

Worship Service ~ *Faithful When it Hurts*

Lent 4, Year A,

15th March 2026

Psalm 15 / Genesis 44

Prelude

played by church musician Annie Center,

Gathering Together

Welcome

Good morning, It's my pleasure to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church.

Please stand with me, if you're able, and hear the Lord call us into worship.

Call to Worship

One: Come, let us worship,

All: for we are the people of God's pasture.

One: Come, let us worship and bow down,

All: for we are the sheep of God's hand.

One: Come, let us worship and bow down before the Lord, our Maker.

All: For the Lord is our God, and God desires our worship!

Invocation

God of glory, touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit, that we with all creation may rejoice to sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

Opening Hymn

All People That on Earth do Dwell ~ 42

Engaging with God Together

Scripture Reading ~ Psalm 15

- 1 O LORD, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill?
- 2 He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart;
- 3 who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend;
- 4 in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the LORD; who swears to his own hurt and does not change;
- 5 who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

Let's greet one another with the peace of Christ as we pass the peace.

Pass the Peace

Sharing Announcements and Prayer Requests

In a moment we are going to pray together, but before we do, does anyone have any announcements to share about anything in the life of the church coming up? Does anyone have any joys or concerns to share?

Pastoral Prayer *Prayer by pastor*

Hymn *My Faith Looks Up to Thee ~ 565*

Hearing the Word Together

Sermon Passage ~ Genesis 44

- 1 Then he commanded the steward of his house, "Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put each man's money in the mouth of his sack, **2** and put my cup, the silver cup, in the mouth of the sack of the youngest, with his money for the grain." And he did as Joseph told him.
- 3 As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away with their donkeys. **4** They had gone only a short distance from the city. Now Joseph said to his steward, "Up, follow after the men, and when you overtake them, say to them, 'Why have you repaid evil for good? **5** Is it not from this that my lord drinks, and by this that he practices divination? You have done evil in doing this.'"

6 When he overtook them, he spoke to them these words. **7** They said to him, “Why does my lord speak such words as these? Far be it from your servants to do such a thing! **8** Behold, the money that we found in the mouths of our sacks we brought back to you from the land of Canaan. How then could we steal silver or gold from your lord's house? **9** Whichever of your servants is found with it shall die, and we also will be my lord's servants.” **10** He said, “Let it be as you say: he who is found with it shall be my servant, and the rest of you shall be innocent.” **11** Then each man quickly lowered his sack to the ground, and each man opened his sack. **12** And he searched, beginning with the eldest and ending with the youngest. And the cup was found in Benjamin's sack. **13** Then they tore their clothes, and every man loaded his donkey, and they returned to the city.

14 When Judah and his brothers came to Joseph's house, he was still there. They fell before him to the ground. **15** Joseph said to them, “What deed is this that you have done? Do you not know that a man like me can indeed practice divination?” **16** And Judah said, “What shall we say to my lord? What shall we speak? Or how can we clear ourselves? God has found out the guilt of your servants; behold, we are my lord's servants, both we and he also in whose hand the cup has been found.” **17** But he said, “Far be it from me that I should do so! Only the man in whose hand the cup was found shall be my servant. But as for you, go up in peace to your father.”

18 Then Judah went up to him and said, “Oh, my lord, please let your servant speak a word in my lord's ears, and let not your anger burn against your servant, for you are like Pharaoh himself. **19** My lord asked his servants, saying, ‘Have you a father, or a brother?’ **20** And we said to my lord, ‘We have a father, an old man, and a young brother, the child of his old age. His brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother's children, and his father loves him.’ **21** Then you said to your servants, ‘Bring him down to me, that I may set my eyes on him.’ **22** We said to my lord, ‘The boy cannot leave his father, for if he should leave his father, his father would die.’ **23** Then you said to your servants, ‘Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you shall not see my face again.’

24 “When we went back to your servant my father, we told him the words of my lord. **25** And when our father said, ‘Go again, buy us a little food,’ **26** we said, ‘We cannot go down. If our youngest brother goes with us, then we will go down. For we cannot see the man's face unless our youngest brother is with us.’ **27** Then your servant my father said to us, ‘You know that my wife bore me two sons. **28** One left me, and I said, “Surely he has been torn to pieces,” and I have never seen him since. **29** If you take this one also from me, and harm happens to him, you will bring down my gray hairs in evil to Sheol.’

30 “Now therefore, as soon as I come to your servant my father, and the boy is not with us, then, as his life is bound up in the boy's life, **31** as soon as he sees that the boy is not with us, he will die, and your servants will bring down the gray hairs of your servant our father with sorrow to Sheol. **32** For your servant became a pledge of safety for the boy to my father, saying, ‘If I do not bring him back to you, then I shall bear the blame before my father all my life.’ **33** Now therefore, please let your servant remain instead of the boy as a servant to my lord, and let the boy go back with his brothers. **34** For how can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? I fear to see the evil that would find my father.”

Sermon ~ *Faithful When it Hurts* *Rev. Jonny Finlayson*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Responding to the Word Together

Welcome to the Table of the Lord (*Responsive Reading*)

One: God shows his love for us

All: in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

One: Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life;

All: whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Pastor: The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26: "For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

All: *The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.*
(eat your bread)

All: *The cup which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.*
(drink your cup)

Reflection ~ Played during distribution of elements by church musician Annie Center,

Prayer

Hymn *My Hope is Built on Nothing Left* ~ 343

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the
Holy Spirit be with you all. Short prayer by pastor

Postlude played by church musician Annie Center,

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