



MARCH 30, 2025  
+ THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT +

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PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude: Martyrdom  
(Alas! And Did My Saviour Bleed [217])  
C. Hubert H. Parry  
Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter  
Pia and Eugenio Restrepo

Moment for Mission



INTROIT

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (68, verses 1 and 3)  
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 32

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
**whose sin is covered.**

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity  
**and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

While I kept silent, my body wasted away  
**through my groaning all day long.**

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
**my strength was dried up, as by the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
**and I did not hide my iniquity;**

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"  
**and you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,  
**and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

\* OPENING HYMN 469

How Can I Keep from Singing?

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

from the *Worship Sourcebook*

**God of mercy,  
you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.  
We confess that we are lost.**

**We are misled by pride,  
for we see ourselves pure when we are stained  
and great when we are small.**

**We have failed in love,  
neglected justice,  
and ignored your truth.**

**Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.  
Return us to paths of righteousness  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

\* HYMN OF ASSURANCE 564

O Lamb of God, Most Holy

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

CHORAL ANTHEM

Precious Lord, Take My Hand  
Thomas A. Dorsey  
arr. Jack Schrader

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,  
when my life is almost gone;  
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

\* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Bill Faude, Reader

Joshua 5:9-12

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Libby Piotrowski

MESSAGE

Jeff Hunter

\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Way Maker  
Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu

2016 Integrity Music

Led by Kristen Hunter, Anders Johnson, Robert Johnson,  
Sam Parnin, Brian Ward, and Ryan Wendt

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Generosity

*The Trustees will come around at this time to receive physical offerings.*

*Giving online at any time is also an option at [www.npcovenant.org/give](http://www.npcovenant.org/give).*

Offertory

Chorale Prelude: Abridge  
C.S. Lang

\* Doxology 48

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* CLOSING HYMN 359

All My Sins Have Been Forgiven

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

God of Grace and God of Glory  
John Hughes

*Please remain seated for the postlude, pausing as the light of Christ is carried out  
and imagining how you might carry that light into the world this week.*

*\* Please rise, in body or in spirit.*

*Prayer is offered in the south chapel after the service.  
In addition, if you have prayer requests to be shared confidentially with the pastors,  
there is a prayer box located in the narthex, as well as slips of paper and a pen  
in the box's drawer for your use.*

# How Can I Keep from Singing?

*In unison* F Gm/F

1 My life flows on in end - less song a -  
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I  
 3 When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear, and  
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a

F/A Gm9/C C7 F

bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion. I hear the real, though  
 hear that mu - sic ring - ing; it sounds and ech - oes  
 hear their death - knells ring - ing; when friends re - joi - ce both  
 foun - tain ev - er spring - ing. All things are mine since

Gm/F F/C Gm9/C C F *Refrain (in harmony)*

far - off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
 in my soul; how can I keep from sing - ing? No  
 far and near, how can I keep from sing - ing?  
 I am his; how can I keep from sing - ing?

F C7/G F/A F C7 F

storm can shake my in - most calm, while to that rock I'm

VICTORY IN CONFLICT

Musical notation for the first system of the song. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written in eighth and quarter notes. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: F, F, C7/G, F/A, F, Bb, F. The lyrics are: "cling - ing. Since Christ is Lord of heav - en and earth, how".

Musical notation for the second system of the song. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff continues the melody and includes a double bar line followed by a box labeled "Ending". Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: F/C, Gm9/C, C7, F. The lyrics are: "can I keep from sing - ing?".

## O Lamb of God, Most Holy

564

O Lamb of God, most ho - ly, on Cal - va -

ry an of - f'ring, de - spis - ed, meek and low - ly,

thou in thy death and suf - f'ring our sins didst

bear, our an - guish, the might of death didst

van - quish: grant us thy peace, O Je - sus! A - men.

# Way Maker

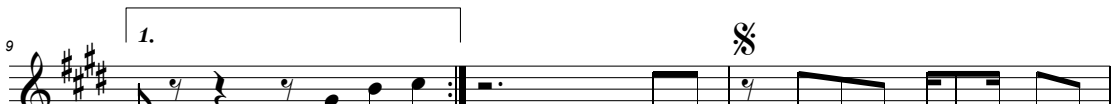
Osinachi Okoro



1 You are here mov-ing in our midst I wor - ship You I wor - ship You



5 You are here work-ing in this place. I wor - ship You I wor - ship You



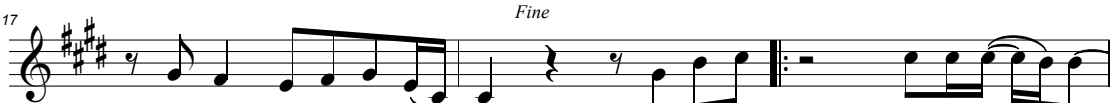
9 *1.* You are here You are Way mak-er, mir-a - cle work-er,




12 promise keep-er, light in the dark-ness my God, that is who You are You are



15 Way mak-er, mir-a - cle work-er, prom-ise keep-er, light in the dark-ness



17 *Fine* my God, that is who You are You are here touch-ing e - very  
You are here turn-ing lives a -



20 - heart I wor - ship You I wor - ship You You are here heal - ing e - very  
- round I wor - ship You I wor - ship You You are here men - ding e - very



24 *D.S. al Fine* heart I wor - ship You I wor - ship You You are here  
heart I wor - ship You I wor - ship You I wor - ship You

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## Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of chords and single notes.

here be - low; praise him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host;

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It features similar rhythmic patterns and harmonic support.

praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The third system of music concludes the piece. The melody ends with a final cadence, and the accompaniment provides a solid harmonic base for the concluding phrase.

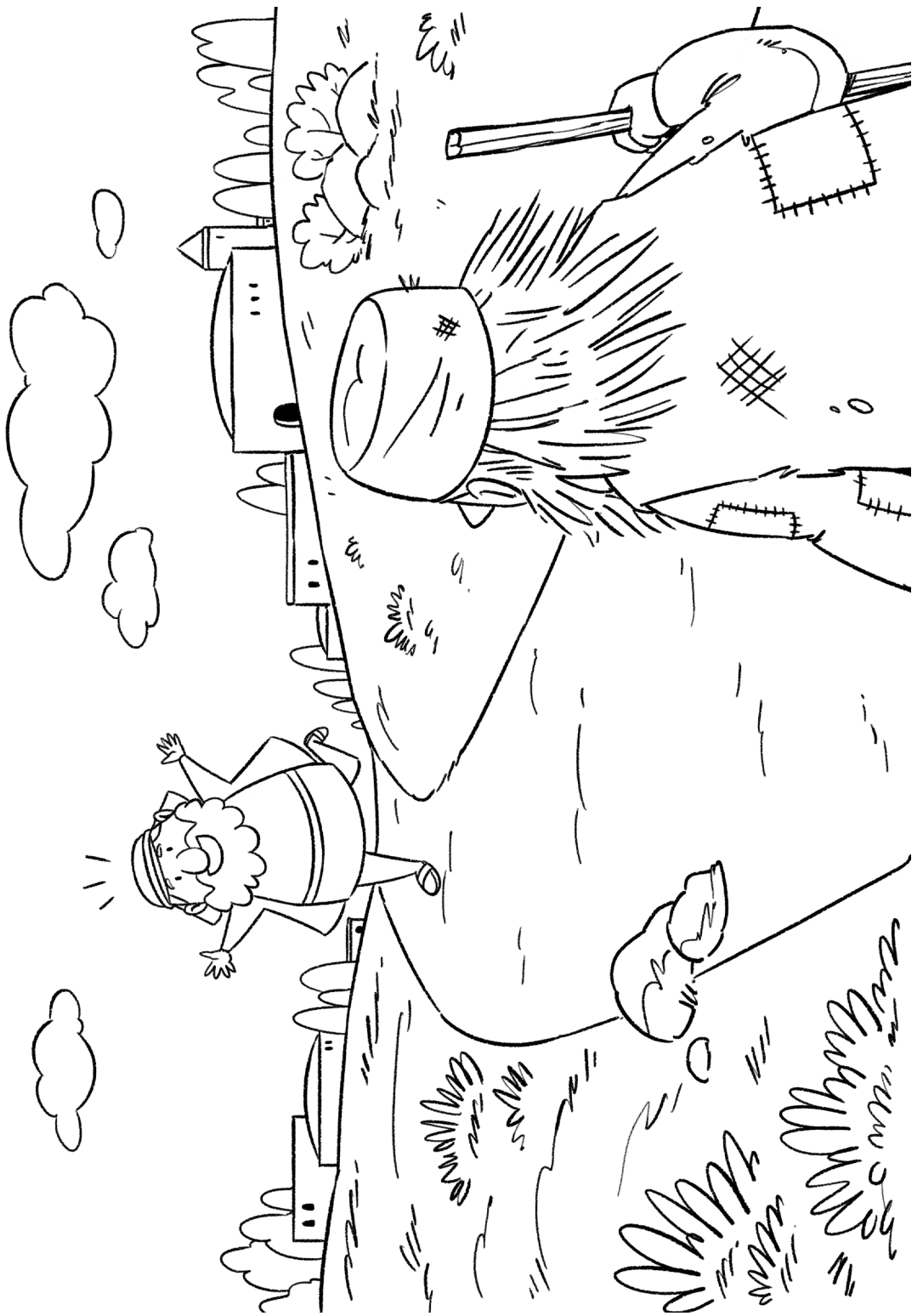
## All My Sins Have Been Forgiven 359

1 All my sins have been for - giv - en, God is mer - ci - ful to me;  
2 There is now no con - dem - na - tion, I am ful - ly re - con - ciled;

faith has claimed the Sav - ior's prom - ise, grace and par - don, full and free.  
what a won - der - ful sal - va - tion for a sin - ner so de - filed!

O my soul, be e - ver prais - ing for the great Re - deem - er's love;  
Now my soul shall live for - ev - er, no more can the foe con - demn;

joy - ous songs to him be rais - ing un - to God in heav'n a - bove.  
noth - ing from God's love can sev - er, peace and joy are found in him!



# *Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!*

## *We're glad you're here.*

### *For your prayers this week:*

- **our neighborhood**, specifically the west side of the 5300 block of N Kedzie and the 3200 block of W Berwyn; “*We pray that God would unveil within our neighbors and ourselves the unlimited riches of his glory and favor until supernatural strength floods their and our innermost beings with his divine might and explosive power.*” (Ephesians 3:16)
- **Erik Ward**, recuperating after surgery on one of his arms after breaking both in a biking accident
- **Rosemary Slaughter**, having difficulty swallowing and anticipating a doctor’s appointment next week in the hopes of getting some answers
- **Brandon Baglayan**, Marti Hindaileh’s godson, awaiting results from an ultrasound on his thyroid as he continues with chemotherapy
- **Diane Haglund**, struggling with fatigue, which is affecting her ability to work
- **Larry H. Knipp**, recuperating after knee-replacement surgery on March 4
- **family and friends of Marcia Knudson**, former member here, who passed away on March 11
- **Sheryl and Paul Noren**, as they put retirement on hold to return to Congo



**Welcome to North Park Covenant Church!** If you’re new here today, we invite you to scan the QR code to learn more about us and, perhaps, get a little more connected.

**Childcare is available** in the toddler room (lower level, off the hallway south of the parlors) for the full duration of the worship service for any wee ones ages 0 through 5 needing a place to wiggle and play. We always happily welcome children in the service but recognize that sometimes parents need a break so they can focus on worship.

**The April issue of *The Narthex***, our monthly newsletter, was emailed out this past Friday, and printed copies are available for pick-up today. If you don’t get the newsletter electronically and would like to, please reach out to Ann-Marie in the office, and she’ll be happy to add you to the mailing list.

**Easter Cards to Sign:** After worship today, we invite you to come to the parlors to find a table with Easter cards for signing. These cards will be delivered to those in our church who are unable to worship with us in person. They will be available for signing today and next Sunday, April 6. Come and sign your name to let these friends know we miss them and wish them a blessed Easter!

**New Members Class Saturday, April 5!** Have you been wondering about membership at North Park Covenant Church and what it might mean? Do you have questions about the church and/or the Covenant denomination? Would you like to learn more, without the obligation to join the church? Join us in our next New Members Class, which will take place on April 5, from 9 am to 1 pm. Please let Pastor Libby or Pastor Jeff know if you’re interested, and they will add your name to the list and be in touch!

**Come Gather and Learn:** On Wednesday, April 9, at 6:30 pm, we will host a short presentation as part of our Gather dinner about the life and ministry of one of our former pastors, Doug Cedarleaf. The North Park University Archives received a grant from the state of Illinois to digitize some of his sermons. We invite you to come and hear some of this audio for the first time in 60 years and learn about Doug Cedarleaf. A history student from Northeastern Illinois University completing an internship in the North Park Archives is leading the talk, which will focus on Cedarleaf's view of race and racism, as well as his response to the war in Vietnam.

**Lenten Prayer Vigil April 12:** On Saturday, April 12, all are invited to participate in a Lenten Virtual Prayer Vigil. Between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm, we invite you to sign up for a half hour (or more) to be in prayer for our church, our community, and our world. Prayer materials will be made available for those who sign up as the day draws near. [You may sign up here.](#)

**Meal Train for the Ward Family:** On Friday, March 21, Erik Ward (14) had a bike accident in which he flipped over his handlebars and broke both bones in both of his forearms. He had surgery last week and now has casts on both arms. We would like to be able to help the family a bit by preparing and bringing meals so they have one less thing to do on busy school nights. Please [take a look at the calendar](#) and see if there might be days when you could prepare and deliver a meal!

**Lectionary texts for  
Sunday, April 6:**

Isaiah 43:16-21  
Psalm 126  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
John 12:1-8

**The Nominating Committee needs your help!** If you are a member and looking for an opportunity to serve in our life together as a church, there are openings on the Trustee, Deacon, and Christian Formation boards; the Human Resources, Memorials, Missions, Mutual Ministry, Hospitality, and Stewardship committees; and in the role of Church Treasurer. If you're interested in any of these opportunities, reach out to Nancy Ebner at [nancylebner@gmail.com](mailto:nancylebner@gmail.com).

**Lenten Music Playlist Available:** We thought it might be nice to share some of the music you'll hear during our worship services this season, some of which might be new to you. To that end, Jeanette has set up a [Lenten playlist](#) on Spotify. You don't need a Spotify account to listen, but if you don't, you can expect to have ads pop up from time to time. We invite you to give it a listen!

**Mark your calendars for June 16-20,** because VBS will be here before we know it! This year, we'll discover how Jesus invites us to Step Right Up to some marvelous and extraordinary things! We need lots of help to make VBS possible, so if you're interested in volunteering for all or some of the week, please [let Jeanette know](#). Registration for students will open the first week in May, and [the list of needed supplies is available now](#).

**NPCC may send three delegates** to the Celebration, the Central Conference Annual Meeting, on May 2-3 in Libertyville, IL, and to Gather, the denominational Annual Meeting, on June 26-28 in Orlando, FL, or remotely. If you would like to be a delegate, please contact a co-chair (Nancy Ebner or Susan Dawson) or a co-pastor.

## The Church Calendar This Week

The calendar is available online at [www.npcovenant.org/calendar](http://www.npcovenant.org/calendar) and is updated as changes occur.

### *Monday, March 31*

- 9:15 am Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
- 6:30 pm Geezerball (Gym)
- 7:30 pm Centering Prayer (Large Conference Room)

### *Tuesday, April 1*

- 8 am Men's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
- 3:45 pm Von Girls' Basketball Practice (Gym)
- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6 pm Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

### *Wednesday, April 2*

- 10 am Women's Bible Study (Edstrom Home)
- 6 pm Gather Dinner (Parlors)
- 6:30 pm Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Side Balcony, Sanctuary)
- Contemporary Music Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 7 pm Knit or Not (Parlors)
- Middle-school Youth Group (Youth Room near the Gym)
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

### *Thursday, April 3*

- 3:45 pm Von Girls' Basketball Practice (Gym)
- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Gym)

### *Friday, April 4*

- 1 pm Prayer Gathering (Edstrom Home)
- 6 pm Eight Grader Sleepover (Youth Room, Gym)

### *Saturday, April 5*

- 8 am Geezerball (Gym)
- 9 am New Members Class (Large Conference Room)
- 10:15 am Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

### *Sunday, April 6 - The Fifth Sunday in Lent/Youth Sunday*

- 9 am Confirmation (Staff Conference Room)
- 9:15 am Sunday School for Preschool - 6th Grade (Junior Chapel)
- Adult Formation (Parlors)
- Bible Journaling (Art Room)
- 10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 1:30 pm Vida Plena Covenant Church Worship Service (Parlors)
- 6 pm Evening Lenten Worship Service (South Chapel)
- 7 pm High-school Youth Group (The Attic Youth Room)
- AA Meeting (Parlors)

**North Park Covenant  
Church Staff**

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Jeff Hunter, Co-pastor  
jhunter@npcovenant.org  
ext. 525

Libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor  
lp Piotrowski@npcovenant.org  
ext. 515

*To reach both Jeff and Libby, please use  
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Jeanette Mottl, Director of Youth Ministry  
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Chancel Choir Director  
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Sam Parnin, Organist  
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Linnea Olfelt, Chancel Handbell Choir Director  
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Joline Paska, Treasurer  
treasurer@npcovenant.org, ext. 505

Christian Schuetz, Custodian  
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Ann-Marie Olson Frisk, Church Administrator  
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**North Park Church  
Cooperative Preschool**

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Becky Edwards  
Administrative Director

Lyndsey Wellner  
Head Teacher/Educational Director

Jennifer Glazier  
Assistant Teacher

(773) 463-0055, ext. 520  
preschool@npcovenant.org  
www.npcovenant.org/npccp

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**The Friendship Center**

2711 West Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60625  
(773) 907-6338

info@friendshipcenterchicago.org  
www.friendshipcenterchicago.org

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**Missionaries We Support**

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Letha Kerl,  
Regional Co-coordinator for Europe

Peter and Anna Kim, Taiwan

James and Rachel Ventress, Alaska

Paul and Sheryl Noren, Congo

Eugenio and Pia Restrepo,  
Latin America

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**Welcome Statement**

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*We welcome all people to begin or deepen their relationship with Christ through worship and study. We invite all believers to fully participate in the life and ministry of our church as members, leaders, and lay staff. We celebrate the gifts and presence of diverse Christians among us—whether those differences be race, ethnicity, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, or socioeconomic status. We are blessed by our diversity and are unified in Christ.*

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