

# Calvary Presbyterian Church: A Cross-Shaped Life

LENTEN SERIES 2021



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

**BOLD TYPE IS SPOKEN BY THE CONGREGATION**

**Prelude:**

***Bist Du Bei Mir***

J. S. Bach

If You are with me, I go in joy.

Jane Kerr, Organist

Welcome and Announcements

**Call to Worship**

(Liturgist)

Please join me in our responsive Call to Worship:

The message of the cross sounds foolish to the world;

**But to us it is the power of God!**

We proclaim the scandal of Christ crucified.

**The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,  
and the weakness of God is stronger than our strength.  
Let us worship!**

## **Opening Hymn:** Shine, Jesus, Shine

Lord, the light of your love is shining, In the midst of the darkness, shining,  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us, Set us free by the truth you now bring  
us,  
Shine on me, shine on me.

## REFRAIN:

Shine, Jesus, shine, Fill this land with the Father's glory;  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow, Flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to your awesome presence, From the shadows into your radiance,  
By the blood I may enter your brightness, Search me, try me, consume all my darkness,  
Shine on me, shine on me (REFRAIN)  
As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness,  
Ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here may our lives tell your story,  
Shine on me, shine on me. (REFRAIN)

## Call to Confession (Liturgist)

Despite all that God has taught us, we still act foolishly; we are still weak. In the cross of Christ, we find forgiveness and grace. Let us confess our sins, trusting in God's wisdom and strength rather than our own. Please pray with me...

## Prayer of Confession

Holy God, I have asked for your righteous judgment against others, but I have not acknowledged the sin in my own life. I have worshiped you with my lips, but I have dishonored you with my actions. I have prayed for you to end the suffering in the world, but I have not practiced compassion and generosity toward others. My religion has become a source of quarreling rather than a testimony to your grace. Forgive my self-righteousness and give me integrity of heart, that I may shine, reflecting the light of your salvation. In the name of Christ, I pray.

## Silent Confession

## **Assurance of Pardon**

Brothers and sisters, in Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and coming again, we are forgiven and set free to live in faithfulness with God and with one another.

**Thanks be to God! In mercy God renews and restores me. Alleluia!**  
**Amen.**

## **Passing the Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you.  
**An also with you.**

## **Children's Time**

### **Prayer for Illumination** (Liturgist)

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

**Holy God, your wisdom exceeds our grasp. It is only by the power of your Holy Spirit that your Word can be heard in our words. Open our ears to what you are saying to us today, that we may be changed by encountering you.**  
**Amen.**

Scripture Reading: 1Corinthians 1:18-31

<sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Consider your own call, brothers and sisters not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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

Sermon

A Cross-Shaped Life

Rev. Michelle Fincher

**Hymn after Sermon:** "There is A Redeemer"

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

REFRAIN:

Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your son,  
And leaving your Spirit 'til the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names,  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain. (Refrain)

When I stand in glory, I will see his face;  
There I'll serve my King forever in that holy place. (Refrain)

Call to offering

(Liturgist)

All that we have is a gift from God. In faith and gratitude, we return a portion of what we have so abundantly received, that the ministry of Christ's church may continue to reach every part of God's world. Thank you for your generous giving. Please pray with me the prayer of dedication:

## Prayer of Dedication

**Gracious God, we dedicate to you not only these gifts, but also ourselves, with deep gratitude---for your wisdom and strength which you so abundantly share, for your call on our lives, and for blessing us that we may be a blessing to others. Use our gifts, we pray, for your good purposes. For the sake of Christ, 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:

**LIFT HIGH the CROSS**

Nicholson

*(Refrain) Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,  
the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God. (Refrain)*

*All newborn servants of the Crucified  
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died. (Refrain)*

## Today's Worship Participants:

Rev. Michelle Fincher, Jane Kerr, organist, Judy Viccellio, guitar,  
David Maley, piano, and Jon Jelsma, technology team