



*March 1, 2026*  
*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

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*Sunday Morning Meditation*  
*This is the gospel in miniature.*

**- Martin Luther**

# Welcome

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ  
Joint Service  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent / Easter Egg Hunt

March 1, 2026  
Grace 10:00am

*Community News*

*Prayer List and Prayers of the People*

*Prelude/Lighting of the Candles*

## \* *Call to Worship*

God calls us to set out in faith.

**The love of God leads us home**

Christ blesses us that we might bless others.

**The blessings of Christ heal our world.**

The Holy Spirit strengthens us for the journey.

**The power of the Spirit sustains and supports us.**

The One who made heaven and earth meets us here.

## \* *Invocation*

Lord of light and love, your Spirit enlivens our spirits, even as your kingdom draws us to you. May we be born from above, that our souls might ascend to your realm and taste the joy of eternal life in your name. For you sent your Son into our world, not to condemn the world, but that all who enter into his light might have life, and have it abundantly. Amen.

## \* *Opening Hymn*

*“To God Be the Glory”*

VH #4

## *Prayer for Yearning*

**Maker of heaven and earth, when we face times of trial, lift our eyes to the hills to find your help. For you meet us in our need, and you lift us from the cares and toils that weaken our spirits and sap our strength. Call us this day as you called your followers of old, for we long to experience your awesome power and respond with faithful hearts and willing spirits. Bless us each day, that we might share the**

**promise of your blessings with a world struggling to find its way. Amen.**

*Words of Assurance*

Just as the wind blows where it will, God’s Spirit moves in our world, calling us into ever deeper life with Christ. Hear and claim this good news. It is freely given.

*Old Testament Reading*

**Genesis 12:1-4a NRSV**

*The Call of Abram*

**12** Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup> So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

*Psalm Reading*

**Psalm 121 NRSV**

*Assurance of God’s Protection*

<sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the hills—  
from where will my help come?

<sup>2</sup> My help comes from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.

<sup>4</sup> He who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.

<sup>5</sup> The Lord is your keeper;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

<sup>6</sup> The sun shall not strike you by day  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup> The Lord will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.

*Nicodemus Visits Jesus*

3 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children's Message / Congregation Conversation*

\* *Meditation Hymn*      “*The God of Abraham Praise*”      VH #39

*Today's Message*

*The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic/Christian church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer*

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\* *Sung Response*      “*Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*”      TH # 501

## *The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings*

Offertory Statement

Offertory (MH)

\* Doxology

TH # 551

\* Offertory Prayer

**Gracious God, just as you blessed the saints of old when they ventured forth in faith, so now bless us in our living and in our giving. Transform our gifts and offerings into blessings for a weak and weary world, that all may touch your great love. Amen.**

\* *Closing Hymn*

*“How Great Thou Art”*

VH #505

\* *Benediction*

The Good, as we depart this place but not Your Presence, help us to remember that your goodness is running after us. As it gains on us, may we run on and share it with others up ahead. Amen.

Feel the Spirit blow through our life, renewing your spirit and calling you to be born from above. Go in the love of God, the peace of Christ, and the strength of the Holy Spirit.

\* *Three-Fold Amen*

TH # 558

\* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

***Please stay for our annual Easter Egg Hunt!  
Activities and Food for children and Adults!***