

1st Sunday in Lent

February 21st, 2021

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

While Jesus was on the Cross

J. S. Bach

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

RECEIVING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 25

One: The mercy and steadfast love of the Lord are forever.

All: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness.

One: Therefore, lift up your souls to the Lord.

All: To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls.

One: And put your trust in God.

All: In you, O God, we trust.

HYMN OF PRAISE *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* REGENT SQUARE

**Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone
Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one
Holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone**

**To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay
Come, with all your loving-kindness, hear your people as we pray
And your fullest benediction shed within these walls today**

**Here bestow on all your servants what they seek from you to gain
What they gain from you, forever with the blessed to retain
And hereafter in your glory while unending ages run**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we begin this Lenten season in confession. We admit that we do not live according to your ways, but according to our own. You call us to bold faith, but the pressures of the world persuade us to keep it to ourselves. We reject the gospel daily and go our own way. Forgive us, we pray, when we are tempted to follow paths other than those you set before us. Help us to turn from evil and to turn toward your coming kingdom. Guide us and keep us in covenantal love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

One: Jesus Christ, who is at the right hand of God, forgives us and reconciles us and all things in heaven and on earth.

All: Thanks be to God for this good news!

RESPONSE *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* REGENT SQUARE

**Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one
One in might and one in glory while unending ages run**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

During this time, we invite you to pass the peace by texting or emailing a fellow church member, family member, friend, relative, or loved one.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord

Mendelssohn

Cast thy burden upon the Lord,
And He shall sustain thee.
He never will suffer the righteous to fall;
He is at thy right hand.
Thy mercy, Lord, is great,
And far above the heavens.
Let none be made ashamed
That wait upon Thee!

NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 4:1-22

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Tim Reynolds

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from* The Theological Declaration of Barmen

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humanity. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for us when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to us, moves us to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. This new life takes shape in a community in which we know that God loves and accepts us in spite of what we are. We, therefore, accept ourselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

TIME FOR REFLECTION ***My Song is Love Unknown*** *arr. Burkhardt*

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION 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 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.**

HYMN OF SENDING ***To God Be the Glory*** TO GOD BE THE GLORY

**To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin
And opened the lifegate that all may go in**

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give him the glory; great things he has done!*

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see

Refrain

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

arr. Bednall

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Tim Reynolds – Pastor

Sarah Morgan – Pastor

Jan Barber – Liturgist

Matthew Mimbs – Director of Music & Arts

David Stultz – Asst. Director of Music/Organist

Emily McTyre – Media Coordinator

2nd Presbyterian Chancel Choir

Technicians: Dale Henley (video), Paul Sexauer (audio)

PRAYER CONCERNS

Patsy Wright, Derryl Kasler, Amy Cross, the Rose family, and Aggie Bell

*Please notify the office if you are sick, in the hospital, or have a prayer request.

Names remain on the prayer list 4 weeks unless requested to keep them on longer.

WORSHIP & CELEBRATION

UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS AND TOPICS: We are currently in a year-long sermon series on the book of Acts. Upcoming sermon texts/topics are:

Feb 21	Acts 4:1-22	Peter & John Arrested
Feb 28	Acts 4:23-31	A Prayer for Boldness
Mar 7	Acts 4:32-5:11	The Sharing of Possessions
Mar 14	Acts 5:12-42	Signs, Wonders & Opposition

THE FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given in honor of our dedicated church friends who have been brave and resourceful during this period of confinement; and to the dedicated church staff who have provided worship and fellowship experiences that have helped us all.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP UPDATE: At their recent meeting, the Session decided to wait another month before deciding the timetable for returning to in-person worship. Therefore, we will continue virtual worship only at least through the end of March.

THE CHURCH BUILDING WILL REOPEN ON MARCH 1ST: The Session voted to reopen the church building (including the office) on March 1st. Please see the Weekly E-News, as well as the upcoming March Second Edition, for more information and guidelines regarding this update.

LENTEN CONCERTS FOR REFLECTION: Beginning this Wednesday, February 24th, and continuing each Wednesday during Lent, 2nd Presbyterian Church will present a noontime concert for reflection. Music will be provided by Matthew Mimbs, David Stultz, and guest musicians from the community. Log on to our YouTube Channel or website each Wednesday at noon (or anytime thereafter) for music to help you reflect on your Lenten journey. We will also send a direct link to those on our email list.

NEW UPDATED AND REDESIGNED WEBSITE: Our website has been redesigned and updated. We think it is easier to navigate and will be easier for people to find what they are looking for, as well as get connected with our congregation. The address hasn't changed - <http://www.2ndpres.org> - but the look is completely different. Bible studies and past worship services can be found under the Resources Tab, along with Newsletters and Worship Bulletins and a few other things. There is a Members area that is password protected. The password is the same as it was for the directory on the old site. You will only need to enter the password once and you will have access to all of the documents that are for members only. We hope that you take a few minutes later this week to check it out and familiarize yourself with it.

FELLOWSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL CARE

A PASTORAL CARE UPDATE PAGE is on our website under the 'Members' tab. The password to access this area is the same as for the directory on the old site. Please contact the church office if you need it.

COMPASSIONATE CUISINE meals for the homebound: If you are interested in joining a cooking team to prepare meals for some of our homebound members, please contact Leslie Matthews at flowlilly@gmail.com or 865.765.0549.

LENTEN LETTER WRITING: Often, we think of giving things up for Lent, but this year we encourage you to take on writing one letter a day during Lent. A list of letter recipients is available on our website under the Members tab. (The password is the same as for the Directory. Contact the office if you need it.) Blank notecards are available in the vestibule for pick up between the hours of 9-4. If you need notecards delivered, please let us know.

DISCIPLESHIP

JOIN THE TRIPLE P (Presbyterian Prayer Partners). The Discipleship Team is extending this spiritual growth opportunity of having a prayer partner as we enter the "winter of our discontent." For many reasons, it is important that we stay in contact with each other. Communication can be accomplished by phone, Facetime, Zoom, or snail mail. To participate, go to the homepage of the church website to sign up, or call/email the church office to sign up and leave your name with Audrey (865.523.2189, ajohnson@2ndpres.org).

BIBLE STUDY: Pastor Tim is leading us in a virtual study of the *Major Messages of the Minor Prophets*. A new lesson will be posted on our YouTube channel and on our website each Thursday (under the Resources tab) and we invite you to study the lesson at your leisure. Then on the 2nd Wednesday of each month (Mar 10, Apr 14, May 12) we will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom to discuss the lessons from the previous month. This will be a time to bring your questions, comments, and insights and share them with the group.

FAITH, SCIENCE AND THE FUTURE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS meets at 9:30 a.m. by conference call.

SERVICE & OUTREACH

PRESBYTERY HABITAT BUILD SIGN UP: Our congregation will be participating in a Presbytery of East Tennessee Habitat build in Knox County beginning March 20th along with several other local churches. Our Friday E-News and our website now includes a link to sign up, as well as the Build Schedule for this project. Please consider volunteering!