

Unity Moravian Church  
March 7, 2021  
Third Sunday of Lent

Watchword for the Week: "For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." 1 Corinthians 1:18

***Gathering for Worship***

**Welcome**

Rev. Joe Moore

**Prelude**

Exalt Him with Song  
Donna Shore

arr. M. Ham

**Call to Worship**

We worship you, Lord God, the high and lofty one, who inhabits eternity, whose name is holy. You dwell in the high and holy place, and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit.

**Give us grace to bring you the sacrifice of a broken and contrite heart,  
which you, O God, will not despise.**

WAREHAM

*Lord God of hosts! O may our praise your courts with  
grateful incense fill; still may we stand before  
your face, still hear and do your sovereign will.*

***Offering Our Prayers and Praises***

**Liturgy of Grace**

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.

**More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter  
also than honey and the honeycomb.**

God spoke these words, saying:

**You shall have no other gods besides me.  
You shall not make yourself an idol.  
You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.  
Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.  
Honor your father and mother.**

**You shall not murder.  
You shall not commit adultery.  
You shall not steal.  
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.  
You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

SOUTHAMPTON

*Lord God, with shame I now confess I've turned away from you;  
forgive me all my sin today, my heart and soul renew.*

Lord God, merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity, and transgression, and sin, yet by no means clearing the unrepentant: incline your ear and hear, for we do not present our supplications before you on the ground of our righteousness, but on the ground of your great mercies.

#### **SILENT CONFESSION**

Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us. Do not cast us away from your presence and do not take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and sustain in us a willing spirit. Have mercy upon us according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Lord, have mercy upon us. Amen.**

Special Music      *Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God*      arr. Mueller  
Beverly Merritt, Sharon Dailey, Jay Parsons, Wayne Yancey  
Accompanied by Donna Shore

In the peace of God, let us join in professing our faith:

**With the whole of Christendom, we share faith in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We believe and confess that God has revealed himself once and for all in Jesus Christ; that our Lord has redeemed us with the whole of humanity by his death and resurrection; and that there is no salvation apart from him.**

**We believe that Christ is present with us in the word and the sacrament; that he directs us through the Spirit and thus forms us into a church. We hear him summoning us to follow him, and ask him to use us in his service. Christ joins us together mutually, so that**

**knowing ourselves to be members of his body, we become willing to serve each other.**

**In this spirit we await the appearing of Jesus Christ, go forward to meet our Lord with joy, and pray to be found ready when he comes. Amen.**

**Prayer of Intercession**

Dana Myers

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen, Amen.*

*Lord God, Father, hear us as we pray:*

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 trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Lord God, Son, the Savior of the world, be gracious to us.  
Lord God, Holy Spirit, abide with us forever.*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time to make our common intercession to you, and you have promised through your beloved Son that where two or three are gathered in his name you will be in the midst of them. Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth and in the world to come life everlasting.

**Amen.**

REGENT SQUARE

*Thanks we give in adoration for the gospel's joyful sound;  
may the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound;  
may your presence, your presence, with us evermore be found.*

## ***Sharing God's Word***

**New Testament**

I Corinthians 1:18-25

**Gospel Lesson**

John 2:13-22

**Hymn**

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

#350

*When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.*

*See, from his head, his hands, his feet sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine demands my soul, my life, my all.*

**Sermon**

## ***Responding to God***

**Worship by Giving**

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”  
Matthew 6:19-21

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[Unity Moravian Online Offering](#)

Mail:

Unity Moravian Church  
8300 Concord Church Rd.  
Lewisville, NC 27023

**Offertory**

Fairest Lord Jesus  
Donna Shore

arr. G. Prim

**Ministry Opportunities**

Dana Myers

## ***Going Forth to Share God's Love***

In this act of worship, we come in faith-faith that our problems will not defeat us, faith that our hearts and spirits can be renewed, faith that we are not alone; for you are with us.

**Thanks be to you, God our Savior, for meeting us here in this time and place. Thanks be to you for forgiving us, for freeing us, and for strengthening us to be your disciples in this life.**

We are filled with the grace, mercy, and peace of God.

**We are filled with the love of Jesus Christ. We give thanks that we are blessed, and we commit ourselves to be a blessing to others. Amen.**

**Hymn**

*God Is My Strong Salvation*

# 769

*God is my strong salvation, no enemy I fear;  
he hears my supplication, dispelling all my care;  
if he, my head and master, defend me from above,  
what pain or what disaster can part me from his love.*

*I fully am persuaded and joyfully declare  
I'm never left unaided, my Father hears my prayer;  
His comforts never fail me, he stands at my right hand;  
where tempests fierce assail me, they're calm at his command.*

*The ground of my profession is Jesus and his blood;  
He gives me the possession of everlasting good.  
To me his Holy Spirit speaks many a precious word  
of rest to one who's seeking a refuge in the Lord.*

**Benediction**

Rev. Joe Moore

**Postlude**

The Heavens Declare  
Donna Shore

B. Marcello

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Interim Pastor: Rev. Joe Moore  
Pastoral Intern: Dana Myers

Organist: Donna Shore  
Worship Leaders: Beverly Merritt  
Sharon Dailey  
Jay Parsons  
Wayne Yancey