

**Monte Vista Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
3501 Campus Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87106**

*Live-streamed to our VistaStream YouTube channel  
(<https://www.montevista.org/vistastream>)*

***Third Sunday in Lent***

***The good news is...together, the impossible is possible.***

**March 8, 2026**

**10:30am MT**

**Order of Worship**

Welcome

Pastor Dave

Prelude

*Three Characteristic Pieces: 1. Pastorale*  
by Jean Langlais

Paulette McClellan

Extinguishing the Third Candle

Anthony Sanchez's Care Group

Leader 1: As we move deeper into our observance of the Lenten season, may the extinguishing our candles call us to awareness of the increasing darkness Jesus experienced as he moved toward the cross.

*Extinguish candle.*

Leader 2: And may our worship call us to the light of the ever-present good news the darkness will never extinguish.

\*Call to Worship

Charlotte Hoppe

One: If you need good news,

**All: settle into this space. We have good news to share.**

One: If you need a word of hope,

**All: then trust us when we say, there is hope enough to go around.**

One: If you need a glimmer of joy,

**All: then you're in luck! We have resilient joy abounding.**

One: If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

**All: then know that this is God's house.**

One: This is the good news of the gospel.

**All: God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move.**

**Let us worship our with-us God!**

\*Opening Hymn

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

73

\*Opening Prayer

Charlotte

Holy God, we could press our ear to the page, hoping to hear you more clearly. We could silence all the alarms and notifications, hoping to catch a murmur of your voice. We could still our beating hearts, and still we might miss your voice. So today we pray, open up space in our hearts, in our spirits, in our minds, to feel your presence among us. With you, anything is possible. We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Mark 6:32-44

Charlotte

Jesus and the apostles went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As Jesus went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he began to teach them many things. When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat." But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" And he said to them, "How many loaves have you? Go and see." When they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to his disciples to set before the people, and he divided the two fish among them all. And all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

One: A word from God for the people of God.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please share your prayer concerns & joys with us at [office@montevista.org](mailto:office@montevista.org).)

Prayer Hymn

*O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

540 (vv. 1, 3, & 4)

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Pastor Dave

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (in unison)

**Holy One, our Mother and Father, let your name be revered. Let your kin-dom come, let your will be done on earth as it is in the heavens. Give us today the bread we need for today. And forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.**

\*Passing of the Peace

Pastor Dave

Special Music

*Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*  
by Howard Helvey

Vista Voices

Second Scripture Reading                      Ephesians 3:20-21                      Pastor Dave  
Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

One: A word from God for the people of God.                      **Many: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon                      *Focusing on What We Have*                      Pastor Dave

Special Music                      *Close to Thee*                      Bells Quartet  
by Vail/Kimbal

Sharing in Communion and Stewardship  
Invitation to the Table                      Anne Loveless

(Your tithes & offerings can be given via online donations on [our website](#), on the [Givelify app](#), or by mailing your check to the church office. Thank you.)

\*Communion Hymn                      *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*                      101 (vv. 1, 3, & 5)  
Words of Institution                      Pastor Dave  
Prayers for the Bread and Cup                      Anne  
Receiving Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving                      Pastor Dave

Invitation to the Community of MVCC                      Pastor Dave

\*Closing Hymn                      *Human Minds Just Can't Imagine*

\*Announcements                      Pastor Dave

\*Benediction                      Pastor Dave

Postlude                      *Variations on 'Wondrous Love': VII. Finale*                      Paulette  
by John Eggert

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Charlotte Hoppe, Worship Leader                      Paulette McClellan, Organist/Pianist  
Wally Miller, Sound                      Rev. Dave McVey, Interim Minister, Preaching & Presiding

# There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

73

1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy like the wide-ness of the sea;  
2. There is wel-come for the sin-ner, and more grac-es for the good!  
3. For the love of God is broad-er than the meas-ure of our mind;  
4. If our love were but more sim-ple, we should rest up-on God's word;

there's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice, which is more than lib-er-ty.  
There is mer-cy with the Sav-ior; there is heal-ing in his blood.  
and the heart of the E-ter-nal is most won-der-ful-ly kind.  
and our lives would be il-lu-mined by the pres-ence of our Lord.

WORDS: Frederick W. Faber, 1854  
MUSIC: Lizzie S. Tourjee, 1877; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

WELLESLEY  
87.87

Harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

# 540 O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

1. O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my  
 2. O Light that followest all my way, I yield my  
 3. O Joy that seek-est me through pain, I can - not  
 4. O Cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not

wea - ry soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that  
 flick-ering torch to thee; my heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, that  
 close my heart to thee; I trace the rain - bow through the rain, and  
 ask to fly from thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, and

in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.  
 in thy sun - shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.  
 feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.  
 from the ground there blos - soms red life that shall end - less be.

WORDS: George Matheson, 1882  
 MUSIC: Albert L. Peace, 1884

ST. MARGARET  
 88.886

## Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

101

1. Je - sus, thou joy of lov - ing hearts, thou fount of  
 2. Thy gra - cious word hath ev - er stood: thou sav - est  
 3. We taste thee, O thou liv - ing bread, and long to  
 4. Our rest - less spir - its yearn for thee, wher - e'er our  
 5. O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay; make all our

1. life, thou light of light, great - er than plea - sure  
 2. those that on thee call; to them that seek thee,  
 3. feast up - on thee still; we drink of thee, the  
 4. change - ful lot is cast: glad when thy gra - cious  
 5. mo - ments calm and bright; ban - ish the sin of

1. earth im - parts, thy love is true and pure de - light.  
 2. thou art good; to them that find thee, all in all.  
 3. foun - tain - head, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.  
 4. smile we see; blest when our faith can hold thee fast.  
 5. earth, we pray; shed o'er the world thy ho - ly light.

WORDS: Latin (12th century); tr. Ray Palmer, 1858, alt.  
 MUSIC: Henry Baker, 1854

QUEBEC  
 LM



Third Sunday in Lent | Ephesians 3:20-21

the good news is... together, the impossible is possible

# Human Minds Just Can't Imagine

AUSTRIAN HYMN 8.7.8.7 D

Words: Anna Strickland (2025)

Music: Joseph Haydn (1797)

Hu - man minds just can't i - ma - gine all that God can bring to bear  
 God, ex - pand our dreams and vi - sion when we think our gifts too small  
 Like the grains of wheat are ga - thered from the vast and roll - ing fields

5

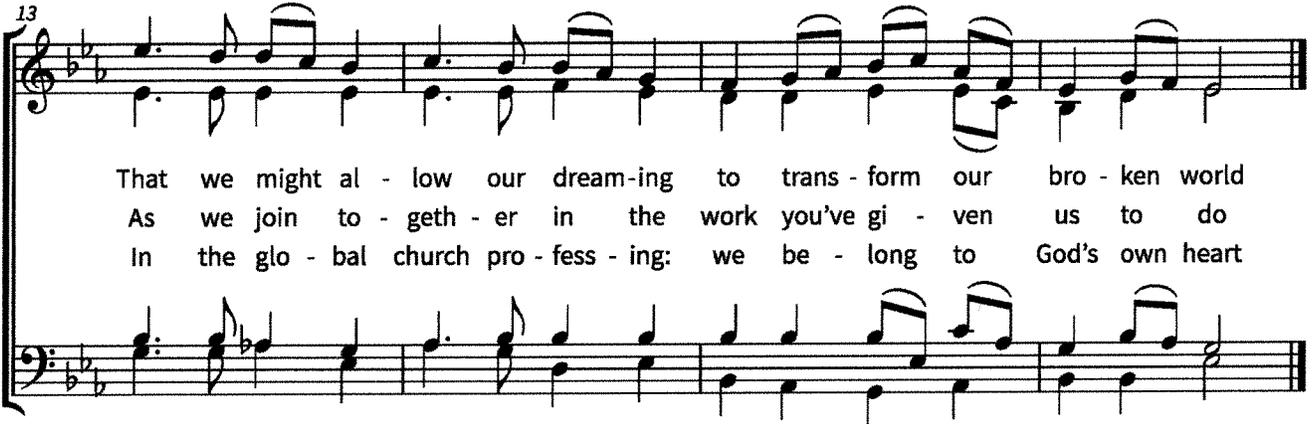
Through our small and sep - arate be - ings, e - ven when we join to share  
 Help us trust your great pro - vis - ion and to an - swer when you call  
 Like the grapes from vi - ny bran - ches whose small fruit the wine will yield

9

Still we fol - low where Christ leads us, ma - ny pie - ces of one whole  
 You who gave us time and ta - lents will up - hold and see us through  
 We re - mem - ber as one bo - dy, each of us a cru - cial part

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That we might al - low our dream - ing to trans - form our bro - ken world  
As we join to - geth - er in the work you've gi - ven us to do  
In the glo - bal church pro - fess - ing: we be - long to God's own heart

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