



# NORTH CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ),  
our vision as a congregation is to be a faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community,  
deep Christian spirituality, and a passion for justice.

## ***Virtual Bulletin for Sunday, March 22***

*Before logging on to worship, you may wish to grab a few household items to have available during the service:*  
*a candle to light during the Prelude*  
*a cracker and a bit of juice for communion during the Musical Reflection*  
*an offering envelope and your gift to the church, to fill out and prepare for mailing during the Postlude.*

### **Prelude**

### **Opening Prayer**

### **Opening Hymn**

#### **Jesus, Lover of My Soul**

ABERYSTWYTH

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,  
while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high;  
hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;  
safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee;  
leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;  
cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;  
let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of thee;  
spring thou up within my heart, rise to all eternity.

### **Scripture reading**

**John 15:4-17, NRSV**

“Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. God is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As God has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept God’s commandments and abide in God’s love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants

any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from God, the Creator. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that God will give you whatever you ask in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

**Sermon**

This. Is. Lent.

Rev. Tonja M. Gerardy

**Musical Reflection**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Lord's Prayer**

Creator God, 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 forever. Amen.

**Closing Hymn**

**They'll Know We Are Christians**

ST. BRENDAN'S

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;  
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.

*Chorus: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;  
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;  
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

*Chorus*

We will work with each other, we will work side by side;  
We will work with each other, we will work side by side;  
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.

*Chorus*

All praise to the Creator, from whom all things come;  
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son.  
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.

*Chorus*

**Benediction**

**Postlude**