

Welcome to **OUR SAVIOUR'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
343 Scott Street, Ripon Wisconsin (920) 748-2544
www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com

Mid-week Lenten Service

February 28, 2023

** All who are able please stand*

L: Leader; P: People

PRELUDE

Accompanist: Nicole Burdick

WORDS OF WELCOME

L: Lord God, in this season of Lent we look forward to our remembrance of Jesus' death and our celebration of his resurrection. We pray that your Spirit will renew in us today our anticipation for these events and our awareness that Jesus' death and resurrection are a sure source of hope and life. In the power of Jesus' name we pray.

P: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Let us worship God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ.

P: We are new creations; the old has gone, the new has come!

L: Let us worship God as Christ's ambassadors.

P: Through us and through our worship may we announce the good news to all.

L: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

P: Praise God! We are reconciled, redeemed, renewed!

*HYMN: "All Creatures of Our God and King"

R30/Insert

*INVOCATION

ALL: O God, in creation you fashion us in your image, in Christ you reveal to us your love, through the Holy Spirit, you welcome us into the fellowship of believers; we bow in gratitude before you. We constantly distort your image, but still, you restore it. We daily betray your love, but still, you extend it. We often disrupt fellowship, but still, you bless it. Come unto us at this time and in this place, O Lord, that your image in us might be revealed, your love for us returned, and our fellowship in Christ renewed. Amen.

WITNESS OF FAITH: Matthew 22:1-14

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sins to almighty God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: God of compassion, you are slow to anger and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts. Receive in your loving embrace all who come home to you. Seat them at your bountiful table of grace, that, with all your children, they may feast with delight on all that satisfies the hungry heart. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. In Christ, we are forgiven!

P: Thanks be to God!

HYMN: “Alone Thou Goest Forth” R121/Insert

MEDITATION: “The King’s Wedding Feast” Rev. Kevin Mundell

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN: “Two Adams Walked Upon the Earth” R71/Insert

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

L: Compassionate God, we offer you these gifts as signs of our time and labor. Receive the offering of our lives and feed us with your grace, that in the midst of death all creation might feast on your unending life in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

P: Amen.

*LENTEN BENEDICTION

L: May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: Amen.

*Postlude

Scripture: **Matthew 22:1-14**

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again, he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so, the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

All Creatures of Our God and King

R30

Ps. 148

Francis of Assisi, 1225

Tr. William H Draper, 1926

LASST UNS ERFREUEN L.M. with Alleluias

Melody from *Geistliche Kirchengesang*, Cologne, 1623

Harm. By R. Vaughan Williams, 1906

Refrain: Oh praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

1. All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing Alleluia, Alleluia!
Though burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam, *(Refrain)*.
2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in Heav'n along, O praise him,
Alleluia! Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, Ye lights of evening, find a voice, *(Refrain)*.
3. Thou flowing water, pure and clear, Make music for thy Lord to hear, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright, That givest man both warmth and light, *(Refrain)*.
4. And all ye men of tender heart, Forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye, Alleluia! Ye
who long pain and sorrow bear, Praise God and on him cast your care. *(Refrain)*.
5. Let all things their creator bless, And worship him in humbleness, O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One. *(Refrain)*.

Alone Thou Goest Forth, O Lord

R121

Peter Abelard, c. 1129
Tr. F. Bland Tucker, 1940

BANGOR C.M.
William Tans'ur, 1735

1. Alone thou goest forth, O Lord, In sacrifice to die; Is this thy sorrow naught to us Who pass unheeding by?
2. Our sins, not thine, thou bearest, Lord, Make us thy sorrow feel, Till through our pity and our shame Love answers Love's appeal.
3. This is earth's darkest hour, but thou Doest light and life restore; Then let all praise be given thee Who livest evermore.
4. Give us compassion for thee, Lord, That as we share this hour, Thy cross may bring us to thy joy And resurrection power.

Two Adams Walked Upon the Earth

R71

Adapted from Irenaeus of Lyon, 2d century

By F. L. Batties, 1969

WILCOX, 8.8.8.10.

Joseph Wilcox Jenkins, 1970

1. Two Adams walked upon the earth: For woe, for woe; for joy, for joy. Two Eves came to fill a dearth: For woe, for woe' for joy, for joy, for joy!
2. Two Adams bridging man and God: For woe, for woe; for joy, for joy. Two Eves brought to man a rod: For woe, for woe; for joy, for joy, for joy!
3. Two Adams plunged in death's dark sea: For woe, for woe; for joy, for joy. Two Eves wept beside the tree: For woe, for woe; for joy, for joy, for joy!
4. Two Adams weighed in Father's scale: For woe, for woe; for joy, for joy. To Eve farewell!
To Mary, Hail!: go woe, go woe; come joy, come joy, come joy!