

**CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Worship Service – March 14, 2021**

Revised Common Lectionary Readings  
Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Year B

Numbers 21:4-9  
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
John 3:14-21

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Opening Prayer**

**Call to Worship**

Psalm 107:1-3

O give thanks to the LORD, who is good;

**For his steadfast love endures forever.**

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.**

**Hymn**

*Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling*  
Glory to God Hymnal, #418

**Confession\***

Psalm 107:19-21

*“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. Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love...”*

**Merciful God, we confess that we do not grieve our sin. We grumble about the evils in our world, yet we persist in committing injustice and profiting through deceit. We fret about the scarcity of resources, yet continue to hoard earth’s goods and cheat the poor. We protest the problems of our world; yet we harbor jealousies, nurture resentment, and invest in pride – we do not lament our sinful ways.**

**Merciful God, expose our sins before the light of your grace. Give us courage to lament, and strength to repent. Heal our sin and free us from our foolish ways that we may know the joy of eternal life in Jesus Christ.**

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

*(personal confession)*

**Assurance and Peace**

Ephesians 2:1, 4-5

*“You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived...But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, mad us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved!”*

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God**

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Scripture and Sermon**

*Tired But Inspired*  
Lamentations 4 (selections)

**Hymn**

*Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul*  
 Indelible Grace Hymnbook

**Minute for Mission**

[One Great Hour of Sharing](#)

Lydia Chopoorian  
 Community Care Committee

**Offering and Doxology**

Psalm 107:21-22

*“Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.”*

It is in response to God’s steadfast love and faithfulness that we give, trusting that our gifts will become part of that great chorus of praise and thanksgiving to God.

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 and Prayers of the People**

*\*portions adapted from Rev. Roger Gench, Presbyterian Outlook  
 Liturgy for the Fourth Sunday in Lent, 2021*

Gracious God, accept what we offer today in the hope that it reflects the offering of our lives as dedicated to you and your service. Bless all that we offer so that it might serve you in this church, in the universal Church, and in our world.

God of the seasons, help us as we continue our journey to the cross and resurrection. Help us to discern the crosses that litter the landscape of our lives and your world. Enable us to see your resurrecting power always and already at work in the broken places of our lives and your world. Empower us to step into those places where we can participate in your work of bringing life out of the death-tending places of our world.

And we pray for the world of nations, especially for those places where violence is wreaking havoc upon human lives and the life of your creation. We pray for countries dealing with devastation caused by the pandemic. We pray for those in our own country who have lost jobs, revenue, healthcare and loved ones during this relentless pandemic. Help us to serve as agents of your love and care to those who are suffering. And we pray for wise discernment by our nation’s leadership as they negotiate ways in which to aid those most afflicted.

And help us to see the places of sin in our own hearts, our own lives, our communities, and our nation. Strengthen us, and give us good courage to lament our sin, persist in repentance, and work for your justice and righteousness in all places, hearts and nations alike.

We continue to pray those who mourn...

For those recovering from surgeries...

For those in need of healing...

We continue to pray for our sisters and brothers of the Martin Luther King Community Presbyterian Church as they continue the path of healing after the arson attack on their church.

And we ask your continued presence with all at the Oak Hill, Chapel Hill, Waterman Lake, Madonna Manor, the Highlands, and Atria assisted living facilities, and all who are separated from family and friends in this time...

And now hear us as we offer our personal prayers for all those on our hearts and in our minds...

O God, you have called us to be church of Jesus Christ in this time and place. Keep us faithful to that calling. Help us to lament well, to hope well, and to love well. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who taught us to pray together with boldness:

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. us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

### **Hymn**

*On a Barren Hilltop (Come Boldly)*  
Glory to God Hymnal, #217

### **Charge and Benediction**

Even here, even now, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end." Go into the world walking in this promise.

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.