



CHESTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Second Sunday in Lent

10:00AM

February 28, 2021

WELCOME

VOLUNTARY

Beautiful Savior

Charles Ore

KINESTHETIC CALL TO WORSHIP

CONFESSION LITURGY*

Often the first step to change is listening.
We have to listen to those we've hurt.
We have to listen to creation as she cries.
We have to listen to the voice of the oppressed,
If we ever hope to make things right.

Today, as we begin our prayer of confession, we start with a moment of silence—
A moment to listen.

And then we will pray together, in our separate spaces, trusting that God is always listening to us,
And that God's ears listen with love.

So let us confess, silently and then together...

Listening God,

Take what is closed in us and open it. Take what is distracted in us and settle it.

Take what is hurting in us and hold it. Take any and all parts of us that create distance from you.

For we are like Peter, O God. We argue what we don't know. We fear what we cannot see.

And we almost always speak sooner than we listen.

So open us, settle us, hold us, and forgive us. We long to hear you more clearly.

We long to know you more fully. With hope we pray, and with gratitude we confess. Amen.

Siblings in Christ,

We confess with gratitude because we know that God already has heard and forgiven us.

No matter what we have done or left undone, we are held in God's hand. So rest in this good news:

God invites us in. God meets us where we are. God hears our prayers. God forgives us.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING

Psalm 22:23-31

MUSIC

O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair

CPC Choir

LESSON

Mark 8:31-9:8

MEDITATION

Again & Again, We Are Called to Listen

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe.

Sometimes our belief is confident, like a child on a dance floor—unashamed and wildly genuine.

We believe.

Sometimes our belief is distant, flickering and calling out to us like a lighthouse on the sea.

We believe.

Sometimes our belief shows up as passion, guiding the way we vote, shop, give, live, trust and hope.

We believe.

Sometimes our belief is like a shadow—faith stitched to our heels, unmoveable, unloseable, a gift for winding journeys.

We believe.

Sometimes our belief exists like growing pains. We step forward. We fall back. But again and again, Jesus invites us to listen, to grow, and to take another step.

So again and again, we speak these truths out loud:

We believe.

We believe.

Again and again, we believe.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

K Lee Scott

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, we thank you for the covenant you established with Abraham and Sarah, which you have opened to us through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Accept our offerings with the dedication of our lives, that we may be for the world a sign of your abiding love and a testament to your enduring promise. In Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CLOSING MUSIC

Will You Come and Follow Me

AWE Singers

CHARGE & BLESSING

As you move from this worship space,
May your mouth speak of God's goodness.
May your arms hold those in need.
May your feet walk toward justice.
May your heart trust its worth.
May your soul dance in God's grace.
And may this be your rhythm —
Again and again and again,
Until God's promised day.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself,
Go with courage, go with heart, go in peace.

POSTLUDE

Variations on ST ANNE

Croft

Gordon Mapes, Pastor
Sandra Bottoms, Director of Christian Formation
Jonathan Durkovic, Director of Music
Nancy Muller, Lay Leader
The Harris Family, Audio-Video Team
Eulalia Lockhart & Debbie Armstrong, Sanctuary Guild

*Liturgy adapted from prayers by Sarah Are/ A Sanctified Art LLC/ sanctified art.org.

Offerings may be mailed, dropped off at the office, or made online through our webpage.

Volunteers Needed!

Video techs are also needed to run the video camera for our live stream worship services, choir rehearsals and other events. Training provided.

Contact Linn Coghill at 748-4636 or lcoghill@chesterpres.org for details.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Bridget Lehman on the death of her father, Robert Emmett Roach, February 19, in Columbus, Ohio; and to Steve, Michael, Matthew and Mark Entwistle on the death of Sharon Entwistle, February 20. Service plans TBA.

Members: Roger Clifton, Bob Elliot, AJ Schuetze, Linda Taylor, Edith Turner, Cheryl Beam, Mary Weaver, Helen Hines, Betty Crenshaw; Jafar and Lee Farman; Tim Fesperman; The Rinaca Family; Larry Turner Sr.

Family: Jana Wood's father, Wayne Bailey; Chris Hale; Sadie Benton's grandson, Scott Pritchett; Jude Osborne's sister and brother-in-law, Mary and Jerry Miller; Barbara Hignutt's son, Chris; Bob Lynn's sister, Jean Lynn; Diana Martyn's sisters, Patty Farnsworth and Janine Bessert; Cliff Noe's brother, Bruce Noe; aunt, Barbara Noe; and cousin, Sarah Cheek; Ginger Summers nephew, William Summers; Kathy Talley's daughter.

Friends: Dorinda Davidson's friend, Shirley Yankowsky and Shirley's husband, Tony; ; David Previs, friend of Nancy Gefvert; Grace Cafe Regular, Amy Jenkins and her daughter Shawn; Cliff Noe's friends: Bryan Foutz, Steve Brigham; Bryan Schiano's friend, Buster Keatley; Mary Schiano & Cathy Marny's friend, Tawni Barlow; Brita and Cecil Simmon's friend, Miranda Hölljes.

Shut-Ins and Assisted Living Facilities: Wayne Alfred; Judy Danford; Tim Williams; Catherine Spence; Dick Uhrig; Helen Hines; Nancy Porterfield.

Our Military: especially members and friends serving overseas, Christopher Noe, Shane Johnston-Fisher, and Alex George.

THIS WEEK AT CPC

Sunday, February 28

10:00 AM Worship Live Stream
11:00 AM Congregational & Corporate Meetings Virtual

Monday, March 1

6:00 PM Property Committee Meeting 1st Floor Conf. Room
7:00 PM Scouts Rudy Center & F. H.

Tuesday, March 2

10:30 AM CPC Staff Meeting 1st Floor Conf. Room
2:00 PM Grace Café Food Prep Kitchen
5:00 PM Grace Café Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM Handbell Choir 206 Bell Room
7:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting 2nd Floor Conf. Room

Wednesday, March 3

10:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study Pastors' Gallery
3:00 PM Happy Quilters Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM Personnel Committee Meeting Virtual
7:00 PM AA Living Life Virtual

Thursday, March 4

6:30 PM AWE Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary
7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary
7:30PM Narcotics Anonymous Virtual

Friday, March 5

8:00PM AA Big Book Study Virtual

Saturday, March 6

8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Fellowship Hall
11:00AM AA Common Journey Virtual

Office Hours: 8:30AM – 3:00PM Monday – Friday. Church staff can be reached at 748-4636

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Today's Scripture Texts

Psalm 22:23-31

23 You who fear the Lord, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

24 For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me,
but heard when I cried to him.

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
May your hearts live forever!

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord;
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.

28 For dominion belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.

29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

30 Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord,
31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

Mark 8:31-9:8

31 Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33 But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

34 He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. 36 For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? 37 Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? 38 Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." 9 1 And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

2 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, 3 and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. 4 And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. 5 Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 6 He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. 7 Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" 8 Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

Worship in Song

The words sung by our choirs this Sunday.

O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair

O wondrous sight, O vision fair of glory that the church shall share,
Which Christ upon the mountain shows where brighter than the sun he glows!
The law and prophets there have place, two chosen witnesses of grace,
The Father's voice from out the cloud proclaims his only Son aloud.
And faithful hearts are raised on high by the great vision's mystery,
For which in joyful strains we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear. The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh. Up, pray and watch and wrestle, at midnight comes the cry.
The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near. Go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting, the gates wide open stand. Arise, O heirs of glory, the bridegroom is at hand.
The saints, who here in patience, their cross and sufferings bore, shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory, the Lamb they shall behold, in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.
Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear. Arise, arise over this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice!

Will You Come and Follow Me?

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
Will you leave yourself behind if I but call you name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.