we know the words of your commandments.
In our hearts, we know that following them makes life easier, not harder;
fuller, not more restricted.
We want to follow all your commandments—
to love only you, not worshiping the things of this world;
to love our neighbor freely, not desiring for ourselves
something they possess.
Teach us to be generous, giving fully of ourselves
that we may truly be the body of Christ in this world.
Accept all our offerings, we pray, and may they each be used
as a witness to your love, peace and justice at work in the world,
renewing the face of the earth. Amen.**

RESPONSE HYMN*Using 384; BEECHER***God, You Give Us Recreation***Rick-Hymnal 384-rick2-20Jun14.mp4***SoG #67**

Originally Written for use with...

IN BABILONE 8.7.8.7 D

(an alternate tune for "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy")

We are using a different tune, with the same "meter".

**God, you give us recreation, rest and play when work is through,
Game and sport and celebration, times that challenge and renew.
In the days we spend together, in the feasts that we prepare,
In the times of joy and laughter, may we know your loving care.**

**Yet, O Lord, we see you crying for the ones who know no rest,
For your children, hungry, dying, for the homeless and oppressed.
May we, as your sons and daughters, share with open heart and hand,
Till your justice flows like waters to the poor throughout the land.**

**Bless, O Christ, our gifts of caring, for we know without a doubt:
Soup and bread are made for sharing, hands are made for reaching out.
Even in our times of playing, may we keep the vision clear:
Keep us serving, loving, praying, welcoming your kingdom here.**

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by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Upper Room Books, 2009).
Email: carolynshymns@gmail.com
New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com/*

*Permission is given for free use of this hymn to churches that support Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday.
Permission is also granted for free use of the hymn to those who own a copy of Songs of Grace;
permission is printed in the hymnal. See back of title page.
Permission has also been extended by the author
for free use of all of her hymns during these pandemic circumstance.
See Website noted above.*

*Hymn Tune: Title: BEECHER
Composer: John Zundel (1870)
Meter: 8.7.8.7 D - Key: B \flat Major
Copyright: Public Domain*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF THE DAY

BDP

**Almighty and eternal God,
so draw our hearts to you,
so guide our minds,
so fill our imaginations,
so control our wills,
that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated unto you;
and then use us, we pray you, as you will,
and always to your glory and the welfare of your people;
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

(based on 1 Corinthians 1:18-25)

Roger Gench

*We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to some,
but to those who are the called,
Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.*

**For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom,
and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.**

*So as you go, lift up the broken hearted and stand with the crucified.
Love God with your whole lives and love neighbor as yourself.*

BLESSING

FotW

*May God shine upon you,
Christ fill you with true wisdom and strength,
and the Holy Spirit guide you into all faithfulness, now and forever.*

POSTLUDE

God of Grace and God of Glory

577

Credits

FotW

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Roger Gench

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BCP

Book of Common Prayer, Public Domain,

GBoD

*Courtesy the General Board of Discipleship
(aka Discipleship Ministries) of the United Methodist Church
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning>*

Hymn by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

- See Above

Video Meditation on Psalm 19

<https://www.festivalofhomiletics.com/free-lent-worship-resources-for-march/>

Reflecting on and Praying with the Lectionary

Third Sunday in Lent

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LECTIONARY LESSONS

Exodus 20:1–17

1 Corinthians 1:18–25

Psalms 19

John 2:13–22

QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

The third Sunday of Lent focuses on the gift of God's law (Exod. 20:1–17). John Calvin (1509–1564) described three uses for the Ten Commandments: First, they show us how to live before God and neighbor, and expose our sins in failing to live as God intends. Second, they instruct our civic or common life, showing us how to live responsibly in the freedom God gives. Third, rather than show us what we must do in order to receive God's grace and love, the commandments show us how we should live because we are a people who have already received God's grace and love in Jesus Christ. Does God's law restrict or enhance our freedom as human beings?

MORNING PRAYER:

God of heaven and earth, I listen this morning for the sound of your glory:
in the songs of birds, in quiet conversations that begin the day,
in easy laughter among friends,
in sunlight's warmth, pattering rain, or silent snowfall.

Give me ears to hear your glory in its many forms.

Give me eyes to see your glory in its many guises.

Throughout this day, I, too, will proclaim your glory, your grace, and your love
so that I may be a part of the chorus of praise that stretches to the ends of the
earth.

In Christ's name I pray. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER:

God of freedom, I thank you for claiming me as your own
and for setting me in the midst of the community of faith.

Today the news was filled with stories of people
who do not live according to your commandments, with grievous results.

Lives are shattered as your ancient tablets of stone are broken again and again.

And I struggle, too, in my own ways,

to live before you and my neighbors in faithfulness, generosity, and love.

As the day comes to an end,

I pray for forgiveness for myself and for this weary world,
confident of your grace and mercy.

Send your gift of Sabbath rest, and let me sleep in peace as,
over and around me, night declares to night your power and glory.

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

Ireland; United Kingdom: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales

07 - 13 March 2021

More may be found here:

<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/ireland-united-kingdom-england-northern-ireland-scotland-wales>

Give thanks for:

- ✓ *the many distinct cultures in these islands and how literature, music, dance, and other traditions rooted here, have enriched people around the world*
- ✓ *the economic and other aid that consistently have come from the area to those in the world who are most in need*
- ✓ *the many who have emigrated to other parts of the world, and in turn, the immigrants from these lands who are now turning the United Kingdom and Ireland into increasingly multi-ethnic, multireligious societies*
- ✓ *the positive contributions Great Britain has made in world history and that church leaders have played in the ecumenical and interfaith movements.*

Pray for:

- ✓ *the healing of scars and memories that linger after times of colonization*
- ✓ *overcoming barriers so that all might experience welcome as these countries become more genuinely multi-ethnic and multi-faith*
- ✓ *resolving differences and political tensions over how Great Britain should relate to the rest of Europe*
- ✓ *dealing with the challenges of increasing secularism and the emergence of new ways of expressing religion and spirituality.*

Prayers God of passion and power

(© Claire Amos)

*God of passion and power, insistent, immediate,
challenging, compelling us with your story's breathless beginning.
Walk us into the wilderness to hear your voice where silence reigns.
Give us insight, the vision beyond all seeing,
so we may look upon heavens torn open
and know that the time of good news for all creation is always now. Amen.*

For Christian Unity

(The Church of Ireland, the Book of Common Prayer 2004)

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-worship/worship/book-of-common-prayer/accesion-services.aspx>

*O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace,
give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in
by our unhappy divisions.
Take away all hatred and prejudice,
and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord:
that, as there is but one Body, and one Spirit,
and one hope of our calling,
one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism,
one God and Father of us all,
so we may henceforth be all of one heart, and of one soul,
united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity,
and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*