

Worship Service ~ *A Parable About Grace*

Lent 5, Year A,

22nd March 2026

Isaiah 65:17 - 66:2 / Matthew 20:1-16

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: Let us worship God,

All: for whom our souls thirst and our bodies long.

One: Listen, listen to me, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.

All: We have come to hear the Word God has sent.

One: God's Word will not return empty

All: but will accomplish through us his holy purpose.

One: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth. Then we will go out with joy
and be led forth in peace;

All: the mountains and the hills will sing; the trees of the field will clap their hands.

Invocation

All-knowing and all-caring God, we gather this day drained by another week. We are like a parched desert, empty and in need of replenishment.

Visit us with your presence, saturate us with your Spirit, and bathe us in your streams of living water, that our lives might acknowledge and worship you to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ. Amen!

Engaging with God Together

Scripture Reading ~ Isaiah 65:17 - 66:2

- 17** “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind.
- 18** But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness.
- 19** I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.
- 20** No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.
- 21** They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their Fruit.
- 22** They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
- 23** They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD, and their descendants with them.
- 24** Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.
- 25** The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain,” says the LORD.

Isaiah 66: 1-2

- 1** Thus says the LORD: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest?”
- 2** All these things my hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the LORD. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.

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 Brethren We Have Met to Worship ~ 8

Hearing the Word Together

Sermon Passage ~ Matthew 20:1-16

1 “For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. 2 After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius[a] a day, he sent them into his vineyard. 3 And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4 and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ 5 So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. 6 And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ 7 They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ 8 And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ 9 And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. 10 Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. 11 And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, 12 saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ 13 But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? 14 Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. 15 Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity? 16 So the last will be first, and the first last.”

Sermon ~ *A Parable About Grace* *Rev. Braden Carter*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Responding to the Word Together

Call to Serve

A Time for Reflection

Played by church musician Annie Center,

Closing Hymn ***Come We That Love the Lord ~ 14***

Benediction

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, amen.

Postlude

Played by church musician Annie Center,

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