



Sermon Series: From the Ashes  
Sacrifice  
April 6, 2025  
Fifth Sunday of Lent

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PRELUDE / COUNTDOWN

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS  
WELCOMING OF GUEST  
PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor  
Pastor

OPENING PRAYER

Liturgist

Jesus, thank you for your sacrificial life. Without your life, death, and resurrection, we would all be lost in our sin. Remind us today that we're no longer slaves to sin, but alive in You. Help us to live our lives sacrificially, and be willing to lay our lives down for others...Amen.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* (v. 1-5)

UMH #269

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Lenten Affirmation

Liturgist

I believe in God the Creator, who made me and all things, who set me on my path in this world.

I believe in God the Savior, who is one with the Creator, who rescued me and all creation from the depredations of our violations against God and creation. This man, Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ, walked a path through this world, taking on human form having been born of a woman through the power of the Holy Spirit. He lived and worked in this world among people just like me. He walked God's path to death on a cross and rose from the dead to open our pathway to eternal life.

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, my counselor and guide, who is one with the Creator and the Christ, who through the body and blood of Jesus brings me into communion with all people, past, present and future; who calls me to walk a sacred way of life through this world, caring for creation and the people I meet on the way, loving them, helping them, welcoming them without prejudice, being God's hands and feet in the world.

\*GLORIA PATRI

UMH #70

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 43: 16-21 (NKJV)

Liturgist

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea And a path through the mighty waters, <sup>17</sup> Who brings forth the chariot and horse, The army and the power (They shall lie down together, they shall not rise; They are extinguished, they are quenched like a wick): <sup>18</sup> "Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old. <sup>19</sup> Behold, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness *And* rivers in the desert. <sup>20</sup> The beast of the field will honor Me, The jackals and the ostriches, Because I give waters in the wilderness *And* rivers in the desert, To give drink to My people, My chosen. <sup>21</sup> This people I have formed for Myself; They shall declare My praise.

*Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.*

**Congregation: Thanks be to God**

CHILDREN'S SERMON  
CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Pastor

God, it's easy to say that we want to follow Jesus, but it isn't always easy to do. Help us to follow Him, whatever the cost. In Jesus' name. Amen.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 14:25-33 (NKJV)

Liturgist

Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. <sup>27</sup> "And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. <sup>28</sup> "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has *enough* to finish it -- <sup>29</sup> "lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup> "saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' <sup>31</sup> "Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> "Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. <sup>33</sup> "So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.

*Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.*

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

## MISSION MOMENT

### PRESENTATION OF PRAYERS AND PRAISE

Pastor

*Prayer cards are on the information table. If you have a prayer that you would like to share with the congregation, please fill out the card and pass it toward the center aisle of the congregation as we are singing the Hymn of Preparation. The pastor will collect them during the hymn and pray over cards at the chancel rail.*

### HYMN OF PREPARATION

*Breathe On Me. Breath of God (v. 1-4)*

UMH #420

### PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor

### SERMON

Pastor

Title: From the Ashes

Theme: Sacrifice

Main Idea: Through Christ we are completely redeemed from the ashes of our former life.

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

### RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES (Celebrating Our Gifts)

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER\

Holy and righteous God, through your Son, you have called us to follow. The gifts we offer this day are only a small token of affirmation that we accept that call. If we embraced the full meaning of that call, we would give our whole being to the offering. In many cases, we've allowed ourselves to believe that a few dollars and an hour on Sunday is the cost of discipleship. Help us to stop fooling ourselves, and consider the full cost of a discipleship that means something, that is capable of transforming the world. By your grace and with the help of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

## COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### \*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings*

UMH #95

### HOLY COMMUNION

See insert

COMMUNION HYMN            *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service* (v. 1-4)            UMH #581

\*HYMN OF CELEBRATION            *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* (v. 1-3)            CEL #602

\*COMMISION / BENEDICTION

Pastor

*Do not be afraid, for God has redeemed you; He has called you by your name, you are His. May the power and the peace of God's presence be around you and within you wherever you find yourself this week...and all of God's children said...**Amen.***

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE            *Love and Fellowship*            CEL #233