

lives and the life of this world. We lack the patience to sit in fellowship with you, and so we ignore the movements of your Spirit in our lives and in the life of our neighborhoods and communities.

Open our eyes, Lord. Give us eyes to see and hearts to respond in love for you and for our neighbor.

Assurance and Peace from 1 Peter 1:17-25

“You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God, For

‘All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,

and the flower falls,

but the word of the Lord endures forever.’

That word is the good news that was announced to you.”

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

Throughout this week, continue to find ways to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Children’s Message

Downloadable materials for children (and the young at heart!) can be found on the church website (www.CalvinChurchRI.org) with the worship materials.

Scripture Luke 24:13-35

Sermon *Chapters and Stories*

Hymn Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

Offering Psalm 116:16-17

“O Lord, I am your servant...You have loosed my bonds. I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice...”

We understand that these are uncertain and difficult times. But that is all the more reason that the work of the church continues. Please prayerfully continue to give your gifts to this ministry. You can take just a moment to give online through our website, or prepare a check to be mailed.

Prayer of Dedication and the Prayers of the People

God of all times and all places hear our prayers this morning.

We pray for the church throughout the world, that as we celebrate this Easter season, even in times such as these, the faith of your people may be renewed and strengthened in our witness to Jesus Christ. Give us hope in the midst of worry, courage in the face of uncertainty, and love in the presence of so much need.

We pray for the nations of the world, their leaders, and all the peoples of the earth. Grant those in positions of leadership wisdom and compassion; and grant us all the fortitude to do what is right by one another.

We lift up the poor and the stranger among us, that they may receive refuge and hope; that we may yet find ways to offer and receive hospitality, even in this time of physical distancing. Keep us especially mindful of the ways crises such as the coronavirus pandemic poses a greater threat to those already in vulnerable circumstances. Let us remember how those two on the road to Emmaus offered hospitality to a stranger...and were blessed in unexpected ways.

Lord, we pray for the sick, and for those whose health is failing. We pray for healing, and hope. We pray for comfort for those unable to be with loved ones in times of greatest need. We lift up to your tender mercy families and friends of those who have died. We give thanks for doctors and nurses and all who give so much to be agents of help and healing. Strengthen and protect them.

We pray for those whose jobs and livelihoods have been lost, or are at risk. May we find ways to support one another and our communities.

And Lord, even as our attention is turned to the effects and consequences of this current pandemic, we know that there are other needs. We pray your peace in places of violence, and we pray for your justice in places of racism, prejudice,

and oppression; we pray for the victims of the recent mass shooting in Nova Scotia, and take this time to lift up victims of violence everywhere.

And now, Lord, hear us as we lift up those whose names are known to us in our church community:

[silent prayers]

Almighty God, receive these prayers we offer, guide us in our lives that we may be agents of the answers to these prayers, and by the power of your Holy Spirit make us therefore witnesses to the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ, the one who taught us to boldly pray together:

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 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.

Hymn

Now the Green Blade Rises

Benediction

The Risen Christ is with you always, so be not afraid.

May the love of God the Father, The grace of Jesus the Son, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, One God, be with you, now and forever. Amen.