

# *THE CHURCH OF THE MASTER*

*Reformed Church in America*

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*God has promised to be our God and to let us be his people.  
May we focus confidently on the blessing of such a loving relationship  
As we worship God today.*

## *Fourth Sunday in Lent*

March 15, 2026

11:00 AM

### *Silent Preparation for Worship*

*“Turn your eyes upon Jesus,” we sing. May we turn our eyes to you today,  
Lord - our only source of salvation. Amen.*

### *Welcome*

\* *Hymn of Praise #141 - “Renew Thy Church, Her Ministries Restore”*

\* *Call to Worship: (responsively)*

Surely, he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, yet we esteemed him stricken,  
smitten by God and afflicted.

**BUT HE WAS WOUNDED FOR OUR SINS; HE WAS BRUISED FOR OUR INIQUITIES.** Upon  
him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with His stripes we are healed.

**ALL WE LIKE SHEEP HAVE GONE ASTRAY; WE HAVE TURNED EVERY ONE TO HIS  
OWN WAY.**

And the Lord has laid on him the sins of us all.

**HE WAS OPPRESSED AND HE WAS AFFLICTED, YET HE OPENED NOT HIS  
MOUTH; LIKE A LAMB THAT IS LED TO BE KILLED, AND LIKE A SHEEP THAT BEFORE  
ITS SHEARERS IS DUMB, SO HE DID NOT SPEAK. THIS IS THE LORD WHO GAVE US  
LIFE. AMEN.**

\* *Prayer of Praise and Adoration*

\* *Confession of Faith - Apostles' Creed (#622 in hymnal), page 5 on this PDF*

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession (in unison)

JESUS, DIVINE COMPANION AND FRIEND, AT BETHANY, AMONG YOUR DEAR FRIENDS, WE SEE YOUR TENDER SIDE: WEEPING BECAUSE OF MARY'S GRIEF, SHARING MEALS WITH LOVED ONES, ACCEPTING THE OUTPOURING OF LOVE'S TENDERNESS. IT SCARCELY OCCURS TO US THAT YOU, SOLACE FOR OUR DESPAIR, SHOULD YOURSELF NEED THE WORDLESS BALM OF TENDERNESS. IF WE HAVE IGNORED YOUR HUMAN NEEDS FOR KINDNESS, HOW MUCH MORE HAVE WE RUN ROUGHSHOD OVER OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND THOSE WE CALL STRANGERS? LIKE JUDAS, WE RESENT GENEROUS OUTPOURINGS OF LOVE WHEN THE ENERGY AND WEALTH THEY REPRESENT COULD BE USED FOR MORE TANGIBLE PURPOSES. HELP US REALIZE, JESUS, THAT IF WE DO NOT LOVE AND CARE FOR EACH OTHER, OUR LIVES ARE BARREN AND HARSH. FORGIVE US, AND FREE US LIKE MARY FOR SPONTANEOUS AFFECTION FOR EACH OTHER AND YOU. AMEN.

### Announcements

\* *Hymn of Preparation #381 - "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"*

*Lent Theme: "Lent Calls Us to Repentance, Renewal and Reflection!"*

*Scripture: Psalm 23 (vv.3,5,6)*

*John 9:1-27 (vv.1-3,4-6,7-9,10-12,13-15,16-18,19-21, 22-24,25-27)*

*Sermon- "Lent Call Us to Repentance, Renewal and Reflection:  
As We Journey with Jesus to the Cross!"*

### Lord's Prayer

\* *Doxology (#39)*

\* *Blessing of Our Tithes and Offerings*

\* *Prayer*

\* *Closing Hymn #454 - "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"*

### Choral Benediction- "Shalom to You" (congregation)

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

\* *Benediction (Pastor)*

\* Please stand if able

### Church of the Master Ministries

<b>Sunday</b>	11:00 AM	<b>Worship Service</b> (Holy Communion celebrated on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month)
	12:00 PM	"Hour of Prayer Power" in Hahn Hall.
<b>Monday</b>	5:00-9:00 PM	Bushiken Karate
<b>Tuesday:</b>	6:45 PM	<b>Bible Study Fellowship (Men's Group)</b> - contact Ed Bungert, <a href="mailto:zajdml@optimum.net">zajdml@optimum.net</a>
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:00 PM	Online Bible study: Contact Ron Rivera for info on joining
	5:00-9:00PM	<b>Bushiken Karate</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	7:30 PM	Women's Alcoholic Anonymous
<b>Saturday</b>	12:00 noon	<b>Online Bible study:</b> Contact Ron Rivera for info on joining
	9:30AM-1:00PM	Bushiken Karate

## MINISTRY OF PRAYER

“Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer”

### The Prayer List

Our prayers reflect a wonderful and whole-hearted commitment to intercessory prayer by this congregation. Each name will remain on the prayer list for 3 weeks.

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Prayers for Those with Special Needs:

Casey \* Diane \* Elena Caldera \* Anne Dowling \* Jerry Kemps \* Jane Maze \* Donald Zuvich

Prayers for Those Who Are Ill or have Medical Concerns:

Maryann Miletto \* Premature twins \* Sofia \* Elder Ron Rivera \* Denise Reidy \* Lily \* Kathy Cortese \* Heather \* Carole Mahon \* Pat \* Francesca \* Mike \* Rev. Liz Brantum \* Frank Font \* Sharon Alexander \* Rosa Stewart \* Gene Peterson \* Damon Hayden \* Janet (friend of Mahon family) \* Beverly Morrison \* Patti Zeig \* Rev. Singletary \* Connie \* Loretta Byrd & Wendy \* Diante \* Allen Ford \* Alice & Alex Rivera \* Arlene 'Auntie' Mayers \*

Prayers for Those Dealing with Turmoil or Family Difficulties:

Pat's family \* Heather \* Donny & Carolyn Rosemond \* Nancy & Gene Peterson \* Barbara \* Jay Escobar & family \* Sharon Alexander \* Damon & Alex and family \* Wintress \* Kiera & Avery & Martz family \* Tyler, Nicole & Jackson \* All caregivers \* everyone battling addictions

Prayers For Those Seeking Direction/Needing God's Presence in Their Lives:

Heather \* Zachariah Bungert \* Ed & Marnie Reidy and their sons \* Elvis Frias Sr. & Theresa \* Diante Stinson \* Corey Streeter \* young adults

Prayers for Those Seeking Employment:

Stephanie

Prayers for World Concerns:

An end to the war between Russia & Ukraine and the war with Iran \* An end to all the violence \* Peace and healing in our community and the nation \* All first responders \* Our country's safety \* The future of our churches \* The President and his administration \* Pastor Sohail Latif and his congregation in Pakistan \* Worldwide conflicts \* Sean Buckley & Katie Mahon and all active duty members & their families

Prayers for the families & friends of those who have died:

Prayers for the families & friends of those who have died:

**PRAYERS FOR THE GROWTH OF CHURCH OF THE MASTER:**

**Lord, please send people through our doors with whom we can share the love and saving grace of Jesus Christ.**

## *ANNOUNCEMENTS*

### CHURCH OF THE MASTER MISSION STATEMENT

*We are a Christ-centered community church united in prayer and loving Christian fellowship, Bible teaching and preaching Christ crucified,*

## Renew Thy Church, Her Ministries Restore

Re - new Thy church, her min - is - tries re - store:  
 Teach us Thy Word, re - veal its truth di - vine,  
 Teach us to pray, for Thou art ev - er near,  
 Teach us to love, with strength of heart and mind,

Both to serve  
 On our path  
 Thy still voice  
 Ev - ery - one

and a - dore  
 let it shine;  
 let us hear,  
 all man-kind,

Make her a - gain as  
 Tell of Thy works, Thy  
 Our souls are rest - less  
 Break down old walls of

salt through-out the land,  
 night - y acts of grace,  
 till they rest in Thee,  
 prej - u - dice and hate,

And as light  
 From each page  
 This our glad  
 Leave us not

from a stand 'Mid  
 show Thy face. As  
 des - ti - ny. Be -  
 to our file. As

som - ber shad - ows  
 Thou hast loved us,  
 fore Thy pres - ence  
 Thou hast loved and

of the night, — Where  
 sent Thy Son, — And  
 keep us still, — That  
 gov'n Thy life, — To

greed and ha - tred  
 our sal - va - tion  
 we may find — for  
 end host - il - i -

spread their blight,  
 now is won, —  
 us Thy will, And  
 ty and strife, O

O send us forth with  
 let our hearts with  
 seek Thy guid - ance  
 share Thy grace from

pow'r en - dued,  
 love be stirred,  
 ev - ery day,  
 heav'n a - bove

Help us Lord,  
 Help us Lord,  
 Teach us Lord,  
 Teach us Lord,

be re - newed.  
 know thy Word,  
 how to pray,  
 how to love.

# The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

# Lord, I Want to Be a Christian — 381

Traditional

Traditional Spiritual

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in-a my heart, in-a my  
2. Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in-a my heart, in-a my  
3. Lord, I want to be more ho-ly in-a my heart, in-a my  
4. Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in-a my heart, in-a my

heart,

heart, Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in-a my heart;  
heart, Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in-a my heart;  
heart, Lord, I want to be more ho-ly in-a my heart;  
heart, Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in-a my heart;

In - a my heart, In - a my heart,  
In - a my heart, In - a my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in - a my heart.  
Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in - a my heart.  
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in - a my heart.  
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in - a my heart.

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ASPIRATION

## Psalm 23 (vv. 3,5,6)

**John 9: 1-27 (vv. 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12, 13-15, 16-18, 19-21, 22-24, 25-27)**

The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,

<sup>3</sup> he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> We<sup>[a]</sup> must work the works of him who sent me <sup>[b]</sup> while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." <sup>6</sup> 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, <sup>7</sup> saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup> 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?" <sup>9</sup> Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." <sup>10</sup> But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup> 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." <sup>12</sup> They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup> Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup> 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." <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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."

<sup>18</sup> 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 <sup>19</sup> and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" <sup>20</sup> His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup> 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." <sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus<sup>[c]</sup> to be the Messiah<sup>[d]</sup> would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

<sup>24</sup> 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." <sup>25</sup> He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." <sup>26</sup> They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" <sup>27</sup> 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?"

# I Have Decided to Follow Jesus — 454

Attributed to an Indian prince  
As sung in Garo, Assam

Folk melody from India  
Arr. by Norman Johnson

1. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus, I have de - cid - ed  
2. Tho no one join me, still I will fol - low, Tho no one join me,  
3. The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me, The world be - hind me,

to fol - low Je - sus, I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus -  
still I will fol - low, Tho no one join me, still I will fol - low -  
the cross be - fore me, The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me -

No turn - ing back, (No turn - ing back,) no turn - ing back!

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**COMMITMENT**