

Worship on the Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 30, 2025

The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson, Pastor
Diane Dawson Dexter, Organist

Prelude "Give Me the Eyes of a Child" by Herb Frombach

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship Psalm 32:1-6

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 did not pray to you, O Lord, 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. Selah

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. Selah

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

Hymn 62 "All Creatures of Our God and King" (verses 1, 2, 3)

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and merciful God, you are the Good Shepherd. We confess that we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your law. We have failed to do those things which we ought to have done, and we have done things which we ought not to have done. Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive us and restore us, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ your Son. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Joshua 5:9-12

New Testament Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Sermon "A Tale of Two Brothers" Dr. Rosanna Anderson

Affirmation of Faith (from "A Brief Statement of Faith")

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,

healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Offertory "He Is Lord" by Tom Fettke

Doxology Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Forgiving God, we are grateful that you receive us as beloved children. Like the father in Jesus' parable of the lost son, you rejoice when we repent and return to you. Thank you for not holding our sins against us. Help us to welcome each person as someone you love. Use our gifts to support ministries that encourage people as they live into new life in Christ. We pray in his precious name. Amen.

Sharing Praise and Concerns for Prayer

Prayers of the Church and the Lord's Prayer (*trespasses*)

Hymn 378 "Amazing Grace"

Benediction

Postlude "Hallelujah" by Leonard Cohen

Church Calendar

Saturday, March 29 **Jukebox Saturday** 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Mere Doyen leads this opportunity to vote on an album that we will listen to together. This month's theme is Concept Albums.

Alcoholics Anonymous via Zoom 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 30 **Worship and Fellowship** 10:00 a.m.
You are welcome to join us for worship onsite or via live stream.

Tuesday, April 1 **Alcoholics Anonymous & Al-Anon** 7:00 p.m.
We sponsor this year-round group. In this season, meetings are held via zoom. To connect with the facilitator, email info@finyaa.org.

Wednesday, April 2 **Bible Study** 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
We welcome people in a hybrid format in the church Parlor and via Zoom. We are reading *From Wilderness to Glory: Lent and Easter for Everyone* by renowned biblical scholar N. T. Wright.

Thursday, April 3 **Tots Time** 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
This is a casual time for toddlers and adults to share fellowship.

Sunday, April 6 **Worship and Fellowship** 10:00 a.m.
Special guest, Aila Brennan, Program Director at Silver Lake Camp and Conference Center in Sharon, CT, will give a Minute for Mission during worship and stay for coffee hour to lead an information session about upcoming programs and events with a Q&A time.

Union Chapel (United Church of Christ)
The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson, Pastor
Laura Chapman, Director of Operations
Becky Walters, Administrative Assistant

Diane Dawson Dexter, Organist

*"Whoever you are and
wherever you are on your faith journey,
you are welcome here."*



**Union Chapel
(United Church of Christ)**

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Pastor**

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