

1. By gra-cious pow'rs so won-der-ful-ly shel-tered, and con-fi-dent-ly wait-ing, come what may,
 2. Yet is this heart by its old foe tor-ment-ed, still e-vil days bring bur-dens hard to bear;
 4. Yet when a-gain in this same world you give us the joy we had, the bright-ness of your sun,
 we know that God is with us night and morn-ing, and nev-er fails to greet us each new day. *(back for st. 2)*
 Oh, give our fright-ened souls the sure sal-va-tion, for which, O Lord, you taught us to pre-pare.
 we shall re-mem-ber all the days we lived through and our whole life shall then be yours a-lone.

3. And when this cup you give is filled to brim-ming with bit-ter suf-f'ring, hard to un-der-stand,
 5. By gra-cious pow'rs so faith-ful-ly pro-ject-ed, so qui-et-ly, so won-der-ful-ly near,
 we take it thank-ful-ly and with-out trem-bling out of so good and so be-loved a hand.
 we'll live each day in hope, with you be-side us, and go with you through ev-'ry com-ing year.

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***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

God, our bodies remember the sleepless nights and cold sweats and unrelenting stress.

Show us how to process all that we suffer.

“How frail is humanity! How short is life, How full of trouble!” *Job 14:1, NLT*

**Blessed are we, when we decide to make room for all of it,
 the fear and the gratitude, the complexity and the suffering.**

Blessed are we who pour out to you the whole of it—
 unedited, all the terrible truths and fears and what-ifs.

**The gratitude for those beautiful hearts in action who came willingly,
 into the strange and awkward space that is my need.**

Blessed are we, learning as humans together
that pain is inevitable,
 nurses are wonderful, hospitals are loud, people are brave,
and we grow and we hurt and we heal, and then we will do it all over again.

Because this beautiful paradox is what it means to be human.

Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE The Lord Bless You and Keep You John Rutter

POSTLUDE

All music and hymns for this service are from *Glory to God, The Presbyterian Hymnal* and used with permission.
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Prayer of Illumination from the Presbyterian Church USA Book of Common Worship

Call to Confession, Assurance of Pardon written by Teri Ott, *Presbyterians Today* weekly liturgy for 3.12.23.

Benediction: “A Blessing for When It’s Too Much to Handle,” from *Bless the Lent We Actually Have* sermon planning guide, by Kate Bowler



The Third Sunday in Lent

Month 12, 2023

10:30am

GATHER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Alex Lee-Cornell

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 95:1-7* Reuben Chrestman, liturgist

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
 Come into God’s presence with thanksgiving; with joyful songs of praise.
For the Lord is great; King above all gods.
 God’s hands formed the depths of the earth
and the heights of the mountains.
 The dry land belongs to God,
so also the waters and the seas.
 Come, let us worship and bow down before our Maker!
We are the people of God’s pasture and the sheep of God’s hand.

*HYMN OF PRAISE Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy No. 415

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

1. O God, you make me al-ways new. Each breath I breathe is life from you, a
 2. O Christ, you call me to new birth like God's cre-a-tion of the earth, to
 3. O lov-ing Spir-it, live in me. For-give my sin and set me free. Give
 gift of love that sets me free. Be-loved, breathe new life in me.
 leave the things I'm fas-tened on and walk in-to the ris-ing dawn.
 me new birth, life from a-bove, that I may live in your deep love.

*You are invited to stand.
 Please join in saying/singing aloud the responses **printed in bold.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE TO PARDON Let All Things Now Living *verse 1, first four lines* No. 37
Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

SONG OF PREPARATION I Will Come to You *verse 1 and refrain* No. 177
During the song of preparation, children are invited to come forward and sit on the front row of chairs, next to the piano.
**"I will come to you in the silence, I will lift you from all fear.
You will hear my voice; I claim you as my choice. Be still and know I am here."**
*Refrain: "Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine."*

PROCLAIM

TIME WITH CHILDREN Person

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING Romans 5:1-11 *NRSVue*
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Blessed Are Those Who Suffer Rev. Alex Lee-Cornell

HYMN OF RESPONSE Child of Blessing, Child of Promise, *verses 1 and 2* No. 486

SERVICE OF BAPTISM Robert Mark Allen, Jr, son of Mark and Bronwyn Allen

Presentation

Sung Response Child of Blessing, Child of Promise, *verse 3* No. 486

**Profession of Faith* *Apostles Creed (traditional)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving Over the Water

Baptism

Welcome

Sung Response

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise, *verse 4*

#486

RESPOND

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

Adoro te devote, 1697

The Sanctuary Choir

arr., K. Lee Scott

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;
Help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;
And with words that help and heal thy life would mine reveal;
And with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak.
Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be;
Help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;
And with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;
And with actions brotherly, speak Christ's sincerity.
Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;
Show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like thee;
Separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good,
And whatever I can be give Him who gave me thee.
Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;
Help me now thy power to see, I would be like thee;
'Gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield;
Let thy word my weapon be, Lord, Thine the victory.
Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

*DOXOLOGY

No. 606

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

...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 us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

GO

*SENDING HYMN

By Gracious Powers

Londonderry Air

****Turn over for hymn melody and lyrics****