

Community Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday of Lent 10 March 2024

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Near The Cross

*Call to Worship

(One) Almighty God, you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Spirit. (All) Let us spread this gift throughout the world by our love for one another. That it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(One) We are called to this time and place to bear witness to the saving death of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

(All) Let us worship the living God, that all might know us by our love for the Lord seen in our love for others. (One) Let us worship the God, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

(One) O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

(All) Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

(One) Some were sick through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities endured affliction; they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death.

(All) Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress; he sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction.

(One) Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.

(All) And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

*Hymn (461)

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

(1) Breathe on me, breath of God,fill me with life anew,that I may love whate'er you love,and do what you would do.

(2) Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure, until with you I will one will, to do and to endure.

(3) Breathe on me, breath of God, so that your will is mine, until this earthly part of me glows with your fire divine.

(4) Breathe on me, breath of God, so shall I never die, but live with you the perfect life of your eternity.*

Prayer of Confession

Jesus, Remember Me

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

PROCLAMATION

Old Testament Reading New Testament Reading Gospel Reading Numbers 21:4-9 Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21

Hymn (422)

How Great Thou Art

(1) 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.

Refrain:

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!

(2) When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees, when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur, and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. [Refrain]

(3) 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. [Refrain]

(4) 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" [Refrain]

RESPONSE

*Affirmation of Faith The Apostles Creed I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I

Sermon

believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory

There is A Fountain

*Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

Passing of the Peace

Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer (sins/trespass)

SENDING

Charge Benediction Postlude

Hallelujah: What A Savior

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SCRIPTURES

Numbers 21:4-9

21:4 From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way.

21:5 The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." 21:6 Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.

21:7 The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

21:8 And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live."

21:9 So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Ephesians 2:1-10

2:1 You were dead through the trespasses and sins

2:2 in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient.

2:3 All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us

2:5 even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ--by grace you have been saved--

2:6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

2:7 so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God--

2:9 not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

2:10 For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

John 3:14-21

3:14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

3:15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

3:17 "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

3:18 Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

3:19 And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. 3:20 For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed.

3:21 But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."