



Altamont Reformed Church  
Fourth Sunday of Lent  
March 10, 2024

Prelude

“Antiphon V”

Marcel Dupre  
Audrey Daly-Gilman, Organist

### THE LITURGY OF APPROACH

Votum

#### Call to Worship

Let us Worship God, who has done great things.

**We rejoice in our God, who made a way  
through the desert of this world.**

Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy  
to flow in the wasteland.

**We are the people God has formed through Christ;  
we worship God, and we rejoice!**

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**We praise God for the grace that has saved us!**

**\*Hymn: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” (Purple) #275**

#### Prayer of Confession

Loving God, in your light is the life of all beings;  
your judgment is light.

Out of the shadows, from dark, unseen places within us,  
we come into your light.

We open our hearts, to let in your light.

Help us see what has been hidden,  
the good and the bad,  
and shine your mercy upon it.  
May your light embrace us, forgive us, heal us,  
and show us the way. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Ezekiel 36:25-26  
The Law of God

**\*Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you!  
And also with you!

**\*Gloria Patri (Purple) #581**

Glory be to the father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in  
the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world with-out end. Amen, Amen.

**Ministry of Music**

**“The Cross”**

**Craig Courtney**

The cross before me to lead, the cross behind me to defend, the cross below me to  
upheld, the cross beside me to befriend, the cross above me to inspire, the cross  
within me to consume, the cross surround me with your power, enfold my life, my  
soul, my all.

The cross each morning when I rise, the cross each evening while I sleep, the  
cross I see before my eyes, the cross upon my lips I speak, the cross be all that I  
would hear, the cross be all that I believe, the cross be with me in this life, the  
cross be with me when I leave.

*Repeat*

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**Children’s Message**

**\*Hymn: “O Word of God Incarnate” (Purple) #459**

**Prayer for Illumination**  
**Scripture Reading**  
**Sermon**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

We were dead in our sin, cut off from life  
by the tangle of fears and desires and forces that strangle everyone.  
But God, rich in mercy, out of the great love with which God loves us,  
even when we were dead in our sin, made us alive together with Christ.

**By grace we have been saved!**

God raised us up so our lives shine with power and purpose alongside God.

**We are a part of Christ Jesus!**

This will be evident forever: the immeasurable riches of God's grace  
in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

**By grace we have been saved, through faith!**

This is not the result of our doing or believing; it is simply a gift from God.

**We are who God made us, not who we make ourselves out to be:**

**we are created in Christ, for lives of love,**

**which God laid out like clothes for us to step into, all our lives.**

**Come, let us live in the light!**

**THE LITURGY OF RESPONSE**

**Announcements**

**Offering**

**\*Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here  
below: Praise God above, ye heav'n-ly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy  
Ghost. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People with the Lord's Prayer**

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

## **Prayer of Dedication of the Offering**

### Blankets & Tools Prayer of Dedication

Leader: Gracious God, you call us to be agents of your love in the world. Open our hearts and our eyes to those who are in need. For those who have lost everything due to natural disasters...

**All: May we help them rebuild.**

Leader: For young girls who are forced to give up their education because they must spend their days fetching water for their families....

**All: May we provide a chance for a better life.**

Leader: For children orphaned by AIDS who must care for and support their younger siblings....

**All: May we give them the tools they need to carry on.**

Leader: For refugees who have fled their homes and countries in fear for their lives...

**All: May we blanket them with love.**

Leader: Loving God, through our gifts to the Church World Service Blankets and Tools program, may we reach out to those who struggle each day just to survive.

**All: May our gifts build a reservoir of caring that gives hope and the promise of a brighter future. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn: CONVERSE 8.78.7 (Tune-“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”)**      **“God, You Wrap Your Love Around Us”**

**God, you wrap your love around us, like a blanket, soft and warm.**

**You give rest when we are weary, you protect us from the storm.**

**May each person who finds shelter in these blankets that we share**

**Also feel the joy and comfort of your love’s protecting care.**

Jesus, you were once a baby, Sought by those who would destroy.  
Into Egypt you were carried--Far from home, a little boy.  
Were you wrapped up warm to travel, Safe from terror, free from harm?  
Did you feel God's strong protection, Snuggled there in Mary's arm?

May the women, men, and children fleeing danger every day  
Know, through us, your living presence; you walk with them on their way.  
Spirit, as you give them comfort, teach us here to freely give;  
May we blanket this world over with your love, so all may live.

Tune: Charles Crozat Converse, 1868 ("What a Friend We Have in Jesus") **(MIDI)** Alternate tune:  
BEECHER, John Zundel, 1870 ("Love Divine, All Loves Excelling") **(MIDI)** Text: Copyright ©  
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Today's Worship* by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Geneva Press, 2000). Email:  
bcgillette@comcast.net New Hymns: [www.carolynshymns.com/](http://www.carolynshymns.com/)

**\*Choral Benediction**

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

**“Lenten Postlude”**

**Matthew Koch**

*\* indicates the congregation stands, if able.*

**WELCOME** as we worship together. Please join us for coffee hour fellowship after our  
worship service.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 10**

**CHILDREN BULLETINS AND SACK COLORING PAGES** are available in the front of the  
sanctuary.

**ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES** are in the back of the sanctuary.

**LARGE PRINT HYMNAL:** If you are visually challenged, a larger version of the *Glory to God* hymnal  
is available in the front or back of the sanctuary. The covers are black.

**VOLUNTEERS FOR TODAY**

Greeters & Counters.....Lois Ginsburg & Marianne Baratier  
Side Door Greeter.....Sallie Townsend  
AV Support.....Tom Boink  
Coffee Hour.....Angie & Charlie Stewart

## **FUTURE VOLUNTEERS**

	<b>March 17</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>Easter</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	Jan Chisholm & Jeff Countermine	John & Natalie Drahzal	Chisholm, Novak, Ward
<b>Offering Counters</b>	Jan Chisholm & Jeff Countermine	John Drahzal & Tracy Mayer	Jan Chisholm & Noreen Novak
<b>AV Volunteer</b>	Mike Gilman	Ryan Brewer	Tom Boink
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Betty Ketcham & Dave Glass	Palm Sunday Luncheon	No Coffee Hour

### COMING UP

**Today 11:30p.m. Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall; Benevolence Comm. mtg.**

**6:30 p.m. Joint Bible 101 Study at Helderberg Reformed**

**Tues. March 12 6:30 p.m. Congregational Life Committee meeting**

**Wed. March 13 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal**

**Fri. March 15-Mon. March 18-Joel Edwards Pet Food Drive**

**Sun. March 17 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal**

**10:30 a.m. Worship Service**

**11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall; Faith Formation Comm. mtg.**

**6:30 p.m. Joint Bible Study at Helderberg Reformed**

### AT A GLANCE-READ BELOW FOR DETAILS ON THE FOLLOWING:

- “Blanket The World With Love” Campaign ends today
- Joel Edwards Annual Pet Food Drive, March 15-18
- Tuesday, March 19 Women’s Potluck
- It is time to order Easter flowers
- Palm Sunday Luncheon, Sunday March 24
- Palm Sunday Luncheon sign-ups
- Holy Week Worship Opportunities
- Volunteers Needed for the April 1 Community Dinner

### “BLANKET THE WORLD WITH LOVE” CAMPAIGN ENDS TODAY

**Our new total is \$1680.** We are so close to reaching our \$2,000 goal. Checks should be made out to "ARC Benevolence" with "blankets" on the memo line. They can be given to a member of the Benevolence Committee after worship today.

### ANNUAL JOEL EDWARDS DVM MEMORIAL PET FOOD DRIVE COMING UP

In memory of Joel and his dedication to animals as an honored veterinarian, we are holding our fourth pet food drive to benefit food pantries and pet shelters in our area.

**When: THIS Friday March 15 through Monday, March 18**

**Donations gladly accepted: Dry dog food (no bags bigger than 20 lbs. please),** and either dry or wet cat food

**Where can I drop off items?** Bins will be located in the back parking lot entryway to the church and at the top of the back staircase under the bulletin board. Baskets will also be in the sanctuary on Sunday, March 17. Thank you for your support of animals in need.

### **WOMEN'S POTLUCK DINNER TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 6:00 P.M.**

As spring showers arrive, come celebrate a little Easter and shower our kitchen with some needed items. There is a sign-up list in the back of the sanctuary of items requested by many who use the kitchen. If we left anything off feel free to add. No need to wrap! Any questions or to sign-up call Barbara Wilford-518-313-9633.

### **IT'S TIME TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS**

Please complete the form available in the sanctuary & Fellowship Hall. Return forms to John or Natalie Drazal or mail them to John and Natalie at 1512 Thompsons Lake Rd. East Berne, NY 12059, **by Sunday, March 17.** Each plant will be \$15, and all will be in 6" pots. Make checks payable to John or Natalie. If you have questions, you can call them at 518-872-9735.

### **YOU ARE INVITED: PALM SUNDAY SOUP AND BREAD LUNCHEON**

**When? Sunday, March 24,** immediately after the morning worship service in Fellowship Hall. Come and enjoy a time of good food and fellowship. **Please sign up in Fellowship Hall if you plan on attending.**

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON**

To provide soups, breads, and cookies, and work set up, the kitchen, and clean up after the luncheon. **Sign-up sheets are in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!**

### **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24 10:30 a.m. Worship Service followed by our Palm Sunday Soup and Bread Luncheon in Fellowship Hall

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 28 7:00 p.m. Service of Communion with Lynnwood Reformed and Helderberg Reformed at Helderberg Reformed Church

Good Friday

Friday, March 29 1:00 p.m. Community Worship Service at ARC followed by the carrying of crosses to St. John's Lutheran Church

Easter

Sunday, March 31 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at Pleasant View Farm, 6856 Lainhart Rd.  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service at ARC

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR APRIL 1 COMMUNITY DINNER**

Check out the sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall. You can also call the church office or email Nancy at [nancymacarc@gmail.com](mailto:nancymacarc@gmail.com). Join other volunteers as we provide an outreach to the community and enjoy a time of fellowship and fun. Our total served March 4 was 171!!!!

## **JIM AND HANNAH PAVOLDI CONTACT INFO**

To send encouraging messages and find out the latest updates after Jim's bone marrow transplant, go to [www.caringbridge.org](http://www.caringbridge.org). You will be able to access his site.

## **PRAYERS FOR:**

**Sher Seppa**, home from rehab; **Patti Percoski** and **Mona Shuker**, both recovering from surgery; **Nicole**, friend of the Barb and Craig Sargeant, in chemo treatments; family of **John Meyer**, friend of Natalie and John Drahzal on his death; family of **Tom Dwyer**, friend of the Pecoski family, on his death; **Barbara Ryan**, still in the hospital with heart issues

## **CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR:**

**Claudette Riek**; **Nancy Harrigan**, sister of Jackie Gregory; **Joyce Laiosa**, sister of Steve Ritzko; **Natalie**, daughter of Judi's brother Jack; **Jan Davis**; **Sandra**, daughter of Lois and Ron Ginsburg; **Brian**, brother-in-law of Marianne Baratier; **Emmit**, Diane Stedman's grandson; Keith Baratier's father **Paul**; **Curt Damhof**; **John & Marlene Williams**; **Paige and Eric Tooker** (Cystic Fibrosis); **Paula and Karen Eagan**; **Lois Wood**; **Becky Bryne**, neighbor of Deb and Steve Ritzko; **Clara and Ralph Lasselle** in Kingsway Community Assisted Living; **Jeanne Picard-Fish** at Daughters of Sarah; **Joan Whinnery** at Judson Meadows Ass't Living in Glenville

## **PRAYER REQUESTS AND UPDATES**

If you have a name to add to our prayer corner list, or an update, please call the church office or email Nancy at [nancymacarc@gmail.com](mailto:nancymacarc@gmail.com) Altamont Reformed Church

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