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Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Pastor
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Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church Administrator

March 01, 2026

9:45 AM

Second Sunday in Lent
On the Way: Wandering Hearts and Shared Valleys
Wandering Heart: Rescue Me from Danger¹

Thank you for worshipping with us today. If you are a guest, we invite you to take a moment to complete a visitor's card located in the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. We also invite you to sign your name in our guest book located in the back entrance of the sanctuary.

We welcome infants and children and all their wiggles & voices in our worship! We have children's books and activity bags for them to enjoy in the side narthex! Additionally, after the children's message, children from 3 years old—6th grade are invited to participate in Sunday school in our classroom downstairs. They can choose to attend Sunday school or return to their seats to sit with their parents. Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!

WORDS OF WELCOME

JOYS & CONCERNS

INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME

LENTEN POEM²

Rescue Me by Rev. Sarah Speed

WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM

Come Thou Fount

arr. Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,

C: the courageous and the fearful,

L: the hungry and the hopeful,

C: the impatient and the reserved.

L: God welcomes the young and the old,

C: the poets and the prophets,

L: the faithful and the tired,

C: the curious and the convicted.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

L: Wherever you are on your journey,

C: wherever your boat is at sea,

L: there is room for all to gather here.

C: This is God's house.

L: Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.

L: I invite you to stand as comfortable as we join in song to praise our God.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 476 NHC** (black hymnal, see below)

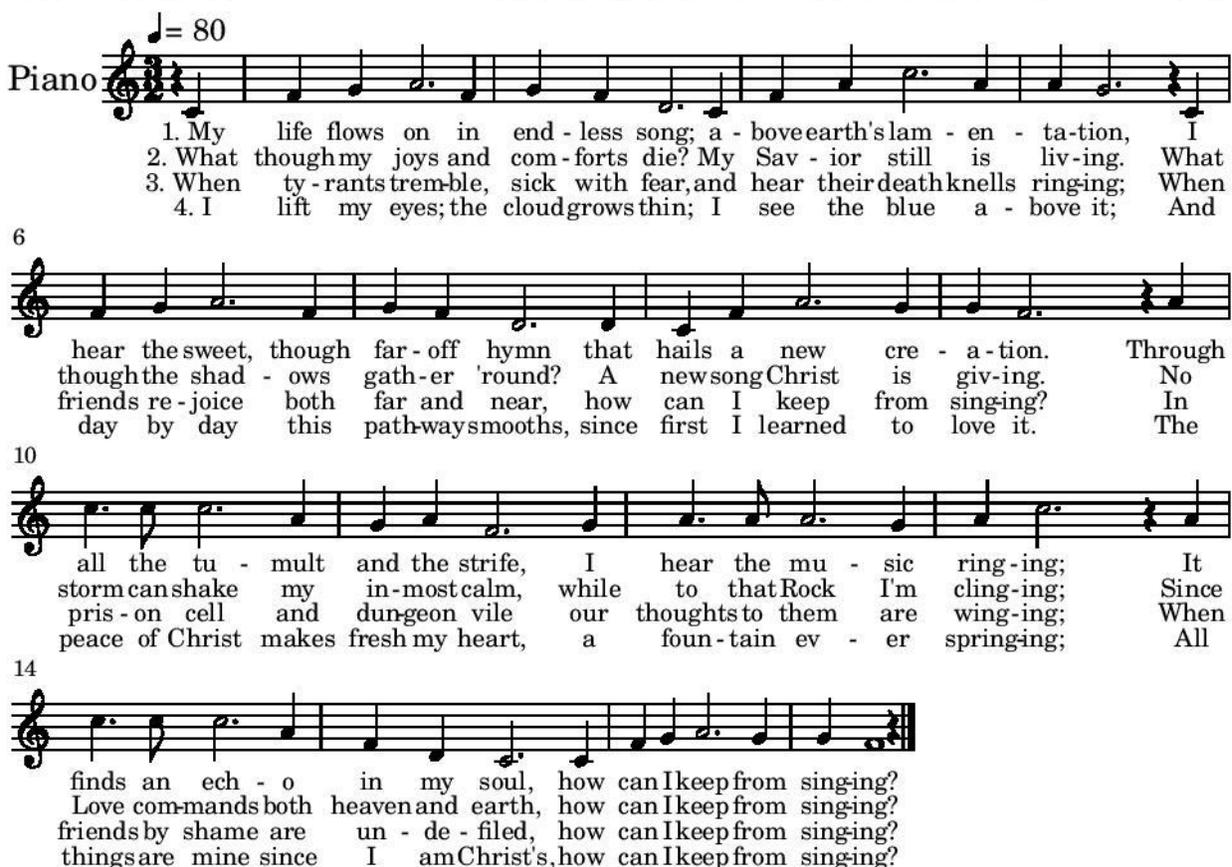
My Life Flows on in Endless Song

My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep From Singing)

Robert Lowry, 1869

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$



1. My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en-ta-tion, I
2. What though my joys and com-forts die? My Sav-ior still is liv-ing. What
3. When ty-rants trem-ble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells ring-ing; When
4. I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a-bove it; And

6
hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion. Through
though the shad-ows gath-er 'round? A new song Christ is giv-ing. No
friends re-joice both far and near, how can I keep from sing-ing? In
day by day this path-ways smooths, since first I learned to love it. The

10
all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear the mu-sic ring-ing; It
storm can shake my in-most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling-ing; Since
pris-on cell and dun-geon vile our thoughts to them are wing-ing; When
peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing; All

14
finds an ech-o in my soul, how can I keep from sing-ing?
Love com-mands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?
friends by shame are un-de-filed, how can I keep from sing-ing?
things are mine since I am Christ's, how can I keep from sing-ing?

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

L: In our scripture passage for today, Peter is out on a boat with the disciples when a storm hits. Instead of cowering in fear, Peter spots Jesus on the water and bravely crawls out of the boat to move closer to Christ.

Friends, I think the prayer of confession is one way that we do the same; it's one way that we can crawl out of our boats.

And here's what I mean: In the prayer of confession, we are honest about the storms that rage within and around us. In this prayer, we speak with honesty in an effort to move closer to God. This is our moment to crawl out of the boat.

So friends, let's be like Peter. Join me in being courageous. Join me in truth-telling. Join me in prayer. It's time to get our feet wet. Let us pray together:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Gracious God,

C: There are days that threaten to swallow us, days when the storms of life feel too big. In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear, spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for you.

Forgive us for doubting ourselves. Forgive us for doubting you. Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that trap us. With hope in our hearts we pray, Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

P: Family of faith, You could get out of the boat and walk on water like Peter, or fall to your knees and stay in one place. No matter what you do, Christ's love for you is unchanging. Fearful or brave, faithful or doubting, Christ is always walking toward you.

So hear and believe this good news: God's love is stronger than any storms. This day you are forgiven. We all are forgiven.

On our best days, and on our worst days, we are seen, forgiven, and loved. God is always walking toward you.

C: Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

HYMN OF TURNING NO. 459 (black hymnal, v. 3) *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing*

ALL SING: O to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you. Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known: Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

L: Before we hear God's Word for us this day, let us join in prayer to truly hear what God has to say to us this day,

L: Creator God,

C: There are days where the wind is loud. There are days where the rain tears through the trees and the storms of life beg for our attention. So just as you stilled the wind and the sea, still our wandering hearts. Quiet our restless minds. Reach out your hand to us and pull us into your Word so that we might hear, really hear, your message to us today. With one foot out of the boat, we pray, amen.

SCRIPTURE SERMON

Matthew 14:22-33 (CEB)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

P: I invite you to stand as comfortable to profess our faith in a God who seeks us, surprises us, and always invites us to follow:

C: I believe in a God who moves toward me when storms rage. I believe in a God who invites me to be brave. I believe in a God whom the wind and waves obey. I believe in a God who knows my name. I believe in a God of love. I am not afraid. Amen.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Into the Waters

HERZLIEBSTER JESU 11.11.11.5

Words by Anna Strickland, 2023

Music by Johann Crüger, 1640



In - to the wa - ters, tim - id and un - stead - y
 But then the winds shift and I let my gaze break
 Safe in the boat I won - der where the fault lies
 Grace for the jour - ney, grace for all my fail - ings



Bare feet find pur - chase in the wa - ter's ed - dies
 Fear starts to drag me un - der - neath the lake's waves
 Was it the storm or my own reck - less de - sire
 Grace when I'm sink - ing, grace when storms as - sail me



Eyes fixed on Je - sus while the storm is ra - ging
 In my dis - tress I cry out to my Sa - vior,
 To have con - trol or prove my - self as a - ble
 Faith in my - self and faith in God's pro - vis - ion



And waves are break - ing
 "Save me from dan - ger!"
 Rath - er than faith - ful
 Not my am - bi - tion

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*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

TIME FOR SHARING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

Dorsey

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Generous God,

C: you rescue us when sinking and you fill weary hearts. Bless these gifts we offer today. Use them to seek the lost, to feed the hungry, to bring hope to deep waters, and to remind the world that your love never stops pursuing us. With gratitude we give and receive. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

REMEMBERING THE STORY

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE MEAL

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Loving God,

C: you have met us at this table with grace for our wandering hearts. Strengthen us for the journey ahead. Help us trust you in the storms of life and remember that we are never alone. With gratitude we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 517 NCH** (black hymnal, see next page)

I Need You Every Hour

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

I Need You Every Hour

Robert Lowry, 1872

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Piano ♩ = 80

The musical score is written for piano in treble clef, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 80. The score consists of five systems of music, each with a measure number (1, 5, 9, 13, 17) at the beginning. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words split across lines. The final system ends with a double bar line.

1. I need you ev-ery hour, O God of
2. I need you ev-ery hour, in faith or
3. I need you ev-ery hour, in joy or
4. I need you ev-ery hour; teach me your

5
grace the peace your voice af - fords, I now em -
fear, the - ta - tions lose their power, when you are
pain; come quick - ly and a - bide or life is
will, and your rich prom - is - es in me ful -

9
brace. I need you, how I need you! Ev - ery hour I
near.
vain.
fill.

13
need you O bless me now, my Sav - ior; I come to

17
you.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***BENEDICTION**

P: Beloved wanderer, as you leave this place, may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve. May you look for God in every face. May you find the courage to get out of the boat, to run to the tomb, and to speak of your faith. And when the world falls apart, may you hear God's voice deep within, saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid." You are called. You are blessed. In both your ups and your downs, you always belong to God. Go now in peace. Go trusting that good news.

C: Amen.

POSTLUDE

Blessed Assurance

by Knapp

¹The Liturgy is written by and adapted from the writings of Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.”

²Poem by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Thank you to the worship choir for enhancing the worship service with their talents this morning!

Welcome Team Members— Glenda Abrams, Cindy Hogentogler, Jesse & Nancy Smith

Liturgist— Jen Miller

Poem Reader—Michael Maletz

Tech Team— George DeMers, John Kollasch, Joe Vacante

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.