



1175 BIRNEY LANE
CINCINNATI, OH 45230
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PRAISE ABLAZE

MAY 4, 2025 • 11:00 AM

Overcoming Life's Sorrows Through the Storm

Welcome! We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened through the study of God's Word and empowered to live as His witnesses.

Families, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; a small area is set up in the atrium for children with "wiggles"; and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the rear parking lot entrance to your left as you exit the atrium doors of the Multi-Ministry Center (MMC). **Guests**, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the *Guest* side of the *Welcome Card* found in the pews/chair backs and place it in the offering baskets.

As We Gather: "Are you stuck in a bad place? Jesus was stuck in a bad place. Are you hurting? Jesus hurt. Are you bleeding? Jesus bled. Do you feel like you're grasping for air? Jesus grasped for air. Are you crying? Jesus cried. Is your heart breaking? Jesus' heart was absolutely broken. What's it all mean? It means we're not alone in the storm." (*Overcoming Life's Sorrows – Learning From Jeremiah*, R. Reed Lessing, Concordia Publishing House, 2021, pg. 258)

A HUGE "Thank you" to those that served to make worship happen today...

Pastor	Rev. Jason Hoerth	Reader	Glen Brueggemeier
Children's Message	Chris Graves DCE	Elder	Duke McKinley
Cont. Worship Ldr.	Dyann Cooper	Acolyte.....	Aiden McKinley
		Tech	Paul Vollbracht

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Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Opening Worship

*Raise a Hallelujah
Jesus*

Call to Worship

Confession and Absolution

Children's Message

God's Word *(see opposite or screens)*

*Jeremiah 38:1-13
Revelation 5:1-14
John 21:1-19*

(Children excused for Children's Church.)

Offering *(Thanks for your support of God's mission here.)*

Today's Message

(Children return from Children's Church.)

What We Believe

The Second Article of the Apostles' Creed

Prayers & Lord's Prayer

Blessing / Song

The Saving One

Dismissal

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OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 38:1-13

(Jeremiah Cast and Rescued from a Cistern.)

38 Now Shephatiah the son of Mattan, Gedaliah the son of Pashhur, Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur the son of Malchiah heard the words that Jeremiah was saying to all the people: ²“Thus says the Lord: He who stays in this city shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence, but he who goes out to the Chaldeans shall live. He shall have his life as a prize of war, and live.” ³Thus says the Lord: This city shall surely be given into the hand of the army of the king of Babylon and be taken.” ⁴Then the officials said to the king, “Let this man be put to death, for he is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but their harm.” ⁵King Zedekiah said, “Behold, he is in your hands, for the king can do nothing against you.” ⁶So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah, the king's son, which was in the court of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. And there was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud. ⁷When Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, a eunuch who was in the king's house, heard that they had put Jeremiah into the cistern—the king was sitting in the Benjamin Gate—⁸Ebed-melech went from the king's house and said to the king, ⁹“My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet by casting him into the cistern, and he will die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city.” ¹⁰Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, “Take thirty men with you from here, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies.” ¹¹So Ebed-melech took the men with him and went to the house of the king, to a wardrobe in the store- house, and took from there old rags and worn-out clothes, which he let down to Jeremiah in the cistern by ropes. ¹²Then Ebed-melech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah, “Put the rags and clothes between your armpits and the ropes.” Jeremiah did so. ¹³Then they drew Jeremiah up with ropes and lifted him out of the cistern. And Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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EPISTLE

Revelation 5:1–14

("Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.")

5 Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ² And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" ³ And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, ⁴ and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵ And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." ⁶ And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. ⁸ And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." ¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" ¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

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C Thanks be to God.

Acknowledgments

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