



FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 29, 2020

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of mercy, quiet our thoughts and all our strivings. Help us see the evidence of your grace all around. Remove any obstacle that causes us to stumble in faithfulness or prevents us from receiving the joy and gladness that you offer. May your Spirit be present, creating in us clean hearts, placing in us new and right spirits, and guiding our Lenten journey. Reveal yourself in new ways through the common objects and events of our lives. In the name of Jesus the Christ, Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Be Thou My Vision"

Healey Willan

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Do you remember the way things used to be?

That way is no longer and dwelling on the past will not benefit us.

God is doing a new thing!

But there are times it feels like God is absent. There are moments that we feel we are wandering in a wilderness.

God is making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. It is springing up all around us.

There are trials and difficulties in every generation, and God leads us through those wilderness places.

God calls us to defend and care for the weak and the orphan, and maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed.

For it is caring for the least of these that we are bearers of the Good News that God is with us.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 762 “When the Poor Ones” Vs. 1, 3 & 4

When the poor ones who have nothing share with strangers,
When the thirsty water give unto us all,

When the crippled in their weakness strengthen others,

Then we know that God still goes that road with us,

Then we know that God still goes that road with us.

When our joy fills up our cup to overflowing,

When our lips can speak no words other than true,

When we know that love for simple things is better, *Refrain.*

When our homes are filled with goodness in abundance,

When we learn how to make peace instead of war,

When each stranger that we meet is called a neighbor, *Refrain.*

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, whose ways are good and true, we confess that we have not lived as Christ has called us to live. We have shut our eyes to evils our world allows. We have sealed our ears from the cries of the suffering whose pain we abide. We have clung to the hostility we harbor against one another and hardened our hearts to the creative power of love. When we sin against neighbor, condone injustice, and quarrel with one another, we sin against you. Forgive us, we pray, for we are broken in spirit. Do not see us for our faults, and do not go away from us. Keep us always in your presence so that we may be restored to the joy of your salvation. Sustain in us a willing spirit to value and seek your Will.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI – NO. 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen. Amen.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

(Ecumenical)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of
heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from

Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 201 "A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar" Vs. 1 & 4

A prophet-woman broke a jar, by Love's divine appointing.
With rare perfume she filled the room, presiding and anointing.
A prophet-woman broke a jar, the sneers of scorn defying.
With rare perfume she filled the room, preparing Christ for dying.

The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, by Love's divine ordaining,
The friends we need, to serve and lead, their powers and gifts unchaining.

The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, from women, men, and children,
The friends we need, to serve and lead. Rejoice, and make them welcome!

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Psalm 5:1-8

Listen to my words, LORD, consider my lament. Hear my cry for help, my King and my God, for to you I pray. In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.

For you are not a God who is pleased with wickedness; with you, evil people are not welcome. The arrogant cannot stand in your presence. You hate all who do wrong; you destroy those who tell lies. The bloodthirsty and deceitful you, LORD, detest.

But I, by your great love, can come into your house; in reverence I bow down toward your holy temple. Lead me, LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies—make your way straight before me.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

Matthew 26:6-13

While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table.

When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. “Why this waste?” they asked. “This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor.”

Aware of this, Jesus said to them, “Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.”

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

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SERMON

“It’s Not a Waste”

Rev. Rebecca Luter

PRAYER CONCERNS – *Please remember those on our prayer list.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

RESPOND TO GOD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “Arise, My Soul, Arise”

Dan Forrest

Arise, my soul, arise, Shake off thy guilty fears; the bleeding Sacrifice on my behalf appears: Before the Throne, my Surety stands, My name is written on His hands.

Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary, They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me; “Forgive him, O, forgive,” they cry, “nor let that ransomed sinner die.”

My God is reconciled, His voice I hear, He owns His child, I can no longer fear; With confidence I now draw night, and “Abba, Father,” cry. Arise, my soul, arise! (Charles Wesley)

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below, praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Our treasures, O Lord, are not ours at all; they come from your hand. Out of your goodness toward us we have received so much. Knowing that we came into this life with nothing, and will go out the same way, we give of the time, talents, and resources we have now. Use them, use us, as you will, for your Son’s sake. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 432 “How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

Vs. 1, 2 & 4

How clear is our vocation, Lord, when once we heed your call to live according to your word and daily learn, refreshed, restored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.

But if, forgetful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear; if worldly pressures fray the mind and love itself cannot unwind its tangled skein of care: our inward life repair.

In what you give us, Lord, to do, together or alone, in old routines or ventures new, may we not cease to look to you: the cross you hung upon, all you endeavored, done.

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE “Fantasia in g minor”

Pachelbel

*All who are able may stand. **Bold Type** – Congregation in unison

Participating in the service today:

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor
Doug Barr, Director of Christian Education
Jim Thrash, Director of Music
Tom Bryant, Accompanist
Rebecca Hutchins & Tucker Williams, Soloists

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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