

# Third Sunday of Lent

## Standing up and Standing Back

### March 8, 2026

**Preaching**  
Pastor Phil Yoder

**Worship Leader**  
John Estell

**Pianist/Organist**  
LuAnn Stuckey

### **Gathering**

Music Calls Us to Worship *Life-Giver, Maker, God of All* Nicolaus Decius

Welcome, Announcements, Centering

Prelude *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* arr. Wilbur Held

Invocation

\*Opening Hymn *How Firm a Foundation* VT 592

\*Responsive Reading

One: Confident, hesitant, maybe just tired.

**Many: We come to worship.**

One: Wanting to follow but not always sure how. Embarrassed by the ways we've fallen short.

**Many: We come anyway.**

One: Seeking, hurting, longing, needing.

**Many: We come.**

One: When hopes are high, and dreams are bright. When hopes are dashed, and the world is not all right.

**Many: We come again. We keep coming.**

One: Ready or not. Here we are.

**All: Come, Jesus. Come and meet us.**

### **Telling God's Story**

Hymn *Seeking Warmth from Charcoal Blazing* VT 344  
Children come forward on verse 3

Conversation with Children Pastor Carrie Mast

Hymn *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* VT 156  
v. 1,2,5 only

Confession Poem

One: Jesus, following you doesn't always go the way we expect.

**Many: We had such high hopes for you and for ourselves . . .**

**All: We feel for Peter.**

One: In that moment of fear when everything is falling apart we too may find that we are not as brave as we wish; that, in fact,

**Many: we are not ready to lay down our lives for anyone.**

One: But when we deny you or run from the truth or refuse our identity and potential,

**Many: you remain faithful.**

One: When we turn away,

**Many: still you are steadfast.**

Community Prayer  
*The Lord's Prayer (Abana)*

Pastor Carrie Mast  
Handout in pew rack

Scripture John 18:12-27 Steve Harnish

Message Finding Our Footing

### **Living God's Story**

\*Hymn of Response *Don't Be Afraid* VT 596  
Sing 2 times

Offering

Invitation

Offertory *Adoro Te Devote* arr. John Leavitt

Prayer of Dedication

### **Sending**

\*Hymn of Sending *My Hope Is Built* VT 621

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

- VT: *Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)*

*Parents of young children: God put the wiggle in children, so no need to suppress those wiggles. Sitting closer to the front makes it easier for your little ones to engage. Also, children learn their behavior by mimicking you. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Feel free to leave the sanctuary with your child, but you're welcome to come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."*