

Sunday, 22 March 2026 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

This morning is the fifth Sunday in the season of Lent, a period of 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter. The six Sundays in Lent are not counted in the 40 days. To read more about the season of Lent:

<https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/theology-worship/worship/christian-year/season-lent>

Prelude

The *Prelude and Fugue in C Minor* is believed to have been composed at two separate times in Bach's life. The fugue was probably composed during Bach's years in Weimar (1708-1717) and later paired with the prelude, written in Leipzig around 1730. Together they create a powerful pair.

Amy Cheney Beach's (1867-1944) *Gaelic* Symphony was premiered by the Boston Symphony Orchestra in 1896. It was the first symphony composed and published by an American woman. During her life and for many years after her death she was known as Mrs. H.H.A. Beach, a stipulation of her marriage to Dr. Henry Harris Aubrey Beach, who was twenty-four years her senior. A revival of her music in the late 20th Century was accompanied by an acknowledgement of her own given name and not that of her husband.

Sermon Hymn (after litany)

Let Us Remember is from our Lenten devotional materials, *Tell Me Something Good*. It is set to the familiar tune ADELAIDE by George E. Stebbins (1846-1945), which is best known accompanying the hymn text *Have Thine Own Way, Lord* by Adelaide A. Pollard (1862-1934).

Offertory Anthem

Calvin Hampton (1938-1984) wrote the tune St. Helena to accompany Frederick William Faber's (1814-1863) text *There's a Wideness in God's Glory*. Hampton was organist and choirmaster of Calvary Episcopal Church, Gramercy Park, New York City and an active composer, having been dubbed by Eric Routley as "the greatest living composer of hymn tunes."

Benediction Response

Hold On has been sung at many of the demonstrations in Minneapolis recently and the song has spread across the country. Songwriter Heidi Wilson says:

"It is January 2026, and the people of Minneapolis are inspiring us with what it looks like to really take care of one another in the face of escalating ICE raids and authoritarian violence. They are walking kids to school, delivering food to neighbors, standing on street corners in rapid response. And they are singing. I am humbled and moved that this song is useful to folks right now."