### Confession & Prayer of Repentance

Trusting in God's tender mercy, let us confess our sin to God with one another.

Gracious and loving God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. During this season of Lent, we ask that You forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in Your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. (Personal quiet confession)

Father, You have heard our confessions. Forgive us, we pray. Empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. In the holy Name of our Savior, Jesus, we pray, and we all agree by saying, Amen.

# Words of Comfort & Affirmation

<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near. <sup>7</sup>Let the wicked forsake his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to the LORD, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon (Isaiah 55:6-7 NAS95).

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. All: Glory be to God! Amen

Prayers of the People: (liturgy on screen)

The Peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you always. **People: And, with you** (Passing of the Peace)

Apostle's Creed: (liturgy on screen)

**Benediction and Sending** 



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### Purpose Statement:

We exist to glorify God by serving as a conduit for the grace of God whereby faith the Love, Life, Lordship and Leadership of the Kingdom of Heaven is revealed and expanded to all nations.

#### **Mission Statement:**

We desire to be a multi-cultural, multi-generational conduit of the grace of God to be used to fulfil our purpose, for the glory of God.

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 430 St. Charles, MO 63302 636-373-9001

Weekly Corporate Gatherings: Sunday Worship Service- 10:00 AM Discipleship Groups (times vary)

#### Staff:

Rev. Michael Hammond, Sr. - President & Senior Pastor Rose Hammond- Receptionist

# Order of Worship Sunday, March 26, 2023

### FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

**Congregation** responses spoken together appear in **bold** print.

# Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

Though we could be resentful, we choose to come and give thanks. Though we could be complaining, we choose to come and offer appreciation. Though we could be upset about what we lack, we come in gratitude for what we have. We enter now into this time of worship carrying seed to sow, singing songs of joy, and rejoicing together. Amen

Worship in Song (click on the song title for a YouTube track)

Again I Say Rejoice House of the Lord
When I Think About the Lord

## **Prayer for Illumination**

Gracious God, give us the wisdom of Your Spirit to understand and receive the depth and breadth of the love that Christ showers upon us. Bless this reading of Your Word that we might be transformed by its grace. In Jesus name we pray and we all agree by saying, **Amen** 

Scripture Reading: Ezekial 37:1-14 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word** (reflection)

Responsive Scripture Reading: Psalm 130

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup> Lord, hear my voice!

Let Your ears be attentive

To the voice of my supplications.

<sup>3</sup> If You, Lord, should mark iniquities,

O Lord, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>But there is forgiveness with You,

That You may be feared.

<sup>5</sup> I wait for the Lord, my soul does wait,

And in His word do I hope.

<sup>6</sup> My soul waits for the Lord

More than the watchmen for the morning;

Indeed, more than the watchmen for the morning.

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, hope in the Lord;

For with the Lord there is lovingkindness,

And with Him is abundant redemption.

<sup>8</sup> And He will redeem Israel

From all his iniquities.

Worship in Song: Hymn of the Month

Sweet Hour of Prayer | View the lyrics here

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:1-11 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word** (reflection)

Gospel Reading: John 11:1-45 (NASB95)

Sermon (10:30 a.m.) https://www.facebook.com/fcmstl

### Authorities we want to remember in prayer this week

Secretary of Treasury- Janet Yellen

MO Dept of Public Safety-Sandy Karsten

MO Dept of Corrections- Anne L. Precythe

State Board of Education Commissioner- Dr. Margie Vandeven

| Who You Gonna Call?   | 26 March 2023          | Why Do This?   |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--|
| John 11:1-45 (NASB95) | Pastor Michael Hammond | The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. Psalm 19:7  |
|                       |                        | Read Psalm 19:7–11   |
|                       |                        | As I was helping my sixth-grade grandson, Logan, with some tough algebra-type homework, he told me of his dream of becoming an engineer. After we returned to figuring out what to do with the <i>x</i> 's and <i>y</i> 's in his assignment, he said, "When am I ever going to use this stuff?"   |
|                       |                        | I couldn't help but smile, saying, "Well, Logan, this is exactly the stuff you'll use if you become an engineer!" He hadn't realized the connection between algebra and his hoped-for future.  |
|                       |                        | Sometimes we view Scripture that way. When we listen to sermons and read certain parts of the Bible, we may think, "When am I ever going to use this?" The psalmist David had some answers. He said God's truths found in Scripture are effective for "refreshing the soul," "making wise the simple," and "giving joy to the heart" (Psalm 19:7–8). The wisdom of Scripture, found in the first five books of the Bible as referred to in Psalm 19 (as well as all of Scripture), helps us as we daily rely on the Spirit's leading (Proverbs 2:6). |
|                       |                        | And without the Scriptures, we'd lack the vital way God has provided for us to experience Him and better know His love and ways. Why study the Bible? Because "the commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes" (Psalm 19:8).   |
|                       |                        | By: <u>Dave Branon</u>   |
|                       |                        | <b>Announcements</b>   |
|                       |                        | Leadership Meeting will be today immediately following our Worship Gathering. All covenant partners should plan on attending.  |
|                       |                        | Please make sure you have signed up with the dish you are bringing to our Agape meal next Sunday. Looking forward to hearing your glory sightings!!  |