

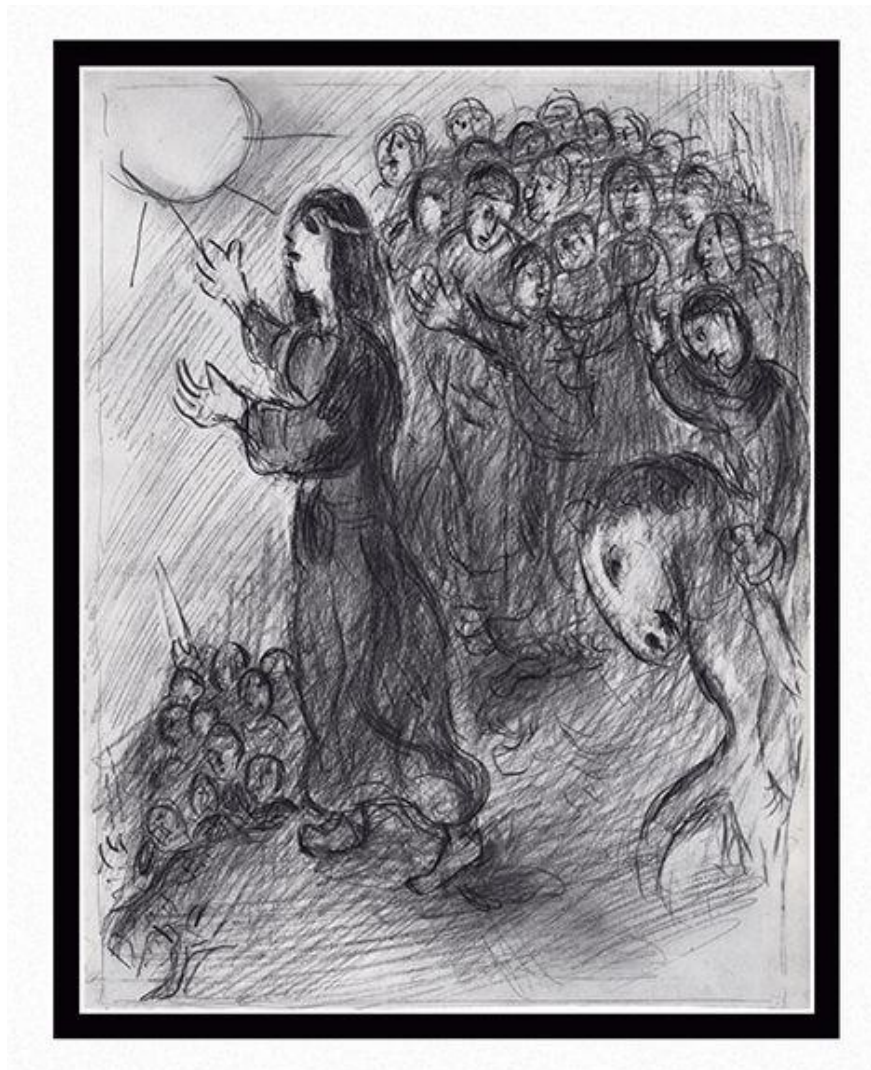
SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

March 16 and 19, 2022



*“At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment.”*

*~ Judges 4:4-5 (NRSV)*



"Prophetess and Judge Deborah," Marc Chagall, 1960.

# Gathering as the Body of Christ.

CENTERING SONG

BERTHIER

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.  
OR *The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.  
*The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.*

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GREETING

PRESIDER

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**STUDENT MINISTER**

You who are broken-hearted, who woke today with the winds of despair whistling through your mind, come in.

**You who are brave but wounded, limping through life and hurting with every step, come in.**

You who are fearful, who live with shadows hovering over your shoulders, come in.

**You who walk through your world with lightness and grace, who awoke this morning with strength and hope, you who have everything to give, come in.**

This place is your calling,  
a riverbank to channel the sweet waters of your life,  
the place where you are called by the world's need.

**Here we offer in love.**

Here we receive in gratitude.

**Here make a circle from great gifts of breath, attention and purpose.**

Come in.

\*CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE

[All are invited to turn toward the Baptismal Font.]

The baptismal font reminds us of God’s promise of cleansing and forgiveness. In that confidence, let us lift our voices in a prayer of confession.

**Mothering God, we confess that we often wish to spend all of our time with you on the mountain top, where we are sure of your presence, where we feel connected to you. We confess that when we come down from the mountain, we often fail to go back into the world to be your hands and feet. We struggle to see you in the faces of our neighbor and we are overwhelmed by the brokenness we see in the world. Forgive us, O God, when our vision is limited and our actions do not live out our discipleship. Amen.**

Children of God, we are forgiven. As a mother nurtures and holds her babies, keeping them ever so close, so God does too. God, we trust that you will continue to inspire us and stay with us, on the mountain, and through the valleys.

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

STUDENT MINISTER

You are invited to pass the peace to each other in a non-contact way that’s comfortable to you and your neighbor.

Peace be with you!

**And also with you!**

Let us share this peace with one another.

*Service of the Word*

POEM

“OUR MARTYR”

ALICE WALKER

Alice Walker (born February 9, 1944) is an author of short stories and novels, essays and poetry and an activist for racial civil rights, women's equality and peace.

When the people  
have won a victory  
whether small or large  
do you ever wonder  
at that moment  
where the martyrs might be?

They who sacrificed  
themselves to bring to life something unknown  
though nonetheless more precious  
than their blood.

I like to think of them hovering over us  
wherever we have gathered to weep and to rejoice;  
smiling and laughing,  
actually slapping each other's palms in glee.  
Their blood has dried and become rose petals.

What you feel brushing your cheek  
is not only your tears but these.

Martyrs never regret  
what they have done having done it.

Amazing too, they never frown.

It is all so mysterious the way they remain  
above us, beside us, within us;  
how they beam a human sunrise  
and are so proud.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**STUDENT MINISTER**

May the same Spirit who inspired the writing of God's word,  
be with us today as the word is delivered, that in reading and hearing,  
we may encounter the Divine.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**JUDGES 4:4-10**

**NRSV**

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment.

She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

Barak said to her, “If you will go with me, I will go; but if you will not go with me, I will not go.” And she said, “I will surely go with you; nevertheless, the road on which you are going will not lead to your glory, for the Lord will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman.”

Then Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh. Barak summoned Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; and ten thousand warriors went up behind him; and Deborah went up with him.

Hear what God is saying to the people. **Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

**RICHELLE GUNTER (MAR 16)**

**REV. DR. CARRIE CALL (MAR 19)**

## PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

## STUDENT MINISTER

Almighty and ever living God,  
you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent.  
May this time be one of outward focus;  
seeking you in those we often ignore.  
Help us live a Lent focused on freedom, generosity, and encounter.  
Give us hearts hungry to serve you  
and those who need what we have to give. **Amen.**

## *Service of the Table*

## OFFERTORY SONG

**“OH LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER”**

## INSTRUMENTAL

## \*THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to You, Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

How can we thank you, O God?

for sun and moon and stars,  
for breath and life and all things good,  
for your steadfast promise and your faithful love,  
for the day that is surely coming when all things will be made new,  
every breach, repaired.

With saints, with angels, and with the whole creation,  
we join the ancient and eternal hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We give you thanks, Holy God, for Jesus,  
who came to be your living Word,  
to baptize us with Spirit and fire,  
to feed the hungry, to humble the mighty,  
and to announce the good news of your coming realm.

With thanksgiving, we remember how, when the hour had come,  
Jesus took his place at the table with the apostles.

He said to them, "I will not eat this Passover again  
until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

Then Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks,  
he broke it and gave it to them, saying,  
"This is my body, which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me. "

After supper, he took a cup, saying,

"This cup that is poured out for you  
is the new covenant in my blood.

I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

With thanks and praise we offer ourselves to you,

Sharing this holy meal, remembering Christ's dying and rising,  
and praying: Come Lord Jesus!

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us—

This bread, this cup, these people—

Christ's body and blood, given in love for the world.

Make us one in the Spirit, one in the church, and one with Christ.

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

**PRISIDER**

We have a few COVID related options for those who wish to partake. If you wish to receive from the ministers, take an empty eco-friendly cup from the stack on the aisle table and approach the minister, who will place a piece of bread in your open hand. (Or take a cup that already has a piece of gluten-free bread in it, or take one of the sealed celebration cups with the wafer on top and juice beneath; hold them out to the minister for a blessing.) A minister will pour grape juice into your cup. Eat, drink, and dispose of the cup in the waste baskets at the side aisles as you return to your seat.

If you are unable to come forward, please signal the ministers and we will come to you at your seat. Those who prefer not to partake in Communion are invited to a different kind of divine encounter through an interfaith prayer of blessing. If this is your preference, we invite you to meet the preacher at the baptismal font.

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here at this table where Christ is the host.

## COMMUNION SONG

## “WITHIN OUR DARKEST NIGHT”

**TAIZÉ 37**

With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a -  
Dans nos ob - scu - ri - tés al - lu - me le feu qui ne s'é - teint ja -

way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the  
mais, ne - s'é - teint ja - mais. Dans nos ob - scu - ri - tés, al - lu - me le

fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est  
feu qui ne s'é - teint ja - mais, ne s'é - teint ja - mais. Dans nos ob - scu - ri -

# Going Forth as the Body of Christ

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

PRESIDER

Make us gentle, joyful, thankful people,  
serving our neighbors, worshiping you alone.  
Keep us in the peace of Christ until you gather us at your table in glory.  
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## \*CLOSING SONG

“WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS” vs. 1 & 2

UMH 292

## \*BENEDICTION

[All are invited to turn toward the Preacher at the Baptismal Font.]

## SENDING & POSTLUDE

*Listen to God; Bridge the chasm.*

*You are welcome to keep your bulletin, but if you do not wish to keep it please place  
it on the table at the entrance to the chapel as you leave.*

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**Cover Art:** <https://www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/chagall-bible-series-limited-1960-1790688784>

**Call to Worship:** McTigue, Kathleen. Reading # 29 in *Lifting Our Voices: Readings in the Living Tradition*, 9. Boston, MA: Unitarian Universalist Association, 2015

**Confession and Words of Assurance:** <https://www.gcsrw.org/Portals/13/Site%20Migration/WHM.worship%20March%202.pdf>

**Prayers of the Community:** “Lent Prayers,” author unknown. Accessed July 14, 2021, at <https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-index/lent-prayers>.

**Poem:** <https://www.poemhunter.com/poem/our-martyr/>

**Communion Liturgy:** Kimberly Bracken Long, Ed., *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1: Advent through Pentecost*, Sept 3, 2012, pg. 198-200.

**\*The worship planning team creates all other parts of the liturgy except where noted.**

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### LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WORSHIP TEAM

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Cam Richesson, Stephanie Oelrich, Rev. Scott Siciiano, Beth Taylor, Rev. Kellie Turner.  
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### THE WORSHIP TEAM SEEKS:

To serve the universal church of our Creator.  
To minister to the unique and diverse needs of the seminary community.  
To foster an expansive culture of worship that values difference and challenges the normative.