

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 22, 2020 9:30 am

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Building a community of faith unleashed into the world by the love of God.

Gathering Around the Word

Centering Meditation

Compassionate God, the wind of your Spirit is the very sign of life for all who long for you. One breath from you and we are rescued from the arid valley of dry bones, given muscles and sinews and joy with which to praise you, and filled with the holy hope you grant to all your faithful children. Let our whole lives be filled with the life-breath of the Spirit, that what has lain dormant may burst into bloom, and what looks to us to be death may be revealed as but sleep before the emergence of new life. Amen.

-- Rev. Elizabeth Dilley

Ringing of the Bell

Introit

Welcome and Matters of Community

Prelude

My Lord, What a Mornin'

Spiritual Arr. J. Rice

Call to Worship

One: Sometimes we say that we are a people of dry bones; we are a people without hope.

All: **God says that we shall be raised from our living graves and we shall be filled with Spirit.**

One: Sometimes we say that we are cut off from one another, and our sources of joy are dried up.

All: **God says that we shall be at home with one another and we shall live with celebration.**

One: Sometimes we come to worship aimless and fearful.

All: **Then God reveals wondrous works of love and we come to know God.**

PENTECOST

326 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain

Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the wil - der-ness

call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less-ness,

stir me from plac - id-ness, wind, wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand
 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.

WORDS and MUSIC: James K. Manley (1940-)
Words and Music © 1978 James K. Manley

Continued...

Em7 D Bm E A

then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
 and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
 then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
 From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;

D G A G Bm D/F# D

and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
 and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
 and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
 our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.

Bm D/G Em7 A7 D A *to Refrain*

"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
 then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
 when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
 With bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Call to Reconciliation

One: We come to you God, in humility and hope, confessing our sins before you and one another.

Prayer of Confession

All: God of all compassion and consolation, your breath alone brings life to dry bones and weary souls. Pour out your Spirit upon us, that we may face despair and death with the hope of resurrection and faith through Christ, our Lord. Open our hearts to gladness and restore to us the joy of your salvation. Abide with us as we continue our journey through this Lenten season, and as we journey through life. Amen.

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Grace

One: Because of God's great love for us, we have peace with God and access to God's grace -- all through Jesus Christ.

All: We are forgiven. We are loved. Amen.

Passing of Christ's Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Response # 661

Why Should I Feel Discouraged? (v. 3)

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to him; from care he sets me free:
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
I sing because I'm happy, (I'm happy) I sing because I'm free, (I'm free)
For his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Proclaiming the Word

Anthem

Prayer for Illumination

Piano Psalm 19

May the words of my mouth and the
me - di - ta - tions of our hearts be ac - cep - ta - ble in your sight, oh Lord!

First Reading

Psalm 23

Second Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Sermon

Questions of Life & Death:
"Can these bones live?"

Rev. Roger Scott Powers

(A time of silence for personal reflection follows.)

Responding to the Word

Hymn #53

O God, Who Gives Us Life

**O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:
deliver us from fears that kill the life we have from you.
Help us to know your Spirit still is making all things new.**

**O God, who calls your people out to venture and to dare,
to plumb the bleak abyss of doubt and find you even there:
when we despair in wandering through wastes of empty lies,
refresh us with the living spring of hope that never dies.**

**O God of covenant and law, revealed in cloud and flame,
your mighty deeds evoke our awe; we dare not speak your name.
Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your people prove,
as on our hearts you write anew the covenant of love.**

Mission Focus

Rio Grande Food Project

Ari Herring

Call to Offering

**One: God breathed life into us, and we are God's own. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them
to God in gratitude and praise.**

Offertory

Response #822

When We Are Living (v. 2)

**Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
we belong to God; we belong to God.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: God, thank you for breathing life into us. We are grateful for your spirit that dwells within us, guiding us to do your work. May our gifts and our lives be a testament to Jesus, who shines in our hearts and illuminates every corner of this world. Amen.

Prayers of the People *(from prayer cards)*

For concerns... "Lord hear our prayer" For thanksgivings... "Thanks be to God"...

The Lord's Prayer

All: Loving God, holy be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

Closing Hymn #286

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

**Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
until this early part of me glows with thy fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.**

Postlude

Dry Bones

Spiritual Arr. J. Rice

Charge and Benediction

Pastor: ...and let the people say:

All: Amen!

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

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Church Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:30 am to 2:00 pm

Please recycle bulletins in the basket in back of the sanctuary.

Please return all hymnals and bibles to chair racks.

St. Andrew Staff	Worship Planners and Participants
Pastor Rev. Roger Scott Powers	Liturgist Carolyn Gonzalez
Pastor Emeritus Rev. Earl Harvey	Musician JoAnn Rice
Director of Music David Ziems	Mission Focus Ari Herring
Director of Children's Ministries Laura Encino	Sound Booth Jim Dillow/Sound
Intergenerational Event Coordinator Claire Lewis	Liz McMaster/Video
Clerk of Session Suzanne Busch	Worship Planners Janet McEwen, Barbara Sanders, Roger Scott Powers
Organist/Pianist Denise Baccaduttre/JoAnn Rice	
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Assistant Treasurer Cathy Sommars	
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Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship, edited by Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, Pilgrim Press, 1990. https://www.ucc.org/lent_5_march_29. <https://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/year-a/le/lent-service-prayers-1.html>. <https://carolpenner.typepad.com/leadinginworship/prayers-offering/>. Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness- Words and Music © 1978 J. Manley Publishing. O God, Who Gives Us Life- Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., © 1990 Hope Publishing Co. When We are Living-Text: Escmilla/Lockwood, © 1983, United Methodist Publishing House/ Abingdon Press. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-732021.