

CALL TO WORSHIP—based on Exodus 3: 1-15

This place for us, at this moment, is Holy Ground—
whether house or apartment, workplace or forest,
garden or garage.

The place where we sing songs of praise to the Lord
and remember God’s mercy and grace
inspires us to respond to Christ’s love
and the call to service.

God has called us to this time,
in whispering winds and in burning flames,
and with his presence
disarms us of the barriers we have placed around us.
Instead, God meets us in our vulnerability,
our humanity.
Let us worship the Lord.



HYMN *The God of Abraham Praise*

The God of Abraham praise;
who reigns enthroned above,
the ancient of eternal days,
and God of love!
Jehovah, great I AM,
by earth and heaven confessed,
we bow and bless the sacred Name
forever blest.

He by himself hath sworn -
we on his oath depend;
we shall, on eagles' wings upborne,
to heaven ascend.
We shall behold his face,
we shall his power adore,
and sing the wonders of his grace
forevermore.

The God who reigns on high
the great archangels sing,
and 'Holy, holy, holy' cry,
Almighty King!
Who was, and is the same,
and evermore shall be:
eternal Father, great I AM,
we worship thee.

The whole triumphant host
give thanks to God on high;
"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"
they ever cry.
Hail, Abraham's God and mine!
With heaven our songs we raise;
all might and majesty are thine,
and endless praise.



LENTEN PRAYER OF REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

Almighty God, across the ages you have guided your people through the wilderness, assuring them of your provision and direction. Forgive our lack of trust, and lack of openness to the new ways you want to speak to us and equip us. Heal and strengthen us along the way, that we might not neglect our call to serve. Help us to trust in your unfailing presence amid all of our fears. Grant us wisdom to discern your way in this world.

(time for silent prayer and reflection)



SONG *Christ Be Beside Me*

This song is adapted from St. Patrick's breastplate, sung today in remembrance of St. Patrick's Day on Wednesday

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part.

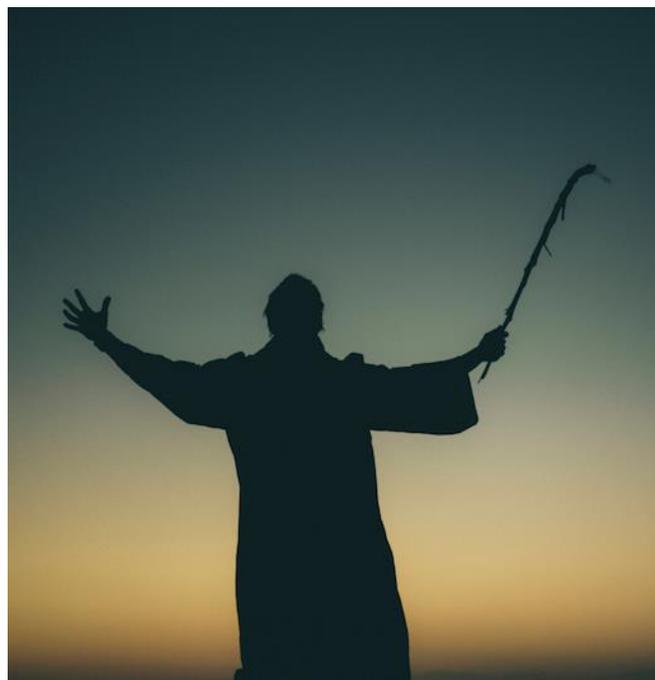
Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, Light of my heart.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,
Christ be on all tongues telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me;
in ears that hear me Christ ever be.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Exodus 2:11-15, and
2:23 through 3:1-15

MESSAGE **God's People in Wilderness:
Disruptions, Distractions,
and Redirection**

PRAYER



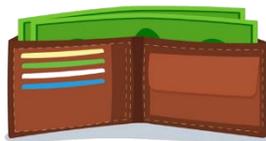
HYMN *Here I Am, Lord*

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry;
all who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if You lead me;
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?



[Refrain]

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

[Refrain]



BENEDICTION

May the grace of Christ attend you,
The love of God surround you,
And the Holy Spirit keep you,
That you may live in faith,
Abound in hope,
And grow in love,
Now and forevermore.
And all of God's people said, Amen!

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." - John 20:21

