



Sunday, February 21, 2021

Sunday
Virtual Worship

SUNDAY VIRTUAL WORSHIP

First Sunday of Lent

Sunday, February 21, 2021

GREETING and WELCOME

ORGAN PRELUDE “*How Beautiful Are the Feet of Them*” G. F. Handle

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 25)

Good and upright is the Lord;

therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right,

and teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,

for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

Let us worship God!

UNISON PRAYER

God of love, as in Jesus Christ you gave yourself to us, so may we give ourselves to you, living according to your holy will. Keep our feet firmly in the way where Christ leads us; make our mouths speak the truth that Christ teaches us; fill our bodies with the life that is Christ within us. In his holy name we pray. Amen.

HYMN 77 “*Forty Days and Forty Nights*” (vs. 1 & 5)

PRAYER of CONFESSION: God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

SONG DURING CONFESSION “*Lord Have Mercy upon Us*”

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Friends, hear the good news! We have been crucified with Christ! We no longer live, but it is Christ who lives in us. And the life we now live in the flesh we live by faith in the Son of God, who loved us and gave himself for us.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

We who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit into a new way of living in Christ.

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 142

SERMON *“A Lament for Deliverance”* The Rev. Dr. Hilary Livingston
Series: *“Lament Psalms for Lent”*

SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERING STATEMENT

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

HYMN 280 *“Amazing Grace”* (vs 1 & 5)

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

PASSING of the PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

Go in peace.

POSTLUDE *“Adagietto”* G. F. Handel

MUSICAL NOTE: George Frederick Handel was born in Halle, Germany on February 23, 1685. After travels to Italy, he settled in London where he died in 1759. He wrote many operas, instrumental works and oratorios. Messiah is his legacy and today’s music is from that great oratorio.



Psalm 142

With my voice I cry to the LORD;
with my voice I make supplication to the LORD.

² I pour out my complaint before him;
I tell my trouble before him.

³ When my spirit is faint,
you know my way.

In the path where I walk
they have hidden a trap for me.

⁴ Look on my right hand and see—
there is no one who takes notice of me;
no refuge remains to me;
no one cares for me.

I cry to you, O LORD;
I say, “You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living.”

⁶ Give heed to my cry,
for I am brought very low.

Save me from my persecutors,
for they are too strong for me.

⁷ Bring me out of prison,
so that I may give thanks to your name.

The righteous will surround me,
for you will deal bountifully with me.

⁸ Let me hear of your unfailing love
each morning,
for I am trusting you.
Show me where to walk,
for I give myself to you.
⁹ Rescue me from my enemies, LORD;
I run to you to hide me.
¹⁰ Teach me to do your will,
for you are my God.
May your gracious Spirit lead me forward
on a firm footing.