

Order of Service for March 21st Lenten Devotional
(room opens at 6:55- service starts at 7pm)

I. Welcome and Open with a recorded Hymn

II. 5th Sunday Scripture:

'This is the covenant I will make with them,' says the Lord: 'I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.' Jeremiah 31:33

III. Light Candles: Say the prayer:

Almighty and most merciful God, kindle within us the fire of love, that by its cleansing flame we may be purged of all our sins and made worthy to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

iV. Invite Prayers: All those in attendance can add their own petitions at this time.

For these and all our prayers, we ask your mercy.
Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know thee as thou art revealed in Scripture and community. Grant this for the sake of thy love. **Amen.**

V. Canticles: read by leaders breaking at the asterisk.

A Song of Penitence *Prayer of Manasseh 1-2, 4, 6-7, 11-15*

*O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, **

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of all their righteous offspring:

*You made the heavens and the earth, **

with all their vast array.

*All things quake with fear at your presence; **

they tremble because of your power.

*But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; **

it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.

*O Lord, you are full of compassion, **

long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.

*You hold back your hand; **

you do not punish as we deserve.

*In your great goodness, Lord, you have promised forgiveness to sinners, **

that they may repent of their sin and be saved.

*And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, **

and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.

*I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, **
and I know my wickedness only too well.
*Therefore I make this prayer to you: **
Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.
*Do not let me perish in my sin, **
nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.
*For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, **
and in me you will show forth your goodness.
*Unworthy as I am, you will save me, in accordance with your great mercy, **
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.
*For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, **
and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

The Song of Zechariah Luke 1: 68-79

*Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; **
he has come to his people and set them free.
*He has raised up for us a mighty savior, **
born of the house of his servant David.
*Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, **
from the hands of all who hate us.
*He promised to show mercy to our fathers **
and to remember his holy covenant.
*This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, **
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
*Free to worship him without fear, **
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
*You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, **
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
*To give his people knowledge of salvation **
by the forgiveness of their sins.
*In the tender compassion of our God **
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
*To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, **
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: **
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

VI. Collect of the Day: read by leader

Almighty and eternal God,
you have made of one blood all the nations of the earth
and will that they live together

in peace and harmony;
so order the course of this world
that all peoples may be brought together
under Christ's most gentle rule;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Collect for the Fifth Sunday in Lent: read by leader

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

- IV. Laura Marshall invites everyone to listen to our concluding hymn and extinguish their candles at the end, and leave in peace and silence.