# THE CHURCH OF THE MASTER

Reformed Church in America
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Grace to you from God our Father, the Lord Jesus and the life-giving Spirit! Let us worship together now.

4th Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

10:00 AM

## Silent Preparation for Worship

Jesus, please open my eyes to people around me. Help me see the unique situation of someone to whom I can be a friend in your name.

#### Welcome

\* Hymn of Praise #561 - "Since Jesus Came into My Heart"

\* Call to Worship: (responsively)

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, yet we esteem 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 THE LORD WHO GAVE US LIFE. AMEN.

<sup>\*</sup> Prayer of Praise and Adoration

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

#### Call to Confession

JESUS, DIVINE COMPANION AND FRIEND, AT BETHANY AMONG YOUR DEAR FRENDS, 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 #358- "God Will Take Care of You" Lent Theme: "Bread of Life!"

Scripture: Josh. 5:9-12 (vv.10-12)

2 Cor. 5:16-21 (vv.16-18,19-21)

**Sermon** "The Bread of Life Provides Plenty in Our Wilderness Experiences and Transforms Us Into New Creatures In Christ!"

- \* Doxology (#39)
- \* Blessing of Our Tithes and Offerings
- \* Prayer
- \* Closing Hymn #532 "He Touched Me"
- \* 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

Sunday 11:00 AM Worship Service (Holy Communion celebrated on the

1st Sunday of each month)

Monday 5:00-9:00 PM Bushiken Karate

Wednesday 7:00 PM Online Bible study: Contact Ron Rivera for info on joining

5:00-9:00PM Bushiken Karate

**Thursday** 7:30 PM Women's Alcoholic Anonymous

Friday 7:00 PM "Hour of Prayer Power" virtual meeting

The conference call-in number is 605-475-4860, code - 371231#

Saturday 12:00 noon Online Bible study: 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:

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

Prayers for Those Who Are Ill or have Medical Concerns:

Cynthia \* Janet (friend of Mahon family) \* Beverly Morrison \* Robert Solimando \* John T \* Michael Campinello \* Michele \* Anthony \* Patti Zeig & John \* Stephanie \* Rev. Singletary \* Connie \* Pat Lynam \* Carole Mahon \* Loretta Byrd & Wendy \* Diante \* Damon George Hayden \* Allen Ford \* Alice & Alex Rivera \* Arlene 'Auntie' Mayers \* Rosa Stewart

Prayers for Those Dealing with Turmoil or Family Difficulties:

Rosetta Grasso \* Washington family \* Cheryl & family \* Jay Escobar & family \* Close friends of the Bungerts \* Sharon Alexander \* Damon & Alex and family \* Wintress \* Byrd family \* Kiera & Avery & Martz family \* Tyler, Nicole & Jackson \* All caregivers \* everyone battling addictions

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

Elvis Frias Sr. & Theresa \* Devell \* Zachariah Bungert \* Diante Stinson \* Corey Streeter \* young adults

Prayers for Those Seeking Employment:

Prayers for World Concerns:

An end to the war between Russia & Ukraine and the Middle East conflict \* An end to all the violence \* Peace and healing in our community and the nation \* COVID patients, families & all healthcare workers \* 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:

Ellen McCullough \*

#### 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**

\*Our 2025 Classis Assessment is \$133.00 per member. **Please help us make these payments every quarter by paying your share.** If you'd like to pay quarterly, the amount is \$33.25.

#### 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, risen and coming again.



# 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.



# Joshua 5:9-12 (vv. 10-12) 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21 (vv. 16-18, 19-21)

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; <sup>[b]</sup> even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, <sup>[c]</sup> we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal<sup>[b]</sup> to this day.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup> On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup> The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, [d] not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

