

**CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Worship Service – March 21, 2021**

Revised Common Lectionary Readings  
Fifth Sunday in Lent  
Year B

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 51:1-12 *or* Psalm 119:9-16  
Hebrews 5:5-10  
John 12:20-33

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Opening Prayer**

Holy God, by the cross and resurrection of Jesus, you life the suffering world toward hope and transformation and open the way to eternal salvation. As we move through this season toward our remembrance of the passion and death, and the celebration of the resurrection of Christ, may your law of love be written on our hearts. As we worship this morning, draw us – as you draw all people – to yourself, and reveal your love for this world. Amen.

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

**Call to Worship**

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD, Lord, hear my voice!

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!**

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

**But there is forgiveness with you.**

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope.

**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.**

O, hope in the LORD!

**For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and great power to redeem.**

**Hymn**

*From the Depths of Woe (Psalm 130) – vs 1-3*

Indelible Grace Hymnbook

**Confession\***

Jeremiah 31:31-34

*“The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall be my people...for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.”*

**Redeeming God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart, and have not loved our neighbors as we ought, by what we have done, and what we have left undone; we have strayed from your commandments, and not lived as your covenant people.**

**Do not remember our sins, but forgive our iniquities, that we may fix our eyes on you and sin no more, through Christ our Lord.**

*\*adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion,*

*(personal confession)*

**Assurance and Peace**

John 12:31-32

*“Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.”*

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***Hope; Even If...*Lamentations 5 (selections)**Hymn***By Thy Mercy*

Indelible Grace Hymnbook

**Minute for Mission***One Great Hour of Sharing*

Lynne Correllus

Community Care Committee

**Offering and Doxology**

John 12:24

*“Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.”*

Please prayerfully consider the time, talents, or gifts you have received, and how they can be given to bear much fruit in love and service to God and others.

**Prayer of Dedication and Prayers of the People**

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

O Lord, as seeds fall to the earth, to then bear much fruit, may these our offerings and our offering of our lives bear much fruit in your kingdom.

We pray that you would empower the Church to be that covenant and reconciling community that you call us to be. Make us ever mindful of the sick, the homeless, the hungry, the prisoner, the lonely and isolated, that we might be agents of your law of love to all.

We pray for this, our local community. For our local and community leaders, and for all who live, work, play, and study in this place. And likewise we pray for our nation, and the nations of the world. Especially as we all continue to navigate this pandemic. We celebrate signs of hope and promise, and we pray that in our excitement we would not forget those here and around the world who do not have such easy access to vaccines. Lord, help us to continue to live with wisdom and love for one another.

We lament, and pray, for places of deep hurt. We especially pray for the family and friends, and the victims, of the shooting in Atlanta this week. And though motives are still being uncovered, we are especially grieved that it appears there was a racial motivation; help us all to lament with the laments of the Asian community – our sisters and brothers and neighbors – help us to hold space for the fear and anger, the

hurt and grief they are feeling in this time. And remind us again of the power of our words – that the words we speak have power – power to heal and lift up, or power to tear down and destroy. We see again and again, Lord, how words we sometimes speak foster and cultivate resentments that can lead to such violent hate; and likewise, when we do not speak up, space is allowed for such resentments and scapegoating to grow.

We continue to pray for 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...

Lord, we offer these, and all the prayers for which we have not words, in the name of your Son, our Lord and Savior; who taught us to pray boldly 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. us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

## **Hymn**

*Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*  
Glory to God Hymnal, #415

## **Charge and Benediction**

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.