

**Salem United Church of Christ
Worship Order**

February 21, 2021 • The First Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE Chappell Kingsland, Keyboard

WELCOME Rev. Russ Kirby
Craig Wilderman

RINGING OF THE BELL Wilderman Family

CALL TO WORSHIP Krissy Berry

One: This season of Lent we come—

Many: As we are, where we are, authentically.

One: We come to remember you—

Many: to listen, to reflect, wholeheartedly.

One: We come to let go in our hearts—

Many: To let go of the things that don't matter.

One: This season of Lent we come—

All: And remember that we are yours, O God.

OPENING HYMN *On A Hill Far Away* NCH 195

**On a hill far away stood and old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.**

Refrain:

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it someday for a crown.**

**Oh, that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left the glory of heaven
to bear it to cold Calvary.**

(Refrain)

**In that old rugged cross, which bore Love so divine,
a wondrous beauty I see,
For upon that old cross Jesus suffered and died
to pardon and sanctify me.
(Refrain)**

**To the old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
When God calls me someday to my home far away,
there God's glory forever I'll share.
(Refrain)**

UNISON PRAYER

Krissy Berry

**Spirit of promise, Spirit of unity, you are also the Spirit of
renewal. Renew in us a desire for your coming kingdom;
unite us all in one mission to the world. May we together,
and forever, grow in your name. Amen.**

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

NCH # 293

**There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
there are sweet expressions on each face,
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.**

**Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise.
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:5-9

Krissy Berry

⁵ ...Those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to

**And through these days of penitence,
and through this Passion tide,
Yes, evermore, in life and death,
O Christ, with us abide.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* NCH 547

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**

**My God has promised good to me,
whose word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.**

BENEDICTION

**Leader: May the Peace of God go with you.
People: And also with you. Amen.**

Rev. Kirby

**Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me.
Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from your presence, O God
Take not your Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation
And renew a right spirit within me.**

Postlude

Chappell Kingsland, Keyboard