



Traditional Service Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Prelude on an Irish Church Melody, Op. 101, No. 6

Charles V. Stanford

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God who moved over the deep in a holy wind,

All: God who brought dry bones back to life,

One: God who sets people's hearts and tongues on fire,

All: Pour out you Holy Spirit, O God.

One: Transform us, renew us, and reconcile us.

All: Open our whole selves to you, so that we might worship fully and love deeply and serve freely.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***GATHERING HYMN**

#285

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

sung to the tune BEACH SPRING

1 God You spin the whirling planets
Fill the seas and spread the plain
Mold the mountains, fashion blossoms,
Call forth sunshine, wind and rain,
We created in Your image
Would a true reflection be
Of Your justice, grace, and mercy
And the truth that makes us free.

2 You have called us to be faithful
In our life and ministry
We respond in grateful worship
Joined in one community
When we blur Your gracious image
Focus us and make us whole
Healed and strengthened as Your people
We move onward toward Your goal.

***Please stand if you are able.**

3 God Your will is still creating
Calling us to life made new
Now reveal to us fresh vistas
Where there's work to dare and do
Keep us clear of all distortion
Polish us with loving care
Thus new creatures in Your image
We'll proclaim Christ everywhere.

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You call us to be your voice in this world and we stay silent. You call us to be your hands in this world and we keep them hidden. You call us to be your feet in this world and we go our own way. When we meet those who are in pain yet say nothing, forgive us. When we meet those who need your touch yet do nothing, forgive us. When we are called to take up your cross yet carry nothing, forgive us. Breathe new life into these old, dry bones; bring freedom to our lives that we might declare with heart and soul and voice that your Spirit transforms and reconciles and makes all things new. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Ezekiel 37:1-14

Phil Fair

Leader: The word of the Lord;

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. Lindsey Altvater Clifton

"As Way Opens: Dry Bones, Come Alive"

WE RESPOND

*SERMON HYMN

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

#316

TRENTHAM

1 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.

2 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.

3 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with Thy fire divine.

4 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory The Lord is My Shepherd

John Rutter

Chancel Choir

The Lord is my shepherd
Therefore can I lack nothing
He shall feed me in a green pasture
And lead me forth beside the waters of comfort

He shall convert my soul
And bring me forth in the paths of righteousness
For His Name's sake

Yea, though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death
I will fear no evil
For thou art with me
Thy rod and thy staff comfort me

Thou shalt prepare a table before me
Against them that trouble me
Thou hast anointed my head with oil
And my cup shall be full

But thy loving-kindness and mercy
Shall follow me all the days of my life
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever

***Doxology**

#592

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***SENDING HYMN**

#692

Spirit, Open My Heart

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

(From Glory to God, See attached)

Refrain

Spirit open my heart,
to the joy and pain of living.
As You love, may I love;
in receiving and in giving.
Spirit open my heart.

1 God replace my stony heart,
with a heart kind and tender.
All my coldness and pain
to Your grace, I now surrender.

(Refrain)

2 Write Your love upon my heart,
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word and deed,
May my living be Your glory.

(Refrain)

3 May I weep with those who weep;
share my joy with sisters, brothers.
In the Name of Christ,
May we welcome one another.

(Refrain)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Fugue No. 3 from *Six Fugues on the name of BACH*, Op. 60 Robert Schumann

*Flowers are from Alesia Dietrich in memory of her parents, Robert and Irma Dietrich,
and her in-laws, Garth and Millie Milmine*

692 Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A7)
F B \flat F B \flat C7

Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

(Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7) (Bm) (D/A) (Em)
Dm F/C B \flat C7 Dm F/C Gm

liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

(D) (G) (Em7) (D) (G) (D)
F B \flat Gm7 F B \flat F *Fine*

and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

(D) (G) (D) (G)
F B \flat F B \flat

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

(A7) (Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7)
C7 Dm F/C B \flat C7

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of

(Bm) (Em7) (D) (G2) (G)
Dm Gm7 F B \flat 2 B \flat *to Refrain*

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er.

The pace and diversity of modern life often hinder us from remaining vulnerable to our emotions and to the humanness of other people. This prayerful text to be open to such joys and pains draws on Ezekiel 11:19 and 36:26 in stanza one and echoes Jeremiah 31:33 in stanza two.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1994

MUSIC: Irish melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011

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WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

Irregular