

Weekly Poem: *The Builders*
- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

All are architects of Fate,
working in these walls of Time;
some with massive deeds and
great,
some with ornaments of rhyme.
Nothing useless is, or low;
each thing in its place is best;
and what seems but idle show
strengthens and supports
the rest.
For the structure that we raise,
time is with materials filled;
our todays and yesterdays
are the blocks with which
we build.
Truly shape and fashion these;
leave no yawning gaps between;
think not, because no man sees,
such things will remain unseen.
In the elder days of Art,
builders wrought
with greatest care
each minute and unseen part;
for the Gods see everywhere.

Let us do our work as well,
both the unseen and the seen;
make the house,
where Gods may dwell,
beautiful, entire, and clean.
Else our lives are incomplete,
standing in these walls
of Time,
broken stairways,
where the feet
stumble as they seek to climb.
Build today, then,
strong and sure,
with a firm and ample base;
and ascending and secure
shall tomorrow find its place.
Thus alone can we attain
to those turrets,
where the eye
sees the world
as one vast plain,
and one boundless reach of sky.

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Katie Long, Director of Music
Rebecca Oden, Pianist
Dana Adams, Finance Coordinator
Lynn Barnes, Secretary

A *lectionary* is a selection of Bible readings to be used for worship and study.

This congregation uses the Revised Common Lectionary, which follows the liturgical year in a three-year cycle. Its scriptural recommendations complement the current season of the liturgical year.

Lectionary Year A for the Third Sunday in Lent, **March 12:**
Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 95, Romans 5:1-11, John 4:5-42.

Lectionary Year A for the Fourth Sunday in Lent,
March 19: *1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 23,*
Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41.



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www.alamancechurch.org

We are an ecumenical congregation
in a Presbyterian Church, USA form.

We are a **Matthew 25** Church.

We are a Hunger Action Congregation.

We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

We welcome all to the community of Jesus:
to connect, to learn, to worship, to serve.



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Third Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2023 10 a.m.

LARGE PRINT

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Music *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*
- arr. John Carter

*Call to Worship

One: Come into God's presence with thanksgiving!

Many: Let us sing to the rock of our salvation!

One: Even in the deserts of our lives,

Many: God is among us.

One: Come, let us worship and bow down,

Many: let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

***Opening Hymn** *Together We Serve* Song sheet

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Jesus, friend of all, once again, we come to you knowing our words have stung, our actions have harmed, and our indifference has let evil have its day. Our hearts yearn for you, our souls thirst for you; yet we do not imitate you in our lives. We scorn those who are different from us, and relish our own comfort. Once again, forgive us, O God. Give us your living water, that we might tell the world all you have done for us. Amen.

A Promise of Forgiveness and Peace

Passing of the Peace

We invite everyone to share Christ's peace with your neighbors in whatever way you can, both now and after the service.

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.
Many: And also with you.

***Sung Response** *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*
Song sheet

First Scripture Reading *John 4:5-20*

The Lay Reader today is Becky Brinkley.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
Many: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Children's Message

Children from age 4-5th grade may now go to Children's Church, for a time worship designed especially for them. They return to the sanctuary after the Message.

Second Scripture Reading *John 4:21-42*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
Many: Thanks be to God.

Message

Dr. Kyle Goodman

Weekly Poem

Ordination and Installation of Elders

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

King James Version

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowéd be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Pray with the words that hold the most meaning for you, even if your words differ from your neighbor's.

Call to Offering

Sharing of Offering

We invite you to prayerfully make a donation that contributes to the continued life and work of our congregation. Please consider mailing contributions directly to the church, or using our online giving platform, available at <https://www.alamancechurch.org/online-giving>.

Offertory

Blessed Assurance - arr. J.B. Taylor

*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Song sheet

* Sending Hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Song sheet

*Charge and Benediction

Closing Music

* One asterisk means to stand, as you are able.

After worship, the minister stands at the side door, the closest exit for those with special needs.

Citations for references used during worship are available from the ministers, upon request.

The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible is used during worship, unless otherwise noted.