

## THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT: *Judica*

THE LORD'S DAY, 21 March, Anno Domini 2021      Eleven o'clock in the morning | The Sanctuary

✠ denotes the People stand, in body or in spirit, as able.

The People's responses are printed in **bold**.



### SILENT PRAYER of PREPARATION for WORSHIP

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### GREETING

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Dr. Mark Conforti, Senior Pastor

Please see our [website](#) or [newsletter](#) for more information about upcoming ministry opportunities.

### PRELUDE

*I Need Thee Every Hour*

Mr. Joshua Starnes, Director of Music & Organist

arr. Roy M. Darley

### ✠ CALL to WORSHIP (responsively)

from Isaiah 43.18-19; Philippians 3.12-15

Remember not the former things,

**nor dwell on the things of old –**

For the Lord is doing a new thing; do you not perceive it?

**Let us press on to make God's goal our own,**

Forgetting whatever lies behind,

**straining toward what lies ahead!**

As it was in the beginning,

**it is now, and ever shall be –**

world without end.

***Amen!***

*Refrain:*



Praise the Lord, His mer - cy is more. Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn. Our sins, they are many, His mer - cy is more!



1. What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?  
2. What pa - tience would wait as we con - stan - tly roam?  
3. What rich - es of kind - ness He lav - ished on us.



Om - nis - cient, all - kno - wing, He counts not their sum.  
What Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home?  
His blood was the pay - ment, His life was the cost.



Thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore;  
He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor.  
We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford.



*Repeat Refrain*  
Our sins, they are man - y, His mer - cy is more!

✦ CALL to LAMENT and REPENTANCE

Our God is compassionate and merciful, knowing us with an intimacy we cannot comprehend. There is nothing we have done, or left undone, that is not already known by God. This gives us confidence, to be fully ourselves, that we can be fully forgiven.

Let us pray:

*(A brief moment of silence follows for private confession.)*

✦ CORPORATE PRAYER of CONFESSION (*in unison*)

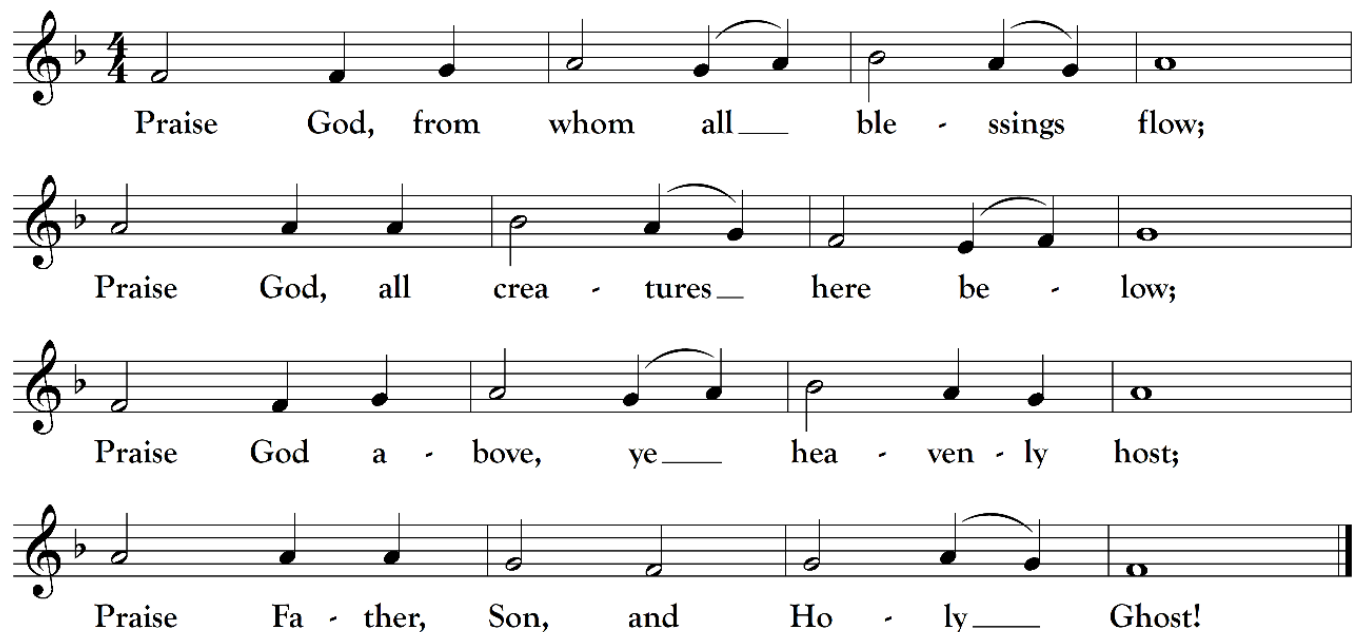
**G**OD of grace, You call on us to repent, to endure, and to hope:  
Strengthen us that we may work always for the common good.  
We confess that though we look for sin in others,  
We are reluctant to examine ourselves;  
We are caught up in worldly wisdom and forget Your words;  
We complain about troubles and fail to see Your good gifts.  
Have patience with us and nurture us that we may grown in love,  
for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

✦ ASSURANCE of GOD'S PARDON (*responsively*)

Christ has broken down the dividing wall of hostility between us through His death on the cross. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!  
We are reconciled to God through Christ, and entrusted with the ministry of reconciliation. Thanks be to God!

✦ DOXOLOGY (*in unison*)

HAMBURG



Praise God, from whom all — ble - ssings flow;

Praise God, all crea - tures — here be - low;

Praise God a - bove, ye — hea - ven - ly host;

Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly — Ghost!

✦ PRAYER for ILLUMINATION (*in unison*)

Ms. Pam Leonard, Lector

**G**OD our Deliverer, You invite us to see the new thing You are doing:  
Help us to know Christ and the power of His resurrection;  
Lead us to respond with generous acts of love.  
In the Name of Jesus. *Amen.*

SERMON

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Stacey Lundy, Associate Pastor

SACRAMENT of HOLY BAPTISM

Jerry Lee Jackson, Jr.

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy Church.

We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation  
and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world,  
and repent of your sin? *[I do.]*

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and  
oppression in whatever forms they present themselves? *[I do.]*

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in His grace, and promise  
to serve Him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to  
people of all ages, nations, and races? *[I do.]*

According to the grace given to you, will you remain a faithful member of Christ's holy  
Church and serve as Christ's representative in the world? *[I will.]*

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your  
commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Jerry in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the Good News  
and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround Jerry with a community of love and forgiveness,  
that he may grow in his trust of God,  
and be found faithful in his service to others.**

**We will pray for him,  
that he may be a true disciple who walks in the Way that leads to life.**

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the  
Old and New Testaments, in the words of the ancient baptismal confession, the  
Apostles' Creed:

✠ AFFIRMATION of OUR FAITH (*in unison*)

The Apostles' Creed

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord:  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day He rose from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence He shall come to judge the quick\* and the dead.**

[\*living]

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

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

[\*\*universal]

THANKSGIVING OVER *the* WATER

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray:

Eternal Father, when nothing existed but chaos,  
You swept across the dark waters and brought forth light.  
In the days of Noah You saved those on the ark through water.  
After the flood You set in the clouds a rainbow.  
When You saw Your people as slaves in Egypt,  
You led them to freedom through the sea.  
Their children You brought through the Jordan  
to the land which You promised.

**Sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

**Tell of God's mercy each day.**

In the fullness of time You sent Jesus,  
nurtured in the water of a womb.

He was baptized by John and anointed by Your Spirit.

He called His disciples to share in the baptism of His death and resurrection  
and to make disciples of all nations.

**Declare His works to the nations,  
His glory among all the people.**

Pour out Your Holy Spirit,  
to bless this gift of water and those who receive it,  
to wash away their sin and clothe them in righteousness throughout their lives,  
that, dying and being raised with Christ,  
they may share in His final victory.

**All praise to You, Eternal Father,  
through Your Son Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. *Amen.***

Jerry Lee, I baptize you in the Name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Jerry, child of God, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in baptism  
and marked as Christ's own forever.

"Let your light so shine that others, seeing your good works, may glorify your Father in  
heaven."

Now it is our joy to welcome our new brother in Christ.

**Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation  
and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood.**

**We are all one in Christ Jesus.**

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as a member of the family of Christ.**

RECEPTION of GOD'S TITHES and OUR OFFERINGS

*You may support the ministries of FUMC by making a donation via our secure [Online Giving portal](#).*

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION and THANKSGIVING (*responsively*)

*Following each petition:*

...Lord, in Your mercy:

**Hear our prayer...**

**O**UR 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,  
     forever. *Amen.*

## ✦ SENDING HYMN

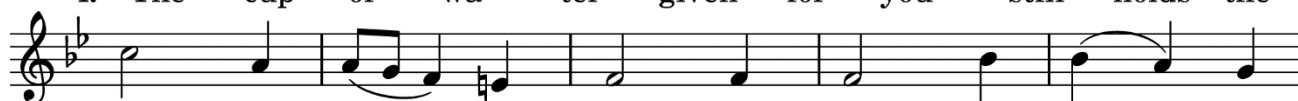
GERMANY

For more information about the history of this hymn, please visit:

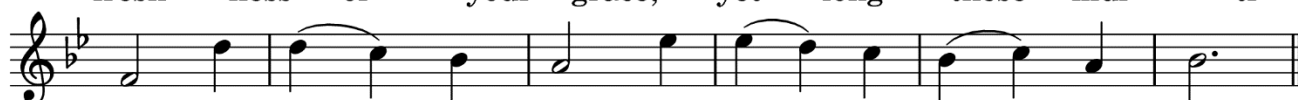
[Discipleship Ministries | History of Hymns: "Where Cross the Crowded..." \(umcdiscipleship.org\).](http://umcdiscipleship.org)



1. Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the  
 2. In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed  
 3. From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from wom - an's  
 4. The cup of wa - ter given for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of  
 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the  
 grief, man's bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from  
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of man.  
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.  
 sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.  
 tudes to view the sweet com - pas - sion of your face.

5. O Master, from the mountainside  
 make haste to heal these hearts of pain;  
 among these restless throngs abide;  
 O tread the city's streets again.

6. Till all the world shall learn your love  
 and follow where your feet have trod,  
 till, glorious from your heaven above,  
 shall come the city of our God!

✦ BENEDICTION and COMMISSION  
...Thanks be to God! *Amen.*

POSTLUDE  
*Now the Green Blade Riseth*

Mr. Joshua Starnes, *Director of Music & Organist*  
*arr. Dale Wood*

✦ DEPARTURE into THE MISSION FIELD



A special “thank you” to all those serving in worship today, including:  
Master Michael Leonard, *Acolyte*; Ms. Jen Fogt, *Video Producer*;  
and The Reverend Stacey Lundy, *Video Editor*.



Week of March 21-27

12	NUMBERS 4-5 I CORINTHIANS 3	NUMBERS 6-7 I CORINTHIANS 4	NUMBERS 8-10 PSALM 68 I CORINTHIANS 5	NUMBERS 11-13 I CORINTHIANS 6	NUMBERS 14-15 PSALM 28 I CORINTHIANS 7
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Click the seal above for more information on “The Story” or the banner above for a link to this week’s reading plan.



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**His Mercy Is More**; Words and Music: Matt Papa and Matt Boswell; © 2016 Getty Music Hymns and Songs | Getty Music Publishing | Love Your Enemies Publishing | Messenger Hymns.

**Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**; Words: Thomas Ken, 1674, alt.; Music: Lowell Mason, 1824. Public Domain.

**Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life**; (UMH 427) Words: Frank Mason North, 1903; Music: William Gardiner’s Sacred Melodies, 1815.



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