

*Seek the Lost · Build up the Found · Transform the City
Through Jesus Christ*
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 23, 2014
8:30AM

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Rejoice The Lord Is King

1 Rejoice the Lord is King
Your Lord and King adore
Rejoice give thanks and sing
And triumph evermore

Lift up your heart
Lift up your voice
Rejoice again I say rejoice

2 Jesus the Savior reigns
The God of truth and love
When He had purged our stains
He took His seat above

3 His kingdom cannot fail
He rules o'er earth and heaven
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given

Charles Wesley | John Darwall Public Domain

Blessed Be Your Name

1 Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

2 Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out
I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in
Lord still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

3 Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name

4 Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out
I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in
Lord still I will say (chorus)

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name

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Beth Redman | Matt Redman

At this time, children 4k-2nd grade are invited to go to Kids Time. Kids Time is a dynamic worship service that caters to younger children and prepares them to participate in the main worship service. The children will return prior to Communion.

Tender Mercy

Hear our cry for mercy
As we call to You
As we lift our hands
In Spirit and in Truth

We cry mercy
In the name of the Father most Holy
We cry mercy
In the name of the Son who was slain
Lord have mercy
In the name of the Spirit in dwelling
Tender mercy Lord

In Your tender mercy
Brought by grace through faith
We will lift our hearts
Toward Your most Holy place

We cry mercy
In the name of the Father most Holy
We cry mercy
In the name of the Son who was slain
Lord have mercy
In the name of the Spirit in dwelling
Tender mercy Lord

You are mercy
In the name of the Father most Holy
You are mercy
In the name of the Son who was slain
You are mercy
In the name of the Spirit in dwelling
Tender mercy Lord

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SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel Reading

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

John 15:1-17 (p. 764)

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

MESSAGE

Sermon Series:

The Night Before...

"The Fruitful Life"

The Rev. Patrick Dominguez

(There is a space for sermon notes on page 9.)

For your convenience, there are sound speakers available in the Lobby and in the BabyBeams nursery cry room that allow you to hear the service if you have a child who is crying or needs to be fed.

Sermon Notes

THE APOSTLES CREED (said together)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church*, the Communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**The phrase "holy catholic Church" means the Church worldwide.*

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Leader: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

Leader: For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For middle and high school students in the ministry of Young Life who are hearing about the forgiveness and love that comes through Christ alone, we pray,

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Defend us, deliver us, and in your compassion protect us, O Lord, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

(At this time you are invited to offer your own prayers to the Lord, either silently or aloud.)

CONFESSION OF SIN (said together)

Leader: In the book of Joel, the prophet reminds us, 'Yet even now, says the Lord, repent and return to me with all your heart.' Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

Most merciful God, we confess to you and to one another that we have not loved as You have called us to love. We have been impatient and unkind. We have been jealous, boastful and proud. We have responded rudely to others and often lived for ourselves alone. Our anger has come quickly while our desire for the best for others has been hard to find. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. In Your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

WELCOME and OFFERING

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

1 Let us love and sing and wonder
Let us praise the Savior's name
He has hushed the law's loud thunder
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has brought us nigh to God

2 Let us love the Lord Who bought us
Pitied us when enemies
Called us by His grace and taught us
Gave us ears and gave us eyes
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He presents our souls to God

3 Let us sing though fierce temptation
Threatens hard to bear us down
For the Lord, our strong salvation,
Holds in view the conqueror's crown
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
Soon will bring us home to God

4 Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high
Here they trusted Him before us
Now their praises fill the sky
You have washed us with Your blood
You have washed us with Your blood
You have washed us with Your blood
You are worthy Lamb of God

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HOLY COMMUNION

*(All baptized and believing followers of our Lord Jesus Christ are invited to partake in Holy Communion regardless of denomination. It is our custom to use wine during communion. **If you prefer, you may receive grape juice** from the smaller chalices on the end of the serving lines. If it would not be authentic for you to receive Communion, you may remain in your seat and contemplate the prayers on the following page.)*

Leader: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts,

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Leader continues in Eucharistic Prayer...

Leader: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (said together)

Our Father who art in Heaven

Hallowed be Thy name

Thy kingdom come

Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our trespasses

As we forgive those

Who trespass against us

And lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from evil

For thine is the Kingdom

And the power and the glory

Forever and ever Amen

*Unable to come forward? Please inform an usher to request that Communion be brought to you.
Gluten-free wafers available upon request.*

PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT TAKING HOLY COMMUNION

The Church of The Apostles welcomes all Christians who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, to receive Holy Communion with us by coming forward to one of the communion stations at the front. If you are not able to receive Communion, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth.

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing and that leads to the life you promise. Thank you.

Prayer of Belief.

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Please come into my life through the power of your Holy Spirit. Thank you.

COMMUNION SONGS (Please join in singing during communion.)

A prayer team is available to pray with you at the back of the worship area.

I Am The Bread Of Life

1 I am the Bread of life
You who come to Me shall not hunger
You who believe in Me shall not thirst
No one can come to Me
Unless the Father draw them

*And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up
And I will raise you up on the last day*

2 The bread that I will give
Is My flesh for the life of the world
And you who eat of this bread
You shall live forever,
you shall live forever

3 I am the Resurrection,
I am the Life
You who believe in me
Even if you die,
you shall live forever.

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Mighty Is The Power Of The Cross

1 What can take a dying man
And raise him up to life again
What can heal a wounded soul
What can make us white as snow
What can fill the emptiness
What can mend our brokenness
Brokenness

*Mighty awesome wonderful
Is the holy cross
Where the Lamb laid down His life
To lift us from the fall
Mighty is the power of the cross*

2 What restores our faith in God
What reveals the Father's love
What can lead the wayward home
What can melt a heart of stone
What can free the guilty ones
What can save and overcome
Overcome

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sixsteps Music | Chris Tomlin | Jesse Reeves | Shawn Craig

One Thing Remains (Your Love Never Fails)

1 Higher than the mountains that I face
Stronger than the power of the grave
Constant in the trial and the change
One thing remains
One thing remains

*Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me
Your love*

2 On and on and on and on it goes
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul
And I never ever have to be afraid
One thing remains
One thing remains

In death in life I'm confident and
Cover'd by the power of Your great love
My debt is paid there's nothing that
Can separate my heart from Your great love

Brian Johnson | Christa Black Gifford | Jeremy Riddle
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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (said together)

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and He will do it. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you now & forever. Amen.

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

*I am bound, I am bound
I am bound for the promised land
I am bound, I am bound
I am bound for the promised land*

1 On Jordan's stormy banks I stand
And cast a wishful eye
To Canaan's fair and happy land
Where my possessions lie

2 All o'er those wide extended plains
Shines one eternal day
There God the Son forever reigns
And scatters night away

3 No chilling winds nor poisonous breath
Can reach that healthful shore
Sickness sorrow pain and death
Are felt and feared no more

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DISMISSAL

Leader: Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Notes

Welcome Visitors and Newcomers...

We are glad you are worshiping with us this morning. Below are a few ways that you can become more involved at Apostles. If you have questions this morning, you can fill out the yellow card under the chair in front of you .

Discovering Apostles Membership Class—This class includes teaching about Church of the Apostles and information about becoming a member of this church. Our next class will be held in the fall. *If you have any questions, please contact Marsha at 782-0550 x29 or marsha@apostles-raleigh.org.*

Join A Community Group—Are you interested in connecting deeper into the community here at Apostles? Do you desire to have relationships in the church that go deeper than surface level conversations? Join a Community Group! *Please contact Ford Jordan if you have any questions (ford@apostles-raleigh.org).*

The Pulse Email Newsletter—If you would like to receive our weekly email newsletter with updates and announcements about what is going on at Apostles, simply fill out the yellow card under the seat in front of you with your email and drop it in the offering basket.

PEARUSA eNewsletter You can sign up for email updates about PEARUSA, the church movement of which Apostles is a vital part. Simply go to www.pearusa.org/newsletter-sign-up and enter your email address.

ApostlesLink.org—Are you a member or involved in the life of Apostles? Join our new online communication tool: Apostles Link. *To get a login, email Julie at julie@apostles-raleigh.org.*

The Ebenezer: Apostles' Blog—Would you like to hear stories about how the Lord is working in and through the people and ministries of Apostles? Check out our blog! www.apostles-raleigh.org/blog/

This Week @ Apostles

The following are some events taking place at Apostles. If you would like more info, please visit our website.

Sunday, March 23

Worship Services—8:30am & 11am
Sunday School—10-10:50am

Monday, March 24

Muffins & More—10-11:30am: Room 208
Women in the Word—7-9pm: Rooms 202-205

Tuesday, March 25

Women's Bible Study—12:30-2:00: Room 201
Prayer—2-4pm: Sanctuary

Wednesday, March 26

Sleepyheads Bible Study—7:15-8:15am: Rm 208
GiG Bible Study—9:30-11:30am

Thursday, March 27

Men's Fraternity—6:45-8:00am

Special Services & Events

April 6—Service of Worship, Prayer, and Praise

April 13—Palm Sunday

April 17—Maundy Thursday

April 18—Good Friday

April 19—The Great Egg Hunt

April 20—Easter Sunday

Inclusion Committee

The Inclusion Committee is a team of people looking at the possible ministry of including, in worship and fellowship, people of all ages who have special needs or other reasons that make involvement in church difficult.

If you are interested in hearing more about this team, the Inclusion Committee will be meeting at 10am on Sunday, March 23rd in the Sanctuary.

Apostles Children's Ministry

VBS and The Great Egg Hunt are just around the corner. We are collecting plastic eggs, nut-free candy, and stickers. To find out more about how you can donate or volunteer, check out the board in the back of the lobby or contact Robin@apostles-raleigh.org.

Vacation Bible School is June 23-27! Sign-Up today! <http://apostles-raleigh.org/vacation-bible-school/>

Children's Ministry Newsletter—Don't receive the newsletter? Email robin@apostles-raleigh.org to be added to the list.

Nursery— The nursery lesson for this week is Matthew 19:16-26; A Rich Man's Question. The memory verse for March is 1 Chronicles 15:34.

March-April Mission Focus—Our missions focus for March and April is collecting first aid supplies for our sister church in Rwanda. Items like band-aids, antibiotic ointment, thermometers, gauze, etc. can be donated in the KidsTime room.

Kids Time—The lesson this week is Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind (John 9). The March memory verse is Matthew 12:34, "Out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks." Found on Seeds of Praise, track 6.

Sunday School—PreK-3rd grade are studying The Parable of the Rich Farmer (Luke 12:13-21). Fourth and fifth grade continues to study the book of Philippians with Inductive Bible Study Methods.

Big Time—We have Big Time on the 1st and 3rd weeks of each month at both services. There is no Big Time this week. Our memory verse for March is Matthew 12:34, "Out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks." Found on Seeds of Praise, track 6.

Getting Involved at Apostles

Children's Sunday School—Sundays at 10am—For ages birth through 5th grade

Adult Sunday School—Sundays at 10am

Student Ministry Small Groups—Sundays at 6pm—Church of the Apostles—Contact curt@apostles-raleigh.org or kara@apostles-raleigh.org

The Vine—20s/30s Community—Contact ford@apostles-raleigh.org

Want to join a Community Group?—Contact ford@apostles-raleigh.org

Women's Ministry

<http://apostles-raleigh.org/womens-community-groups/>

GIG (Growing in Grace) Bible Study—

Wednesdays | 9:30am-11:30am

Sign ups for next Fall's study of Matthew will begin soon. If you would like to visit the study to see how it works before committing, please join us on March 26th from 9:45am - 11:30am. Due to logistics, we cannot offer childcare to visitors that day.

Contact Susan Blazier at susanblazier@yahoo.com or 919-280-6302.

Muffins & More—2nd & 4th Mondays | 10am-11:30am

Contact: Sue Barclay (suebarclay@juno.com, 783-5043) or Cheryl Andrassy (candrassy@nc.rr.com, 781-4370). No childcare is provided.

Women in the Word—Mondays | 7pm-9pm

Contact Prissy Stufflebeam (prissyst@nc.rr.com, 876-0429) or Elizabeth Nichols (enicholsslp@gmail.com or 266-1930)

"Breaking Free" by Beth Moore—Tuesdays |

12:30-2:00 PM | Study of "Breaking Free" by Beth Moore (*updated version)

Contact Liz Rickner | eb2926@nc.rr.com | 919-301-8569

Men's Ministry

<http://apostles-raleigh.org/mens-community-groups/>

Blackwater Group—Thursdays | 7am-8am

Location: Ragsdale-Liggett Conference Room: 2840 Plaza Place, Suite 401, Raleigh 27612
Contact Eric Bolash | 919-368-5234 | eric@apostles-raleigh.org

Sleepy Heads—Wednesdays | 7:15am-8:15am

Location: Church of the Apostles, Room 201
Contact Ed Bailey | 919-832-7305 | bailey@redeagle-co.com

Men's Fraternity—Thursdays | 6:45am-8:00am

Location: Church of the Apostles, Room 204
Contact Barney Ford (608-239-8182 | cbf1945@gmail.com) & Bruce Berger (919-783-5900 | bruceberger@mac.com)

Band of Brothers Group—Wednesdays | 7am

Location: Panera Bread at Crabtree Mall
Contact Curt Blazier | curtblazier@gmail.com

Branch & Vine Relationship—Tuesdays | 7pm

Contact Frank Andrassy | 919-649-5480

Adult Sunday School

Please come and join any of our Adult Sunday School classes!

How then shall we live?

Led by Brent Burgess, Alpesh Patel & Curt Blazier
Room 201

That The World May Know

Led by John Farwell
Room 204

Jesus and Money

Led by Sam Bass & Taylor Waren
Room 203

Sermon on the Mount

Led by Eric Bolash & Owen Kelly
Room 205

Apostles Student Ministry

March 23

Donut hour 10:00

NO DEAL this Sunday.

Small groups meet as usual (Double check with your leaders on time!)

High school, don't forget to sign up for the Sea Kayaking Trip! (you can sign up online)

"The Deal" Student Worship in Youth Room

At 11:00am the first three Sundays of the month The Deal worship kicks off. This is a full-blown worship experience designed to engage the mind and heart of junior and senior high students. This service not only employs technology, drama, and creativity, but is also designed and led by students.

Welcome to Church of the Apostles

We pray that you know God's presence as you worship with us today. The words to the songs and the order of service are printed in this bulletin.

Holy Communion is open to all who have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Children are welcome to receive communion at their parent's discretion. It is our custom to use wine during communion. If you choose not to partake of the wine, you can receive grape juice from the smaller chalices on the end of the serving lines.

Please fill out a yellow Connection Card found under the seat in front of you. Then either place it in the offering basket, or, after the service, take it to the Connections Table for a complimentary gift bag. We invite you to use the card to inform us of any prayer requests or questions about Church or the Apostles.

Please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. While our members and regular attendees will be participating, we do not want you to feel that it is required of you. Thank you for joining us today.

Apostles Church Staff

Patrick Dominguez

Senior Pastor

Ford Jordan

Associate Pastor

Robin Floch

Director of Children's Ministry

Lee Hilts

Executive Director

Kara Smith

Assistant Director of Student
Ministries

Laynette Rustin

Financial Administrator

Cathy Williams

Nursery Coordinator

Eric Bolash

Associate Pastor

Curt Solomon

Director of Student Ministries

Jonathan Noël

Director of Music

Julie S. Barnes

Communications &
Building Administrator

Marsha Whyte

Administrative Assistant

Ashley Crutchfield

Raleigh Fellows Director

Megan Gilcrest

Student Ministries Intern

CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES

Members of the Anglican Church of North America and Rwanda

333 Church at North Hills Street

Raleigh, NC 27609

Phone: 919-782-0550 · Fax: 919-876-5890

Pastoral Care Emergencies: 919-283-2682

E-mail: info@apostles-raleigh.org

Website: www.apostles-raleigh.org