

# Calvary Presbyterian Church: A Cross-Shaped Life

LENTEN SERIES 2021



**Online Worship Resource** (Sunday, March 14, 2021)

**BOLD TYPE IS SPOKEN BY THE CONGREGATION**

Prelude: **ADAGIO in G Minor** Tommaso Albinoni  
*"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever."*  
*Psalm 107:1*  
Jane Kerr, Organist

Welcome and Announcements Sharon MacInnes, Liturgist

## **Call to Worship**

Please join me in our responsive Call to Worship:

O Give thanks to the Lord for the Lord is good,

**For the Lord's steadfast love endures forever;**

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble.

**The Lord has gathered us in from the Lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.**

**Let us praise the Lord with our hearts, hands and voices.**

**Opening Hymn:** "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, Leaning on the everlasting arms,  
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

**REFRAIN:** Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; Leaning, leaning,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning.....  
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near.....leaning....  
(REFRAIN)

Call to Confession

(Liturgist)

Trust in the gracious mercy of God, let us confess our sins. Please pray with me:

**Prayer of Confession**

**Faithful and loving God, we confess that we have not lived in faith and love. In the busyness of our daily life, we trample on the poor and needy. In our worry and distraction, we forget to rest in your presence. We confess that sometimes our sins are great and sometimes they are commonplace: a cutting word that hurts, a sullen silence, a grudge long held, a racist bias. We know that your grace is amazing, and if that we truly repent, your mercy sweeps away the debris of our sins. Forgive us, God of love. Let us be reconciled to you and to one another in Christ, so that we may declare your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Silent Confession

**Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, hear this good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. God's mercy is everlasting to everlasting. May our God of mercy, who forgives all of our sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life. I declare to you...and for all of us...that in Christ's name, we are all forgiven and made whole.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Passing the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Children's Time

(Miss Judy)

## Prayer for Illumination

(Liturgist)

Let us prepare our hearts to hear God's Word by praying together the Prayer for Illumination:

**God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to our souls. As we hear God's word proclaimed in the scripture, in music, in prayers, we pray for understanding. Give us wisdom to not only hear your word, but to be able to act upon it out in the world. Let us share the light with those who need to hear it, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Romans 8:31-35

<sup>31</sup> What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup> Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

Second Scripture Reading: II Kings 5:1-4 and 8-14

<sup>1</sup> Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>2</sup> Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup> She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy. <sup>4</sup> So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said.

<sup>8</sup> But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." <sup>9</sup> So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup> Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." <sup>11</sup> But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! <sup>12</sup> Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. <sup>13</sup> But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" <sup>14</sup> So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Title: The Challenge of Healing

Rev. Mary Pullen

**Hymn after Sermon:** "You Are Mine"

I will come to you in the silence; I will lift you from all your fear.

You will hear my voice; I claim you as my choice, Be still and know I am here.

I am hope for all who are hopeless; I am eyes for all who long to see.

In the shadows of the night, I will be your light, come and rest in me.

**REFRAIN:**

Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.

Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine.

I am strength for all the despairing, healing for the ones who dwell in shame.  
All the blind will see; the lame will all run free, and all will know my name.

I am the Word that leads all to freedom; I am the peace the world cannot give.

I will call your name, embracing all your pain. Stand up, now walk and live!!

**REFRAIN:**

Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.

Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine.

Call for offering

(Liturgist)

Grateful for the hope and healing we have received from God, let us share what has been given to us with others, that all may experience the healing love of Christ. Please pray with me,..

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Gracious and Loving God, we stand before you today and we offer our lives to you. As we bring our gifts of treasures to you, we pray that you receive these gifts in the spirit in which they are given. Lord, please use them to help those in need--in this church, in the community and in the world. Bless us we pray.**

**Amen.**

**Pastoral Prayer 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.**

Benediction

Postlude:

**AMAZING GRACE**

John Newton

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!*

*I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.*

*How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.*

*'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

**Bio of Rev. Mary Pullen**

Rev. Mary A. Pullen was ordained in 1983, after graduation from Louisville Presbyterian Seminary in Louisville, KY. She served in the Army as a Chaplain.

Pastor Mary served two interim pastorates in North Carolina. She served as the Interim Head of Staff for Riverdale Presbyterian Church in University Park, MD, Burke Presbyterian Church in Burke, VA, Stated Supply at Berwyn Presbyterian Church, Greenbelt, MD. Mary retired as the full-time Interim Pastor at Geneva Presbyterian Church, Potomac, MD on May 23, 2019.

Mary and her husband, Randy, live in Alexandria, VA. Randy is a history buff, especially of Civil War and WWII history. He and Mary sometimes teach a class on the Book of Esther, with Mary doing the theological aspects of it, and Randy teaching the military-historical portion of it.

Randy and Mary are the “fur-baby” parents of Evie, the dachshund.

Mary likes the beach, has very eclectic tastes in books and music, and experimenting with vegetarian cooking. Before the pandemic, she and Randy enjoyed going to plays, musicals and the ballet.

Today's Worship Participants:

Rev. Mary Pullen, guest preacher, Jane Kerr, organist, Judy Viccellio, guitar,

David Maley, piano, Sharon MacInnes, liturgist and

Glenn Jelsma, technology team