



## ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 22, 2026

Order of Service  
for the Worship of God

### First Sunday in Lent

The Good News is . . .  
so good it catches us by surprise

#### Gathering Music

Prelude Daniel Self, Piano

Welcome and Land Acknowledgment Rev. Emily Tanis-Likkel

Centering Song *What We Need is Here* Amy McCreath



Call to Worship Rev. Penny M, Liturgist (responsive)

The good news of the gospel is:

**mana in the desert, water turned into wine,  
love after loss, forgiveness after pain.**

The good news of the gospel is:

**release for the captive, hope for the hopeless,  
mourning turned to dancing, and strangers turned to friends.**

So come on in.

There's no time to waste!

This surprising good news is here for you.

**Let us worship this good-news God.**

Opening Song *In a Neat and Tidy Garden* Anna Strickland and Robert Lowry  
(music at end)

#### Prayer for Transformation

Special Music *Down to the Water to Pray* Traditional Arr: Pepper Choplin  
Soloist, Theo J

Scripture John 2:1-11 New Revised Standard Version, updated edition

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet.” So they took it. When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

**Dramatic Reading**                      Joe M

**Sermon**

**Quiet Meditation**

**Song**    #522, *I Love to Tell the Story*

**Prayers of the People**

**Time, Talent & Treasure**

**Mission Updates**

**Offering Invitation**

**Online:** Please donate generously through [alkiucc.org](http://alkiucc.org), through a mailed donation to the church office or via the QR Code below. Your support for Alki UCC is more important than ever.

**Offertory**

**Doxology**

Praise God throughout these forty days.                      (music at end)  
Praise Christ, on high, whom God did raise.  
And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love in Christ into our hearts.  
Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Closing Song**

*Teacher Jesus, Source of Knowledge*                      (To the tune of HYFRODOL)

Teacher Jesus, source of knowledge,  
taught on plains, in towns on hills,  
sharing wisdom, building courage,  
helping friends to do God's will.

Every story, every saying;  
all in service to God's dream,  
words that flowed you like rivers of justice,  
vision of a world redeemed.

VERSE 2

Still to day we seek that knowledge  
found in each surprising place,  
offered up by strange new voices,  
drenched in love bestowing grace.

Though the fear with ful, lost in hatred,  
do their best to deny what we know,  
we are planted in love's deep soil.  
There we're planted and there we'll grow.

VERSE 3

As we learn, our hearts are opened.  
As we learn, our minds are free.  
As we learn, our faith is strengthened,  
lived in thought and word and deed.

Should we need to give a reason  
for the hope that calls us on,  
we respond with full conviction,  
well prepared to sing your song.

VERSE 4

Teacher Jesus, teach us always.  
Teach us in a thousand ways.  
Help us live in joy and wonder.  
Help us weep and heal and praise.  
Help us learn from one another.  
Help us make your dream come true.  
Help us build your peaceful Kindom.  
Help us live and love like you.

**Benediction**

**Postlude**



**Support the many ministries of  
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Liturgy adapted from A Sanctified Art  
Order of Worship Subject to Change  
Music Covered by One License.net #A-7 10529  
Image from A Sanctified Art  
Portions of today's service recorded  
for Alki CC's YouTube Channel

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# In a Neat and Tidy Garden

ALL THE WAY 8.7.8.7 D ("All the Way My Savior Leads Me")

Words: Anna Strickland (2025)

Music: Robert Lowry (1875)



In a neat and ti - dy gar - den grows a se - cret ti - ny seed  
Green and ten - der leaves I har - vest from the mus - tard grow - ing wild  
O - ther gar - den - ers may strug - gle and pre - tend they have con - trol



There a - mong the plan - ted bar - ley will e - merge a shock - ing weed  
To en - rich and spice my dish - es that were un - til now too mild  
O - ver land that God cre - a - ted but I'll tell you what I know:



Grow - ing quick - ly through the so - il to break forth in va - cant spot  
Un - ex - pec - ted and sur - pris - ing, un - con - trolled by hu - man hand  
I am not the Mas - ter Gar - dener, just a stew - ard of this place



What a joy when I dis - cov - er God has plan - ted in my plot!  
See the reign of God is grow - ing, ta - king root through - out the land!  
God has seed - ed ev - ery a - cre with sur - pris - ing, wi - ld grace!



What a joy when I dis - cov - er God has plan - ted in my plot!  
See the reign of God is grow - ing, ta - king root through - out the land!  
God has seed - ed ev - ery a - cre with sur - pris - ing, wi - ld grace!

# A Lenten Doxology

Praise God through-out these for - ty days. Praise

The first system of the doxology consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/2. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are written below the upper staff.

Christ, on high, whom God did raise. And praise the Spir-it who im -

The second system of the doxology consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/2. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are written below the upper staff.

parts God's love in Christ in - to our hearts. A - men.

The third system of the doxology consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/2. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are written below the upper staff.