

# Bulletin for Worship

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

### March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

#### Call to Worship

Wendy Johnson

God loves us with a steadfast love. Let those who have affirmed Christ with their lips rejoice!

God loves us so much he gave us his Son. Let those who believe in the resurrection of Jesus celebrate!

God loves us with a great love, rich in mercy. Let us have faith to receive this grace!

**Let us worship God together.**

#### Hymn: Glory to God Hymnal #415 "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,  
weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you,  
full of pity, love, and power.

#### Refrain:

I will arise and go to Jesus;  
he will embrace me in his arms.  
In the arms of my dear Savior,  
O there are ten thousand charms.

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome;  
God's free bounty glorify,  
true belief and true repentance,  
every grace that brings you nigh. *[Refrain]*

Come, ye weary, heavy laden,  
lost and ruined by the fall;  
if you tarry till you're better,  
you will never come at all. *[Refrain]*

Let not conscience make you linger,  
nor of fitness fondly dream;  
all the fitness he requireth  
is to feel your need of him. *[Refrain]*

*TEXT: Stanzas, Joseph Hart, 1759, alt.; refrain, anon.*

*MUSIC (RESTORATION 8.7.8.7. with refrain): Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835*

#### Prayer of Adoration

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Loving and Gracious God, we have sinned against You. We have not reflected the love You showed through Jesus, our Savior. We have shaped our minds and memories to justify our own bitterness, while forgetting all of our own faults and sins against others. We have said vulgar things that have come out of unclean hearts. We have been consumed by doubt that comes out of tepid submission to You and indifference to Your call upon our lives. We have been bitten with the venom of hatred which causes so much harm to our world.**

**But You so loved the world that You sent the one You love most to bring an end to the destruction and sin of the world. Forgive our self-centeredness, our empty self-righteousness, and our foolish choices that continue to rob the world of the message of Your healing grace. Teach us the way of joyful service, of learning Your ways, and of Love that will reshape the whole world. Humbly we offer our hearts to You. Amen.**

*Take a few moments for your own silent confession*

### **Assurance of Hope and Forgiveness**

Hear now the loving truth of God: God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned. Through the gift of God's love and compassion we have been forgiven and set free from our bondage to sin.

**Through the grace of our lord Jesus Christ and the grace of God, we are set free.**

### **Glory to God Hymnal Kyrie**

Lord, Have mercy. Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

### **Scripture Readings: Ephesians 2:1-10**

<sup>2:1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>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**

<sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> '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.

<sup>17</sup> '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. <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>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.'

**Message:** "A Promise of Grace"  
**Prayer**

### **Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

#### **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.  
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

### **Sending Hymn: Glory to God Hymnal #188 "Jesus Loves Me!"**

Jesus loves me! This I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong.  
They are weak, but he is strong.

#### *Refrain:*

Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! This I know,  
as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee,  
saying, "Let them come to me." *[Refrain]*

*TEXT: Stanza 1, Anna Bartlett Warner, 1859; stanza 2, David Rutherford McGuire, 1971  
MUSIC (JESUS LOVES ME 7.7.7.7 with refrain): William Batchelder Bradbury, 1862, alt.*

### **Benediction**