

# Lent Lent

WELLS CHURCH

- 10:00am

Walter Bauerwald, Music Director

As we begin a spiritual journey through this season of Lent, it is a journey for the soul that will take us through the Wilderness of Temptation to the fellowship of the Last Supper, to the agony of the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. So, let us turn our hearts toward God who can calm our storms, restore our hope, and guide us on our journey.

GREETINGS AND WELCOME

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK:

“God says, “I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations.”

**Genesis 17:7**

**PRAYER FOR THE DAY:**

*O great Comforter, our lives have been overshadowed by economic calamity, social conflict, and the threat of a global pandemic. In faith, we turn to you as you carry us in your heart through troubled waters. Amen.*

PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

The God whom we worship calls us to discipleship:

**We are to follow where Christ leads us;**

and obey what Christ commands;

**To follow when it is not easy;**

To follow when others think us foolish;

**To follow where justice leads;**

To follow where love guides us;

**To follow even when it leads to the cross.**

Come let us worship the living God,

**Who loves us and leads us and promises to never let**

**us go!**

**Refrain**

**Lead me, guide me, along the way  
 For if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
 Lord, let me walk each day with you,  
 Lead me my whole life through.**

**1. I am weak and I need your strength and pow'r  
 to endure with grace, my weakest hour.  
 Help me through the darkness your face to see  
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

**Refrain**

**3 I am lost if you take your hand from me.  
 I am blind without your light to see.  
 Lord, forever may I your servant be.  
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

**Refrain****A LITANY**

We come to worship You, O God, in this season of Lent,  
**we come to reflect again on Jesus' journey to the cross,  
 and beyond that, to the resurrection.**

Today we stand with the disciples and listen to Jesus;  
**we cannot believe that He must suffer.**

We reflect with the disciples;  
**we believe there must be another way besides the  
 Cross.**

Then, Jesus foretells His death and we are stunned;  
**we agree with Peter: "Jesus, You must have got it  
 wrong!"**

The heart-wrenching truth comes home to us;  
**as followers of the Jesus Way, we are called to share  
 the sacrificial path.**

Come with us on our Lenten journey, O God.

**Strengthen us that we might grow as Disciples of  
 Christ.**

Renew us in body, mind and spirit  
**and give us the courage to remain faithful!**

Loving God, You know us by heart and call us by name. In this time of worship, help us to trust in Your promises that we might name ourselves proudly as Your People and followers of Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of steadfast love, we confess to You our unworthiness of Your love. Instead of sacrificing, we promote ourselves. Instead of giving, we hoard our blessings. Too often, we claim our faith in Christ as a badge to wear instead of a cross to bear, avoiding the costly acts that bear Your grace.**

**Have mercy on us. Teach us to follow in Your path. Through Your Spirit, give us grace to serve our neighbors as ourselves and to glorify You through our faith. Amen.**

**Lord, listen to Your children praying.  
Lord, send Your Spirit to this place.  
Lord, listen to Your children praying.  
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

## READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE

**Old Testament:           Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16**  
**New Testament:         Romans 4:13-25**  
**Gospel:                    Mark 8:31-38**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON           **“Take Up MY Cross?”**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

Response:       Hear Our Prayer, O Lord                   MBW #825

## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

## OFFERTORY INVITATION

HYMN: “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

**MBW #603 vss. 1&4**

**1**           **O Jesus, I have promised**  
**To serve Thee to the end;**  
**Be Thou forever near me,**  
**My Master and my Friend;**  
**I shall not fear the battle**  
**If Thou art by my side,**  
**Nor wander from the pathway**  
**If Thou wilt be my Guide.**

**4**           **O Jesus, Thou hast promised**  
**To all who follow Thee**  
**That where Thou art in glory**  
**There shall Thy servant be;**  
**And Jesus, I have promised**  
**To serve Thee to the end;**  
**Oh, give me grace to follow,**  
**My Master and my Friend.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**