



7:00 PM

February 26, 2020

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE Von Gott will ich nicht lassen, BuxWV 220 Dieterich Buxtehude

From God I Shall Not Turn

WELCOME Barbara Adamcik

CALL TO WORSHIP (sung to the tune of *Morning Has Broken*) Godspell Choir

Choir: God of creation,
We are Your children,
We are Your servants,
We are Your hand.

**All: Rich in your Spirit,
Rich in Your blessings,
Help us to live as
Your love demands.**

Choir: God of creation,
Tender in mercy,
Helper and Healer,
Teach us your ways.

**All: We are Your people,
Striving to follow.
Shepherd and Servant,
Lead us, we pray!**

CALL TO CONFESSION Kathy Parsons

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Our beautiful blue and green home is an amazing, miraculous gift that we often take for granted. We trade clean air for the power of convenience, pure water for easy waste disposal, and unspoiled wilderness for more elbowroom. Forgive us for the ways in which we contribute to the disfigurement and destruction of your Creation.

Transform our hearts and minds, that we may place the welfare of your earth and your people before our fleeting desires. Embolden us to give voice to the voiceless in our communities and ecosystems, and grant us divine wisdom that we may replace systems of destruction and oppression with systems of justice and sustainability. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

HYMN NO. 385 (Glory to God Hymnal) All People On Earth Do Dwell

Old Hundredth

Romans 8:18-25

SCRIPTURE READING

LITANY FOR CREATION

Gary: Praise to you, O God, source of all waters. For vast oceans, flowing rivers, and gentle rains we give you thanks.

ALL: Forgive our careless waste and polluting ways.

Lucy: Help us to cleanse, conserve, and share; teach us to care for the gift of water.

All: Come and heal your people. Come and heal the waters.

Bobby: Praise to you, O God, creator of the dry land. For mighty mountains, rolling hills, and fertile prairies we give you thanks.

ALL: Forgive our wanton greed and violent ways.

Adrian: Help us to sow, till, and harvest with care; teach us to live gently on the land.

ALL: Come and heal your people. Come and heal the land.

Gary: Praise to you, O God, breath of life and maker of air. For wind and wave, breath and breeze, light and life we give you thanks.

ALL: Forgive our heedless acts and selfish ways.

Lucy: Help us to live justly, simply, and wisely; teach us to care for the gift of air.

ALL: Come and heal your people. Come and heal the air.

Bobby: Praise to you, O God, Lord and Giver of Life. Your love sustains planet earth and by your hand all things living are fed.

ALL: Forgive our neglect and abuse of your gifts.

Leaders: Help us to serve, defend, and restore your creation.

ALL: Help us care for your people. Help us care for the earth.

SPECIAL MUSIC All Good Gifts (from Godspell) Stephen Schwartz

Godspell Choir

SCRIPTURE Psalm 33 Rev. Gradye Parsons

***PRAYER OF RELEASING** Barbara Adamcik

We will fast from wastefulness and be good stewards of God's creation.

We will fast from hurting words and say kind words.

We will fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

We will fast from anger and be filled with patience.

We will fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

We will fast from worries and have trust in God.

We will fast from complaints and contemplate appreciation.

We will fast from pressures and be prayerful.

We will fast from bitterness and fill our hearts with joy.

We will fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.

We will fast from grudges and be reconciled.

We will fast from words and be silent so we can listen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

***HYMN NO. 22** (Glory to God Hymnal) God of the Sparrow Roeder

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

IMPOSITION OF ASHES (*The people uniting.*) Katie Rogers, Youth Elder

Almighty God, you have created us out of dust of the earth. May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence, and a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The people are invited to come forward to receive ashes.

THE SENDING

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

As you depart, you enter into lent, you are invited to greet your neighbors with the words, **"Peace be with you."** The appropriate response is: **"And also with you."**

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Where Faith and Life Connect"

6500 Northshore Drive, Knoxville TN 37919

Telephone (865) 584-3957 Fax (865) 584-8840

E-mail westminsterpres@comcast.net

www.wpcknox.org

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips, Pastor

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate

Rev. Gradye Parsons, Parish Associate

Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER

Every Wednesday evening through Lent we will offer a prayer service in the sanctuary at 6:30.

LENTEN DAILY DEVOTIONALS are available on the table in the Narthex.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: A special offering will be collected during the Season of Lent. Through this long standing, ecumenical effort, Presbyterians share God's love through ministries that provide relief to those affected by disasters, food for the hungry and support toward the self-development of poor and oppressed communities.

- 32% Restoring Hope (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance) Working alongside communities as they recover and find hope after natural or human-caused disasters.
- 36% Reducing Hunger (Presbyterian Hunger Program) Supporting initiatives that create sustainable food systems and alleviate root cases of poverty so all may be fed.
- 32% Partnering in Progress (Self Development of People) Providing resources and education to oppressed and disadvantaged communities working to overcome poverty and injustice through initiatives they own and directly benefit from.