



## **Worship Service for March 23, 2025**

### **Third Sunday of Lent**

<b>Prelude</b>	Marshall Davies
<b>Chiming of the Hour</b>	Paula McKnight
<b>Welcome</b>	Pastor Felix Carrión
<b>Centering Moment</b>	Pastor Felix Carrión
<b>Praise and Worship Song</b>	Congregation

Sing! 109 "Part the Water"

Help us, O God we're here by the water.

Here at the end of the road.

Lead us, O God, on down through the river.

Help us to know how to go.

So part the waters of all injustice.

God help us cross bravely with Jesus as our guide,  
and send down the Spirit of your compassion.

God help us to love when we move against the tide.

And as we cross the river,

help us bring your love forever.

'Til we have reached the other side.

Show us a world that's free from oppression.

Free from the pain we all face.

Give us the strength to help make a future.

Warmed by the light of your grace.

So part the waters of all injustice.

God help us cross bravely with Jesus as our guide,  
and send down the Spirit of your compassion.

God help us to love when we move against the tide.

And as we cross the river,  
help us bring your love forever.

'Til we have reached the other side.

Teach us the way to help all your children.

Each of us precious to you.

Teach us that love is stronger than hatred.

Nothing is stronger than love!

So part the waters of all injustice.

God help us cross bravely with Jesus as our guide,  
and send down the Spirit of your compassion.  
God help us to love when we move against the tide.  
And as we cross the river,  
help us bring your love forever.  
'Til we have reached the other side.

## **Announcements**

Paula McKnight

## **Call to Worship**

Paula McKnight

LEADER: Let us come before the God of all creation with  
open hands and open hearts.

**ALL: Let us praise and thank God with every fiber of  
our being.**

LEADER: Together we give thanks for the precious gifts of  
life and love.

**ALL: Though many throughout the whole earth, we  
are One.**

**\*Congregational Song**

Congregation

TNCH #573 "Lead on Eternal Sovereign" vs. 1 &amp; 2

Lead on eternal Sovereign,  
we follow in your way;  
loud rings your cry for justice,  
your call for peace this day:  
Through prayerful preparation,  
your grace will make us strong,  
to carry on the struggle  
to triumph over wrong.

Lead on eternal Sovereign,  
follow not with fear,  
for in each human conflict  
your words of strength we hear:  
That when we serve with gladness,  
you will not let us fall,  
our trust is in your promise  
that love will conquer all.

**Gathering Prayer**

Congregation

**ALL: God of life, we bring our whole selves to you and offer our reverence and awe. Jesus prayed that we would be one and called us to live in unity. We commit ourselves to live in oneness of heart, mind and spirit. In Jesus' name we pray.**

**Amen**

**Biblical Witness**

Paula McKnight

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written,

"One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." '

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." '

Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." '

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." '

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

## Contemporary Witness

Pastor Felix Carrión

### The Light We Give: How Sikh Wisdom Can Transform Your Life

by Simran Jeet Singh

I scrolled right past our family values document, and something told me to go back and read through it for the millionth time. Reading it, I could start feeling my power return. I may not have been able to change how this person viewed me, but I could control how I chose to deal with the situation. Instead of being trapped in fear and rage, I made the conscious decision to respond based on the five values we had articulated all those years before.

To live with **faith** meant that I would not compromise those aspects of my religious appearance that bothered racists.

To live with **integrity** meant that I would continue to do what I thought was right in terms of racial justice and social justice activism.

To live with **love** meant that I would continue on the path that James Baldwin's quote had put me on: that loving people means showing them what they cannot see on their own.

To live with **service** meant that I would continue engaging and educating, not for my own benefit but for the enrichment of those around me.

To live with **excellence** would mean to continue doing all of the above to the best of my abilities, fearlessly and unapologetically, and without compromising our family's physical security.

**Reflection**

Pastor Felix Carrión

“Resistance: The Power to Persist”

**Special Music**

Aimee Broadhurst

“Again and Again”

**Pastoral Prayer with Joys & Concerns**

Pastor Felix Carrión

**Invitation to Offering**

Paula McKnight

Moms Demand Action

**Offertory Music**

Marshall Davies



**\*Doxology**

Congregation

**ALL: Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise God all creatures here below**

**Praise God for all that Love has done**

**Creator, Christ, and Spirit one**

**Amen.**

**Offertory Prayer**

Paula McKnight

**ALL: Holy One, accept and bless our offerings this**

**day. Grant that we might live generously, as we**

**serve to be a blessing to our world. May we be**

**faithful in all things and at all times!**

**Amen.**

**\*Congregational Song**

Congregation

**“Break Our Hearts Again”**

We pile up like dry bones,

like orphans gathering

In burden, we're broken,  
our defenses fracturing

So break our hearts again

Stretch us 'til we bend.

Breathe new life on these tired bones

And make us new again

Our mountains are crumbling,

like sand into the sea

Our rivers run drier than

the rocks beneath our feet

So break our hearts again

Stretch us 'til we bend.

Breathe new life on these tired bones

And make us new again

(x2)

We lay our armor down (x8)

**Benediction**

Pastor Felix Carrión

**Song of Parting**

Congregation

Sing #199 "Go Make A Diff'rence"

Go make a diff'rence.

We can make a diff'rence.

Go make a diff'rence in the world.

Go make a diff'rence.

We can make a diff'rence.

Go make a diff'rence in the world

(x2)

**Postlude**

Marshall Davies

**Today's Worship Participants**

Worship Leader: Paula McKnight

Video: Sarah Bowman

Projector: Mary Lowell

Sound:

YouTube Host: Rev. Lori Keaton

**Rev. Felix Carrión**  
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