

CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Online Worship Service – March 7, 2021

Revised Common Lectionary Readings
 3rd Sunday in Lent
 Year B

Exodus 20:1-17
 Psalm 19
 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
 John 2:13-22

Prelude

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Gracious God, we gather together, whether in body or in spirit, because of the great mystery of the Cross of Christ – turning weakness into power and making foolish our worldly wisdom. Send your Holy Spirit, that as we worship this morning, may you be glorified, and may we learn to live more and more into this great and holy mystery. Amen.

Call to Worship

Psalm 19:1-4

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

Hymn

Come to Me, O Weary Traveler
 Glory to God Hymnal, # 183

Confession*

Exodus 20:1-17

“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;”

Merciful God, how fickle we are; we sin against you without even knowing it. Clear us, we pray, of any unknown sin, and save us from willfully ignoring your way. Let your commandments rule and guide us.

Forgive us for worshiping anyone or anything except you; forgive us for failing to honor all our relationships – with those closest to us and those who are distant neighbors. Help us to speak words of blessing and to enact goodness, rather than words that belittle and acts that destroy. Turn us away from violence, falsehood, and selfishness. Forgive us for thinking everything depends on our efforts and power, for you are the God who made us, freed us, and has brought us into the community of faith.

**adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion., (c) 2014 Westminster John Knox Press
 (personal confession)*

Assurance and Peace

1 Corinthians 1:18

“For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Passing of the Peace

Minute for Mission

[One Great Hour of Sharing](#)

Janet Carew
Community Care Committee

Offering and Doxology

Psalm 19:9-10

“The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.”

Please prayerfully consider the time, talents, or gifts you have received, and how you can give them back to God in love and service to others.

Prayer of Dedication

Scripture and Sermon

Lament: An Invitation Into A Mystery
[Lamentations 3](#)
(selections; English Standard Version)

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Lament and Bearing Witness

For those who have died...

“Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!”

For those who mourn...

“Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!”

For those unable to say good-bye, or mourn properly...

“Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!”

For those whose healthcare was made more difficult...

“Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!”

For those separated from family, or friends, or loneliness...

“Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!”

For the loss of Thanksgivings...Christmases... birthdays... weddings...

baptisms...meeting newly born grandchildren, nieces, or nephews...

“Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!”

For the loss of reunions and vacations...

“Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!”

For students having to learn at home...for the loss of

graduations...proms...internships...sports, clubs, and other activities...

“Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!”

For the loss of jobs, economies, and businesses...

"Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!"

For the loss of reliable food, shelter, and other necessities...

"Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!"

For frontline workers having to carry so much with so little rest...

"Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!"

For all of us grieving the loss of overall safety and security...

"Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!"

For the loss of handshakes, hugs, and smiles...

"Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!"

For those bearing the brunt of injustice, prejudice, and racism...for those whose voices we hear yet have not heard...for those whose voices we have missed...and for those who have been too worn down to give voice...

"Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!"

For all those we have neglected to remember, for that which we have forgotten, and for those whom we have forgotten...

"Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!"

Lord may we, as your people, bear witness before you and before each other, and on behalf of this world, the grief, the loss, the anger, the frustration, the stress, the sorrow of these times. And may we do it all the more on behalf of those who cannot do so themselves.

"Lord, in your steadfast love, look and see!"

And likewise, may we also bear witness to each other, and to this world, holding on to the holy and sacred mystery of your steadfast love that never ceases, your mercies the never come to an end, but are new every morning. And may we hold on all the more on behalf of those who cannot do so themselves.

"Lord, to your steadfast love, may we yet look and see!"

Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
 We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God
 from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
 through him all things were made.
 For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was
 buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his Kingdom
 will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Lord be with you. **And also with you.***

*Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...We take from your creation this bread and this cup, symbols of the great mystery of your faithfulness:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

...For we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray together:

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.

Breaking of Bread and Communion of God's People

How Long, O Lord (Psalm 13)

Glory to God Hymnal, # 777

Hymn

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Glory to God Hymnal, # 39

Charge and Benediction

1 Corinthians 1:25

Beloved of God, God's weakness is stronger than human strength. So lift up the broken-hearted, stand with the suffering, and bear witness to the mystery that is the steadfast love of God on the cross of Christ.

And the love of God the Father, the grace of Jesus the Son, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you, now and forevermore. Amen.