

4th Sunday in Lent

March 14th, 2021

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

In Manus Tuas

Jeanne Demessieux

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

RECEIVING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Hebrews 1,4,12

One: In many and various ways, God has spoken of old to our ancestors by the prophets.

All: But in these last days, God has spoken to us through Jesus the Christ.

One: We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,

All: But one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet remained without sin.

One: Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

All: Let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe; for our God is a consuming fire. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

RATHBUN

**In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time
All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime**

**When the woes of life o'er-take me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy
Never shall the cross forsake me, Lo! it glows with peace and joy**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we acknowledge that when the going gets rough and we face opposition or difficulty, we begin to think of ourselves and our own needs, and we pull back from community. Thinking about our own comfort and self-survival, we murmur and complain, criticize and blame, like the Israelites in the desert. In your compassion, forgive us. Help us, through your Spirit, to maintain our unity of purpose and commitment to you and to one another, even in the wilderness days. For it is in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

One: Through Christ, the dividing walls have been broken down.

All: We have been handed the hope that we can live our lives in new ways.

One: Such a gift surely sets us free!

All: We are free! And we will rise as God's freely chosen ones, shining forth in the world with love!

RESPONSE

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

RATHBUN

**Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure by the cross are sanctified
Peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide**

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

Isaiah 5:11-23

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Seek First the Kingdom

Mary McDonald

Seek first the Kingdom of God,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Child of the Father, we are all His children.
It is His pleasure to give His Kingdom.
Wait upon the Lord.

Set your heart and mind on that which is above.
Wait upon the Lord, know ye that his word is love.
Set your heart and mind on Him who reigns above!
For where your treasure is, there will your heart be.

And where your heart is, there I will be.
For I am the Kingdom and the power,
And I am the Father. I am your Father.
Seek first the Kingdom and all things shall be added unto you.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 5:12-42

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sarah Morgan

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

adapted from The Confession of Belhar

We believe that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death and will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world. We believe that the church must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged, and that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others. We believe that, in obedience to Jesus Christ, its only head, the church is called to confess and do all these things in the name of the Lord, even though authorities and human laws might forbid them.

TIME FOR REFLECTION

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

arr. James Boeringer

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 *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* SOLID ROCK

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand*

When darkness seems to hide his face
I rest on his unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
Refrain

His oath, his covenant, his blood
Support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay
Refrain

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE *Rondo in G* *John Bull*

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Tim Reynolds – Pastor
Sarah Morgan – Pastor
Dana Hendrix – Liturgist
Matthew Mimbs – Director of Music & Arts
David Stultz – Asst. Director of Music/Organist
Emily McTyre – Media Coordinator
2nd Presbyterian Chancel Choir
Technicians: Matt Casey (video), Paul Sexauer (audio)

PRAYER CONCERNS

Kim Elrod, Alex Robinson, the Wilson family, Patsy Wright, Derryl Kasler,
Peter Douglas Hamilton, Amy Cross, 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

THE FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given to the glory of God.

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

Mar 14	Acts 5:12-42	Signs, Wonders & Opposition
Mar 21	Acts 6:1-7	Choosing Deacons
Mar 28	Acts 6:8-8:3	Stephen's Martyrdom
Apr 1	Acts 8:4-25	The Gospel Isn't for Sale (Maundy Thursday)

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

PASTOR TIM REYNOLDS WILL BE ON VACATION from Monday, March 8th through Sunday, March 21st. He will not be checking emails or answering texts and phone calls during this time. If you need pastoral assistance, please contact Pastor Sarah Morgan or Church Administrator Audrey Johnson.

THE APRIL SECOND EDITION DEADLINE is March 20th! Please send all submissions to Audrey (ajohnson@2ndpres.org).

LENTEN CONCERTS FOR REFLECTION: Every Wednesday at 12:00 noon during Lent, a Lenten concert for reflection will be posted to our YouTube channel and to the home page of our website. Our Director of Music & Arts, Matt Mimbs is coordinating the concerts for the congregation featuring musicians from our congregation and from the community. Each concert is 20-30 minutes in length. We hope that this helps you in your Lenten journey.

FELLOWSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL CARE

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.

DISCIPLESHIP

CHILDCARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are excited and looking forward to coming back to "in person" worship in the near future. We are in need of 2 volunteers on Sunday mornings for the Nursery and Toddler/Preschool classes. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Holly Grimm at hgrimm@2ndpres.org or 865-243-6353.

BIBLE STUDY: Our weekly Bible study is on hiatus this week for spring break. We will resume the following week with a study of *The Book of Confessions*. On the 2nd Wednesday of each month, we will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom to discuss the lessons from the previous month.

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

SERVICE & OUTREACH

HABITAT BUILD POSTPONED: Due to permitting delays beyond the control of Habitat or any of our building partners it has been necessary to postpone the start of our build from its previously scheduled start date of March 20th. A new start date has not been chosen yet. If you have previously volunteered, you do not need to do anything at this time. Once a new start date has been announced we will notify you so that you can volunteer for the new build dates. If you have questions you can contact Joe Clarke at either jclarke859@gmail.com or (865) 335-0421.

STEWARDSHIP

A CHURCH WORKDAY will be held on Saturday, March 27th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. See the Friday email for more details.