

Growing With Christ Worship Series, Week 3

When Faith Falters



January 23, 2022
9:00am

Schertz
united methodist church

Entrance

** indicates to please stand as able*

Gathering & Greeting

*Introit

Spirit Song¹

UMH #347

Words and Music by John Wimber

O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit like a
dove will descend upon your life and make you whole.

REFRAIN: Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs

O come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts
are filled with joy

Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.

O give him all your tears and sadness, give him all your
years of pain, and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name
(Refrain)

***Call to Worship²**

inspired by Psalm 139

Leader: We are gathered here *not* because we have
seen fit to choose Christ, but because he has looked up-
on us, and called us to be his own.

**ALL: O God, you have searched me and known me,
you read my every thought from afar,
There is not a word on my tongue
that you do not know altogether.**

Leader: The joy of those who hear the call of Christ be
with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

***Hymn of Praise**

I Stand Amazed
in the Presence

FWS #371

Words and Music by Charles H. Gabriel
verses 1, 2, 4, & 5

I stand amazed in the presence
of Jesus the Nazarene,
and wonder how he could love me,
a sinner, condemned, unclean.

REFRAIN: How marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous! How wonderful is my Savior's love for me!

For me it was in the garden
he prayed, "Not my will, but thine."
He had no tears for his own griefs,
but sweat drops of blood for mine. (Refrain)

He took my sins and my sorrows,
he made them his very own;
He bore the burden to Calvary,
and suffered and died alone. (Refrain)

When with the ransomed in glory
his face I at last shall see,
'Twill be my joy through the ages
to sing of his love for me. (Refrain)

Proclamation & Response

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

***The Gospel Lesson**

Luke 22:54-62, NRSV

54 [The chief priests and temple officials] seized [Jesus] and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's

house. But Peter was following at a distance. 55 When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. 56 Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." 57 But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." 58 A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" 59 Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." 60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. 61 The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." 62 And he went out and wept bitterly.

This is the Word of God for the people of God:

Thanks be to God

Musical Meditation

Mercy Still

Hymn by Charles Wesley, Music by Heather Sorenson

Words UMH #355

Small Talk

a special message for children

The Message

Growing With Christ:
"WHEN FAITH FALTERS"

Rev. Robert Clark

***Hymn of Response** Just a Closer Walk

TFWS #2158

With Thee

Anon. African-American Folk Hymn

REFRAIN: Just a closer walk with thee

Grant it, Jesus, is my plea

Daily walking close to thee

Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

I am weak, but thou art strong

Jesus, keep me from all wrong

I'll be satisfied as long

As I walk, let me walk close to thee (Refrain)

Through this world of toil and snares

If I falter, Lord, who cares?

Who with me my burden shares?

None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee (Refrain)

When my feeble life is o'er,

Time for me will be no more

Guide me gently, safely o'er

To thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore (Refrain)

Prayer and Thanksgiving

Prayer of the People³

Leader: Heavenly Father, like Adam and Eve, and like many of your followers, we often listen to the wrong voice, turning away from you. We are shamed by our

limited ability to do the right thing at the right time, or even sometimes to know what is the right thing and the right time. Forgive us, Lord, when our faith falters. The Lord is kind and merciful:

ALL: He abounds in steadfast love.

Leader: Hear our confession, Lord Jesus Christ, for you have searched us and known us. We can hide nothing from you, so help us say to you what we can barely admit to ourselves: Our thoughts, actions, and inactions have betrayed and denied you. We are sorry for our wrongs.

The Lord is kind and merciful:

ALL: He abounds in steadfast love.

Leader: Lord Jesus, you taught us to pray to Our Father, "Lead us not into temptation." As you were tempted in the wilderness and used the mighty Word of God to prevail against your tempter, help us do the same, that the evil one may have no power over us.

The Lord is kind and merciful:

ALL: He abounds in steadfast love.

Leader: As we anticipate the season of spring, help us sense the miracle of the seed, the sun, the earth, the water. Warm our hearts, water our spirits with the memory of our baptisms, and help us grow with Christ.

The Lord is kind and merciful:

ALL: He abounds in steadfast love.

For those people and situations that are in most need of your mercy, Lord, hear us as we name them aloud or silently. For these intentions, we pray:

Let your kingdom come, and your will be done. Amen.

Offering

We believe that our God is a generous God!
And giving is an act of worship.

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." *Proverbs 11:25*

Giving Options

Mobile App: Schertz UMC available on all platforms

Online: www.schertzumc.com/give

Text: 210-361-9146

Mail: 3460 Roy Richard Drive, Schertz, TX 78154

Offertory

Kim Spivey, piano

*Doxology

Tune: OLD 100th

Sending Forth

Invitation to Discipleship

*Hymn

When Our Confidence
is Shaken⁴

words UMH #505

Words by Fred Pratt Green, Tune; CWM RHONDDA

When our confidence is shaken in beliefs we thought secure

When the spirit in its sickness seeks but cannot find a cure,
God is active in the tensions of a faith not yet mature,
of a faith not yet mature.

Solar systems, void of meaning, freeze the spirit into stone;
always our researches lead us to the ultimate unknown.

Faith must die, or come full circle
to its source in God alone
to its source in God alone

In the discipline of praying, when it's hardest to believe;
in the drudgery of caring, when it's not enough to grieve;
faith, maturing, learns acceptance
of the insights we receive
of the insights we receive

God is love, and thus redeems us in the Christ we crucify;
this is God's eternal answer to the world's eternal why.
May we in this faith maturing be content to live and die
be content to live and die

***Dismissal with Blessing**

***Benediction Hymn**

1. Spirit Song

John Wimber

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2. Call to Worship written by Rev. Bruce Prewer

<http://www.bruceprewer.com/DocB/BEIPHANY2.htm>

3. Prayer of the People by Paul Sauer

<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/02/pastoral-prayer-lent-1a.html>

4. When Our Confidence is Shaken

Fred Pratt Green

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