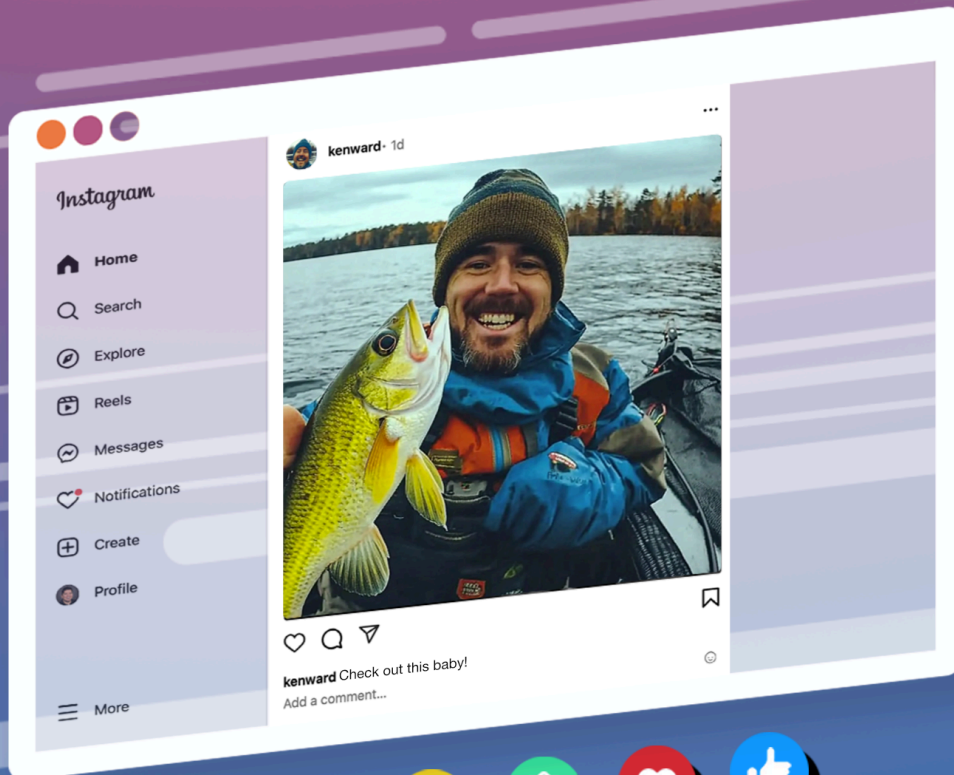


# HOW BIG IS YOUR FISH?



**#JESUS  
TRENDING**  
**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**MARCH 9, 2025**

# WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

*What Wondrous Love is This*

Brad Nix

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## Call to Worship

One: We gather to worship the One who knows every post on our hearts.

**All: We come, striving to allow Jesus to be trending in our lives today.**

One: In our struggles with temptation, God is our strength.

**All: In Christ, we find our true identity and worth, beyond what the world sees.**

One: Let us worship God with honest hearts.

**All: We hope for the reminder that Jesus is calling us to follow a new way—one that could trend throughout our lives.**

## Introit

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

Arr. Donald Moore

©1994 Belwin-Mills Music Publishing

## Welcome

### † Opening Hymn

*Just As I Am, Without One Plea*

UMH 357

1. Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidst me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
2. Just as I am, and waiting not  
to rid my soul of one dark blot,  
to thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
3. Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
4. Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
yea, all I need in thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
  
6. Just as I am, thy love unknown  
hath broken every barrier down;  
now, to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

## **Blessing for Young Hearts**

### **Prayers of the People**

*A Pastor will begin a time of prayer and name those for whom our congregation is praying.  
Online Worshipers may type prayer requests in the Live Chat, taking care for privacy.*

### **Pastoral Prayer**

### **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 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, forever. Amen.

### **Prayer Response**

*Kyrie*

Arr. Donald Moore  
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## **WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST**

### **Scripture**

Luke 4:1-13 (CEB)

Jesus returned from the Jordan River full of the Holy Spirit, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. There he was tempted for forty days by the devil. He ate nothing during those days and afterward Jesus was starving. The devil said to him, "Since you are God's Son, command this stone to become a loaf of bread."

Jesus replied, "It's written, *People won't live only by bread.*"

Next the devil led him to a high place and showed him in a single instant all the kingdoms of the world. The devil said, "I will give you this whole domain and the glory of all these kingdoms. It's been

entrusted to me and I can give it to anyone I want. Therefore, if you will worship me, it will all be yours.”

Jesus answered, “It’s written, *You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him.*”

The devil brought him into Jerusalem and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, “Since you are God’s Son, throw yourself down from here; for it’s written: *He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you and they will take you up in their hands so that you won’t hit your foot on a stone.*”

Jesus answered, “It’s been said, *Don’t test the Lord your God.*” After finishing every temptation, the devil departed from him until the next opportunity.

### Scriptural Response

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen**

**Anthem**

*Blessed Assurance*

Arr. Ruth Elaine Schram  
©1996 Hal Leonard Corporation

**Message**

*How Big is Your Fish?*

Rev. Bob Rhodes

## WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

### Response to the Word

### Invitation to the Offering

**Offertory**

*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*

Mark Hayes  
©2018 Lorenz Publishing Co.

† **Doxology**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

## Prayer of Confession

**All:** Merciful God, we confess that we have sought affirmation in the eyes of others, embellishing our lives to gain approval. Forgive us for the times we've valued appearances over authenticity. Lift us up and guide us forward when we are tired beyond words. Pour your grace into our souls when we give in to temptation and stray where we were never meant to go. Renew in us a spirit of truth and contentment. Amen.

One: All who call on God's name are saved. We can rest assured in this promise. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**All:** In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

## WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

† Closing Hymn

*It Is Well with My Soul*

UMH 377

1. When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll;  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught  
me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul, it is well  
it is well with my soul.

2. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
let this blest assurance control,  
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
and hath shed his own blood for my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul, it is well  
it is well with my soul.

3. My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!  
My sin, not in part but the whole,  
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,  
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Refrain

It is well with my soul, it is well  
it is well with my soul.

4. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,  
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,  
even so, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul, it is well  
it is well with my soul.

† **Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Fugue and Harmonization on St. Anne*

J.S. Bach/ Adapted by Hopson  
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**Liturgical elements from *Discipleship Ministries (UMC)* and *The Abingdon Worship Annual*.**

**Flowers:** flowers in appreciation of Joyce Drozda  
**Liturgist:** Ann Gonsalves  
**Organist:** Robert Wuertz  
**Pianist:** Rebecca Cosford  
**Ushers:** Beau Brandon, Dave Grundies, Don Lincoln, Dan Martin, Peter McCreight  
**Tech Team:** AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

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**LJUMC Ministry Team**

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director;  
Theresa Erb, Office Manager; Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director;  
Erin Wyer, NS Executive Director