

Sunday, March 14, 2021

Sunday Virtual Worship

SUNDAY VIRTUAL WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 14, 2021

GREETING and WELCOME

ORGAN PRELUDE "The Old Rugged Cross" George Bonnard

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 107)

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

for his steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,

those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands.

Let us worship God!

UNISON PRAYER

To You, O God, we lift up our souls. To You we offer our praise and prayer, our worship and thanksgiving, even our very lives. Make Your ways known to us. Show us the path on which we should walk. Lead us in Your truth and teach us. For You alone are the God who saves, the God in whom we trust; and the One on whom we wait, Amen.

HYMN 481 "Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show" (vs. 1 & 3)

PRAYER of CONFESSION:

God of the deserts, the seas and the skies, we come before you now as the one, true God. So many times we have questioned you and turned away from you; disbelieving your will for us; stifling ourselves in the darkness of that disbelief and failing not only ourselves, but those whom we love. Forgive us when we fail to walk in your ways, when we have been incapacitated by our own weaknesses, bringing a sense of guilt and sometimes despair. We ask that you do not give up on us; that you take us by the hand and put us back on course, a course underpinned by your strength and love. Restore us to yourself that we might lift up our hearts and minds and voices to focus on Christ calling us to follow him wherever that may be. In him we pray. [Prayer written by Rev. Eleanor Macalister, Church of Scotland's Starters for Sunday.]

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 25

SERMON "A Lament for Guidance" The Rev. Dr. Hilary Livingston

Series: "Lament Psalms for Lent"

SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERING STATEMENT

MINUTE for MISSION One Great Hour of Sharing Denominational Special Offering

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 281 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" (vs 1 & 3)

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

PASSING of the PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. Go in peace.

POSTLUDE "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. Alvin Whitworth HYMNTUNE: "Hamburg"



Psalm 25

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. ²O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. ³Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. ⁵ Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. ⁶ Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. ⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD! ⁸ Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. ⁹ He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. ¹⁰ All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees. ¹¹ For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. ¹² Who are they that fear the LORD? He will teach them the way that they should choose. They will abide in prosperity, and their children shall possess the land. ¹⁴ The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes his covenant known to them. ¹⁵ My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net. ¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. ¹⁷ Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. ¹⁸Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins. ¹⁹ Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me. ²⁰O guard my life, and deliver me; do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you. ²¹ May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you. ²² Redeem Israel, O God, out of all its troubles.