

ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 5, 2023

Order of Service for the Worship of God

Second Sunday in Lent Communion Sunday

Gathering Music

Becky Cain, Accompanist
Bethany Bevier, Guitar

Welcome

Rev. Emily Tanis-Likkel

Call to Worship

Emily H, Liturgist

(responsive)

What is it like to begin again?

It is like flowers in the spring that push through frozen ground.

It is like babies learning to walk, one clumsy step at a time.

It is like Nicodemus in the night, asking Jesus for guidance.

It is like a Sunday morning, starting our week anew.

May we find God in our seeking.

May we learn as we go.

May we be brave enough to begin again.

Let us worship the God of new beginnings.

Sung Response

Wait for the Lord

Jacques Berthier

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Prayer for Transformation

Words of Grace

Opening Song

#98, *Lift High the Cross*

(music at end)

Scripture Readings**Genesis 12:1-4a, NRSV**

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

John 3:1-17, NRSV

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Sermon

“How do we begin again?”

Quiet Meditation**Song**

#292, *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

(music at end)

Prayers of the People**Sung Response**

O Lord, Hear Our Prayer

(next page)

Em G/D Am/C D Em C B⁷

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me. O

5 Em G/D Am/C D Em B⁷ Em *Last Time*

Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O *Last Time*

Testimony of Faith (unison)

We believe in a God who meets us in the shadows,
 who welcomes our questions,
 who invites us to begin again.

We believe that Jesus showed us a new way,
 a deeper faith,
 a more compassionate existence.

We believe that all of our beginnings should return us to this foundation,
 and that no matter how many times we lose our way,
 God always welcomes us home. Amen.

Time, Talent and Treasure

Online: Please donate generously through alkiucc.org, through a mailed donation to the church office or through text-to-give by texting the word "AlkiUCC" to 44321; a donation link will come back to you. Your support for Alki is more important now than ever as Alki UCC seeks to be a prophetic voice for all people in the year ahead.

Announcements (please post announcements in the Zoom chat)

Celebrations (those who had February birthdays/anniversaries are invited to let us know through Zoom chat)

Offering Invitation

Musical Offering

Doxology

#778

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below;
 Praise God for all that love has done;
 Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Holy Communion

Invitation

Sung Refrain #788 *Eat this Bread* Jacques Berthier

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun - gry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

Communion Prayer

Sung Refrain #788 *Eat This Bread* (music above)

Sharing of the meal

You are invited to join communion with your own bread and cup. Please hold the elements until all have been served. We will partake of the meal together.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Closing Song *We are Called* David Haas (music at end)

Benediction

Hospitality Hour



Note: Many of the music selections you'll hear at Alki UCC during Lent are Taizé (pronounced: tay-zay), a prayerful form of music known for its simple, yet rich and meditative character. Taizé music comes from the Taizé Community, a French ecumenical religious community founded in 1940.

Service Prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Order of Worship Subject to Change;

Music Covered by One License.net #A-7 10529

Portions of today's service are recorded for posting on Alki UCC's YouTube channel.

Cover image: [Renacimiento](#) by Carmelle Beaugelin

A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Alki United Church of Christ (Alki UCC)

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Lift High the Cross

198

George William Kitchin (1827–1912)
Rev. by Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916; alt.

John 1:29–34; Rom. 5:6–11; 6:3–8; Rev. 7:9–17; 22:1–5

Refrain, in unison

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim; Let

all a - dore and praise that sa - cred name.

Last time, end

Stanzas, in harmony

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod, the
2 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears
3 O Christ, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, your
4 Set up your throne, that earth's de - spair may cease, be -
5 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: praise

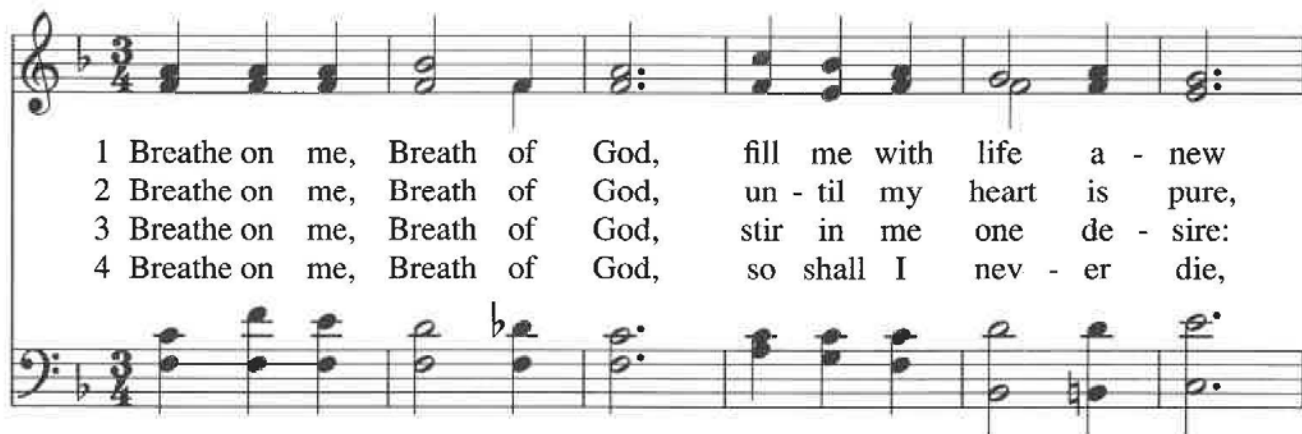
Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ the Child of God.
on the brow the seal of Christ who died.
death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
neath the shad - ow of its heal - ing peace.
to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

to Refrain

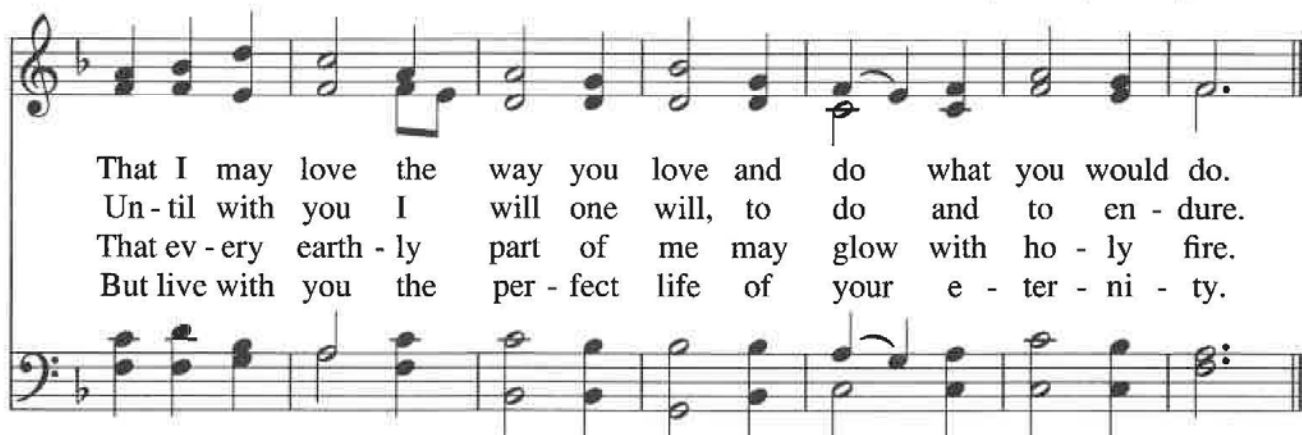
Breathe on Me, Breath of God

292

Edwin Hatch, 1886; alt.



1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me one de - sire:
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,



That I may love the way you love and do what you would do.
Un - til with you I will one will, to do and to en - dure.
That ev - ery earth - ly part of me may glow with ho - ly fire.
But live with you the per - fect life of your e - ter - ni - ty.

We Are Called

David Haas

♩=138

G G/B C C/D G G/B

1. Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the
2. Come! O - pen your heart! Show your ner - cy to
3. Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when

7

C D Em Em7 C

love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the
all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the
all will be one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each

12

G/B Am G/B C C/D

king-dom, to live in the free-dom of the cit - y of God!
hope-less so ha - tred and vio-lence will be no more!
oth - er to serve one a - noth - er u - ni - ted in love!

Refrain

17

D C D Gsus4 G C D Em

— We are called to act with jus-tice, we are called to love ten-der - ly,

—
—

25

Em7 C D Gsus4 G C D G

— we are called to serve one an - oth - er; to walk hum-bly with God!

33

G