

Offertory Prayer

**Faithful God, our guide and sustainer, as we offer these gifts, may they bear fruit for your kingdom. In this solemn season of Lent, we remember your call to repentance and renewal. Help us tend the soil of our hearts so that we may grow in faith and bear witness to your grace. Use these offerings to bring hope to those in need and light to those in darkness. May we live as your fruitful servants, trusting in your abundant mercy. In the name of Christ who calls us to new life, we pray. Amen.**

Offertory *Psalm 23 (He Leadeth Me)* Alice Jordan (1916-2012)

\*Doxology UMH 94

\*Hymn *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* UMH 140

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

\*Benediction Reverend Burke Owens

Postlude *Trumpet Tune in A-flat* Brenda Portman (b. 1980)

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory  
of Jack Kumer by Carol Kumer.

*\*Please stand as you are able where indicated by an asterisk.*  
Senior Pastor: Burke Owens  
Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries: Gerardo Garcia Palacios  
Director of Music: Mark Shaull  
Organist: Diane Keller  
Head Usher: Daniel Fifita



FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Third Sunday  
of Lent*

SUNDAY MARCH 23 2025  
10:45 AM SERVICE



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025

Prelude *Flute Quartet in F Major (Allegro)* C.F. Abel (1723-1787)  
Fiume di Musica

Welcome Reverend Burke Owens

Passing of the Peace

Introit *Lenten Introit* Eleanor Daley

Life of the Community Linda Grossman

Library Guessing Game Winners

\*Call to Worship Linda Grossman

Children of God, what has God done for you?

**God saves, provides, and holds us in God's steadfast love.**

Consider and remember: in the joyful times and in the sorrowful times, what has God done for you?

**God covers us and lifts us up, protecting and empowering us with steadfast love.**

When you have been like the fig tree in Jesus' story that seems unable to produce and that everyone has given up on, what has God done for you?

**God tends the soil and waters the ground, nurturing us into life with steadfast love.**

Children of God, come, let us worship God who never gives up on us!

**We come to worship and cling to God, for God's steadfast love never fails!**

\*Hymn *Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven* UMH 66

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,  
to the throne thy tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
evermore God's praises sing.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King.

2. Praise the Lord for grace and favor  
to all people in distress;  
praise God, still the same as ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Glorious now God's faithfulness.

3. Father-like, God tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame God knows;  
mother-like, God gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Widely yet God's mercy flows.

4. Angels in the heights, adoring,  
you behold God face to face;  
saints triumphant, now adoring,  
gathered in from every race.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace.

Children's Moment Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Anthem *God of Comfort, God of Courage* Wilbur Chenoweth (1899-1980)

Scripture *Joshua 1:1-6* Alan Cooper

Message *Confidence and Jesus* Reverend Burke Owens

Moment of Silence

Prayers of the People Reverend Burke Owens

Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord, for these gifts,  
**we give you thanks!**

\*Lord's Prayer Reverend Burke Owens

**Our Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*Hymn *When Our Confidence Is Shaken* UMH 505

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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!

Invitation to the Offering Linda Grossman