



*Sunday, March 21, 2021*

***Sunday***  
***Virtual Worship***

# SUNDAY VIRTUAL WORSHIP

## Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 21, 2021

### GREETING and WELCOME

**ORGAN PRELUDE**      *“Rest in Peace”*      J. S. Bach  
From: *“St. John Passion”*

### CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 119)

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

**With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth.**

I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches.

**I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.**

Let us worship God!

### UNISON PRAYER

**Almighty God, Redeemer of all who trust you, heed the cry of your people; deliver us from the bondage of sin, that we may serve you in perfect freedom and rejoice in your unfailing love; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

**HYMN 276**      *“Great is Thy Faithfulness”*      (vs. 1 & 3)

### PRAYER of CONFESSION:

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. In Jesus we pray.**

### 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 51

### **SERMON**

*“A Lament for Forgiveness”*

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 92**

*“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”*

### **CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

### **PASSING of the PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

Go in peace.

### **POSTLUDE**

*“Here Yet Awhile”*

J. S. Bach

**MUSIC NOTES:** Johan Sebastian Bach was born on this day, March 21, in Eisenach, Germany, and he died in Leipzig in 1750. During his 65 years, he composed over 1,000 pieces: choral, organ, and instrumental. Today’s music is from two of his great choral works.



## Psalm 25

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy  
blot out my transgressions.

<sup>2</sup>Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin.

<sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup>Against you, you alone, have I sinned,  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you are justified in your sentence  
and blameless when you pass judgment.

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born guilty,  
a sinner when my mother conceived me.

<sup>6</sup>You desire truth in the inward being;  
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

<sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

<sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my iniquities.

<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right spirit within me.

<sup>11</sup>Do not cast me away from your presence,  
and do not take your holy spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and sustain in me a willing spirit.

<sup>13</sup>Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
and sinners will return to you.

<sup>14</sup>Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,  
O God of my salvation,  
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.

<sup>16</sup>For you have no delight in sacrifice;  
if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

<sup>18</sup>O good to Zion in your good pleasure;  
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem,

<sup>19</sup>then you will delight in right sacrifices,  
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;  
then bulls will be offered on your altar.