

First Presbyterian Church of Springfield
Order of Worship for the Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 21, 2021 at 11:15 a.m.

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

Organist: Mike Belote

Worship Leader: Larry Dean

Welcome

We Approach God

Call to Worship

Thus says the Lord: "I will put my breath within you, and you shall live."

With thanks, we praise the Lord and Giver of life.

Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live."

In awe, we worship God who frees us from the grave and brings eternal life.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

"How Great Thou Art"

Presbyterian Hymnal 467

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art, how great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art, how great Thou art!

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in; that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

Call to Confession

"The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). In faith, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we have set our minds on wrong things-- on selfish gain, not generous service; on pursuits that distract rather than inspire; on tasks that diminish rather than give life. We long to set our minds on eternal things-- on your way of mercy and compassion; on paths that lead to justice and peace; on living as people of hope. Spirit of God, dwell in us. Give us grace when we fall short, transform our hearts and renew our minds, and set us free to follow you faithfully. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Lord says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

God Speaks to Us Through God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Blessed are you, O Lord, King of the universe! You have taught us to read your Word. By your Spirit, open our ears and hearts to receive your message to us today. **Amen.**

Old Testament Jeremiah 31:31 – 34 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Moment with Young Disciples

New Testament Mark 10:17 – 27 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Title" The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

We Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith Adapted from the *Confession of 1967*, 9.12, 9.14

The reconciling act of God in Jesus Christ exposes the evil in people as sin in the sight of God. In sin, people claim mastery of their own lives, turn against God and each other, and become exploiters and despoilers of the world. They lose their humanity in futile striving and are left in rebellion, despair, and isolation... But God's love never changes. Against all who oppose the divine will, God expresses love and wrath. In the same love, God bore judgment and shameful death in Jesus Christ, to bring all people to repentance and new life.

Hymn "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem" *Presbyterian Hymnal* 308

O sing a song of Nazareth, of sunny days of joy, O sing of fragrant flowers', breath and of the sinless Boy: for now the flowers of Nazareth in every heart may grow; now spreads the fame of His dear name on all the winds that blow.

O sing a song of Galilee, of lake and woods and hill, of Him who walked upon the sea and bade its waves be still: for though, like waves on Galilee, dark seas of trouble roll, when faith has heard the Master's word, falls peace upon the soul.

O sing a song of Calvary, its glory and dismay; of Him who hung upon the tree, and took our sins away: for He who died on Calvary is risen from the grave, and Christ, our Lord, by heaven adored, is mighty now to save.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Jesus says, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Gracious God, your loving kindness shines brightly through your Son Jesus. Thank you for welcoming us into a relationship with you. Sometimes we are like the man who was reluctant to release his possessions. Send your Spirit to help us trust you more each day and to know the joy of giving freely for the sake of others. We dedicate these offerings so that our neighbors will feel your love and be drawn closer to you. We pray through Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

God Sends Us into the World

Hymn "In Christ There Is No East or West" *Presbyterian Hymnal 440*

In Christ there is no east or west, in Him no south or north, but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find; His service is the golden cord close binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be. All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west, in Him meet south and north; all Christly souls are one in Him throughout the whole wide earth.

Invitation to Discipleship and Benediction

Dr. Anderson