**CENTER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**March 23, 2025 10am**

**The Third Sunday in Lent**

**Deacons on Duty for March: Olivia Weber, Cheryl Smith, Rob Kirschner and**

**Tina Hazzard**

**PreludeMatt Valenti**

**† *Please stand if you are able.***

**Welcome and Announcements Reverend Averill**

Meditation Moment **Matt Valenti**

**Call to Worship** **Reverend Averill**

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ, Our Lord: Welcome to this time set aside to focus on the Holy Spirit who is working among us. May our hearts be open and eager to receive God’s Word this morning!

Children’s Moment

*All hymns are from the Grey Hymnal*

**† Hymn 66 *The God of Abraham Praise*** **Matt Valenti**

**Invocation (unison) Vincenzo Torizzo**  **Dear Lord, in this time of Lent, you ask us to prepare us. Prepare us, O Lord, for the betrayal that has yet to come, and the fateful crucifixion. AMEN.**

**Lord’s Prayer (unison) Vincenzo Torizzo**

*Let us join together to speak the words Jesus taught us….****Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on 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 power and the glory forever. Amen.***

**†Gloria Patri:***(please stand if you are able)*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end,* *Amen.*

**Center Faith Singers**

**R****esponsive Reading** (adapted from *Psalm 63:1-8)* **Vincenzo Torizzo**

Leader:O God, you are my God; I seek you.
**People: My soul thirsts for you.**
Leader: My flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
**People: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.**
Leader: Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.
**People: So I will bless you as long as I live.**
Leader: I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

**People: My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful**

 **lips when I think of you on my bed and meditate on you in the watches of the**

 **night.**
Leader: For you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.
**People: My soul clings to you—your right hand upholds me.**

**† Hymn 60 *Great is Thy Faithfulness*** **Matt Valenti**

**Old Testament Lesson (NRSV)** ***Isaiah 55:1-9*****Vincenzo Torizzo**

*(see insert)*

**New Testament Lesson (**NRSV**) *Luke 13:1-9*****Reverend Averill**

*(see insert)*

**Sunday Message  *“The Fig Tree”*** **Reverend Averill**

**Our Gifts, Tithes and Morning Offerings**

*Please place prayer request cards in offering plates*

**†Doxology Matt Valenti**

**†Prayer of Offering Reverend Averill**

Dear Lord, we offer up to you these gifts, both monetary and spiritual, which are given to you this day in this your House. Amen.

**Prayers of the People**  **Reverend Averill**

Intensive Prayers **Reverend Averill**

**† Hymn 532 *Be Thou My Vision*** **Matt Valenti**

Benediction *(Please remain seated)* **Reverend Averill** The Love of God the Father, the Grace of God the Son, and the Fellowship of God the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. AMEN.

**Postlude Matt Valenti**