

A photograph of a minimalist interior. On the left is a light-colored wooden chair with a spindle back and a curved seat. To its right is a round wooden table with three legs. The furniture is set against a white wall with a window above. The floor is made of light-colored wood. The text "Pull up a chair." is overlaid in the upper right quadrant.

Pull up a chair.

**February 22, 2026
10:15 am Family Contemporary Worship
First Sunday in Lent**

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

On Eagle's Wings

Joncas, arr. Carter

Worship Song

Lord, I Need You

Nockels, Carson, Reeves, Stanfill, Maher

Verse 1

Lord I come I confess
Bowing here I find my rest
And without You I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart

Chorus 1

Lord I need You oh I need You
Ev'ry hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

Verse 2

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me
Where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

Confession

Refrain

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on me.

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who forgives us now and always.

(Refrain)

P: Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love, for seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you. Have mercy on us for desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word. Have mercy on us for failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit and we sing together...

(Refrain)

P: Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love. For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers. Have mercy on us for disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world. Have mercy on us for dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love and we sing...

(Refrain)

Bridge

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay

Chorus 2

Lord I need You oh I need You
Ev'ry hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

*Refrain- O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord oh Lord our God*

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

O God, When we gather to worship, send us your Spirit. Renew our hearts through the joyful noise we make and bless the work of our church. Preserve your church. Give to pastors, deacons, bishops, and all servants of your gospel the endurance that produces character and the hope that will never disappoint.

O God, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. We praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all.

Hear us as we sing...

(Refrain)

O God, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy.

O God, When your people thirst, satisfy their needs. Send water and food to all who need nourishment. Grant welcome to all who are excluded. Show your mercy to any in need. We lift to you all who are in need of your healing.

O God, when death draws near, we rejoice in the promise of life with you. We remember all who have entered eternal rest, and we pray that you bring us the hope of sharing in your glory. Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation and we sing our amen...

(Refrain)

(Children may head out for C&C Kids)

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**



This Week's Story: Tempted
Icebreaker Question: If you could, what
two animals would you
combine?

Welcome Home and Announcements *(See back page for additional announcements.)*

THE WORD

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

¹⁵The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Matthew 4:1-11

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'

and 'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him.' "

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Melody Simpkins

THANKSGIVING

Anthem

Into the Desert

Stephan, Hart

Come, beloved, and rest your mind; leave the things of this world behind. Here I will be your daily bread, all that you need.

Refrain

Into the desert I will lead; here in the silence, my word will speak. And you will find the peace you seek here in the desert.

Stay, beloved, and lose your fear; there is healing and mercy here. Here I will be a living stream, all that you need. *Refrain*

From this desert your life will bloom; out of despair is hope renewed. And from this death you shall arise, arise with me. *Refrain*

(Please stand)

Offertory Response

481 Come to the Table

Come to the Table



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Statement of Belief

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. 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.

COMMUNION

Come to the Table— Everyone's Invited!

Holy Communion is a celebration of Christ's love, shared through His body and blood. If you're hungry for His presence, this meal is for you! We commune by taking a piece of bread and dipping it into wine or grape juice. Need grape juice or gluten-free options? No problem—the assistant will gladly help you out. Kids are welcome, too! Just let the assistant know if your child will be receiving Communion or would prefer a special blessing. We're so glad you're here—let's share this joyful moment together!

Words of Institution

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 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 and ever. Amen.

OR

Our Father, who is of heaven,
Holy is your name
Your kingdom come
Your will be done
On earth as it is in heaven
Give us today our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation
and deliver us from evil
For yours is the kingdom
And the power, and the glory
now and forever, Amen.

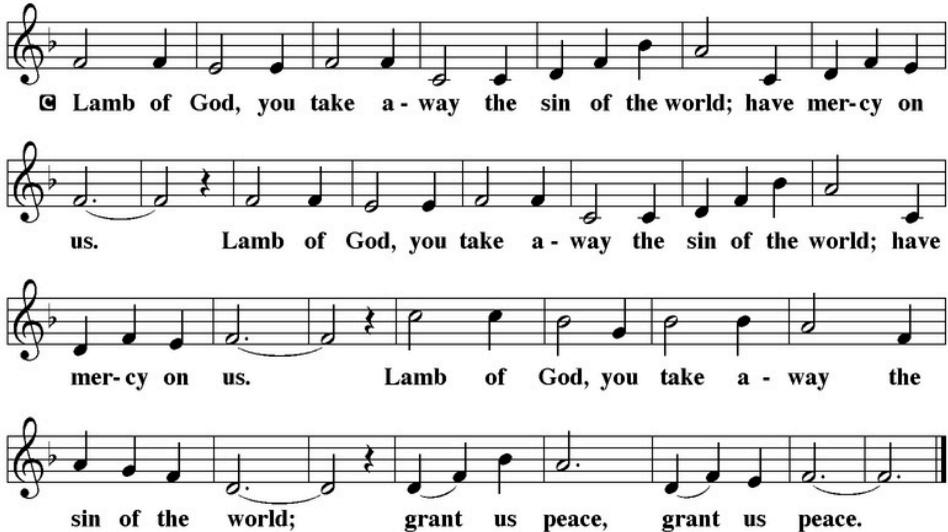
Welcome to the Table

P: Come now and feast on the gifts of God for the people of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

Lamb of God



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Song

O Come to the Altar

Furtick, Brown, Joye, Brock

Verse 1

Are you hurting and broken within
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin
Jesus is calling
Have you come to the end of yourself
Do you thirst for a drink from the well
Jesus is calling

Chorus

O come to the altar
The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ

Verse 2

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes
Come today there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy
From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling

Bridge

Oh what a Savior
Isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him
For he is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen

Verse 3

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown
Tell the world of the treasure you've found

The Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in God's grace.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise
‡ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

Higher

Simpkins

Verse 1

It's harder and harder to walk in this mud
Where I lost everything but my name
Dig me up and out of this mess
Set my feet on solid ground

Pre-Chorus

You alone are worthy
You alone are God
You alone are my refuge
So run, run to me

Chorus

Your love is lifting me higher
Your love is lifting me higher
Your love is lifting me higher
Your love is, Your love is

Verse 2

I built this darkness all around
Took my hope and buried it deep
I lost everything you gave me
It wasted me, now I see

Pre-Chorus

You alone are worthy
You alone are God
You alone are my refuge
So run, run to me

Chorus

Your love is lifting me higher
Your love is lifting me higher
Your love is lifting me higher
Your love is, Your love is

Tag

For I am convinced that there is
Nothing that can separate
From your love, your love, your love
For I am convinced that there is
Nothing that can separate
From your love, your love, your love

Chorus

Your love is lifting me higher
Your love is lifting me higher
Your love is lifting me higher

The Doxology (sung a capella)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!

Sending

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!