

To Be A Blessing by Hannah Garrity

# **WORSHIP SERVICE**

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 5, 2023 614 Griffis Street, Cary, NC 27511 (919) 467-8700 www.carypresbyterian.org

#### ORDER OF WORSHIP – 10:30 A.M.

#### **Gathering**

(\* Please stand as you are able.)

#### **Gathering Chime**

**Prelude** Largo Corelli

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

Introit We Seek You with Our Questions, O God (v.2)

KINGSFOLD 8.6.8.6 D (Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples)

We wonder why things come to pass and how to come alive. Where do your living waters flow? How can dry bones revive? Who are you, God, who meet us here with wisdom and with sign? We seek you with our questions, God, we yearn for truth divine.

#### \*Call to Worship

As God set Abram, Sarai, and Lot on a journey, God calls us to follow in trust.

God is able to make us more than we have been and blesses us on the way.

As Jesus invited Nicodemus to be born again, Christ invites us to become a new creation.

Christ calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light, and we are saved through him.



#### \*Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not.

We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us, we pray.

Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

#### Silent Confession



\*Assurance of Pardon

#### \*Response

#### Let Us Return to the Lord



#### Word

# **Prayer for Illumination**

Carolyn Davis

Paul Lang

Scripture Reading

John 3:1-17

One:

This is the word of the Lord.

All:

Thanks be to God.

**Scripture Reading** Genesis 12:1-4a

**The Message** Seeking: How Do We Begin Again?



#### **Affirmation of Faith** A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### **Time with Our Children**

Jen Pierce

Book: After the Fall by Dan Santat

#### Responding

#### Offering of Tithes and Gifts

# Offertory

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me Chancel Choir arr. Larson

I want Jesus to walk with me. All along my pilgrim journey,

O Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me. When my heart is almost breaking,

O Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me. When my head is bowed in sorrow, O Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

#### \*Lenten Doxology



#### **Prayer of Dedication**

#### **Joys and Concerns of the Congregation**

Lord in your goodness: Hear our praise; Lord in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

### Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

#### **Sending**

\*Hymn Who on Earth Can Find God's Kingdom? (vv. 1-3)
NETTLETON 8.7.8.7 D (Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing)

1) Who on earth can find God's kingdom? Who can know God's wondrous reign?

How can we receive the freedom of a people born again? Can we hear the winds a-blowing — where they come from and return?

Can we see God's kingdom growing? These are things we long to learn.

- 2) Nicodemus said to Jesus, "God must be at work in you! Rabbi, you're a God-sent teacher; we can see the signs you do!" Jesus saw his faith and questions, so he spoke these words of love: "Surely, none can see God's kingdom, till they're born from God above."
- 3) Nicodemus kept on wondering, "How can one be born anew?" Jesus said, "This is the birthing that God's Spirit brings to you. If you want to see God's kingdom, do not be at all surprised. You can't see God's Spirit moving, yet it's working, changing lives."

4) God, we see your world around us, and we wonder what will be. Is your loving reign among us; is it something yet to see?

May we trust your Spirit's moving, giving life and hope and birth.

May we trust what you are doing, joy of heaven, hope of earth.

#### \*Blessing and Charge

\*Response Who on Earth Can Find God's Kingdom? (v. 4) (See previous hymn)

\*Postlude Voluntary in E Minor Stanley

#### \*Sharing the Peace of Christ

You are invited to share Christ's peace with those around you.

# **Today's Worship Service Participants**

Ministers: Rev. Paul Lang, Rev. Kim Rubish
Music Director: Ed Yasick
Choir: Chancel Choir
Acolyte: Lorraine Bullis
Lay Reader: Carolyn Davis
Time with Our Children: Jen Pierce
Ushers: Tom Bolick, Russell Diggs,
Janet Robinette, Boyce Oglesby
Tech: John Campbell, Ken Worsham
Slides: Beth Cleveland
CCLI No.: 3015474



#### seeking: Lenten Reflections Group

Pastor Kim's Lenten Reflections group meets on Sunday evenings from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Using materials from A Sanctified Art, this group explores the week's texts, devotions, and other outside resources. A Sanctified Art offers "honest questions for deeper faith" and the group has a chance to use this time to dive into honest questions together, both from the materials and from questions that pop up for each person throughout Lent. There's no obligation to come every week—anyone is welcome any time!



# **Lenten Opportunities at Cary Presbyterian**

During the season of Lent, our community of faith offers a variety of ways to pursue a deeper connection with God, others, and self. Worship and faith formation offerings are inspired by resources from the folks at *A Sanctified Art*, entitled *Seeking: Honest Questions for Deeper Faith*. Along with various gatherings at CPC during Lent, we hope these athome resources will be helpful as well.

# Lenten Devotional (Online version at https://tinyurl.com/266ddhay)

This amazing resource contains scripture, commentary, poetry, visual art, and written reflections. Our Faith Formation Offerings offer weekly opportunities to join conversations at CPC about the content of this devotional.

# **Daily Devotional Cards**

These simple and easy to use daily devotional cards include a reminder/affirmation for building a daily rhythm of prayer.

# Seeking Spotify Playlist (Listen at https://tinyurl.com/38c95k3k)

This playlist, cultivated by A Sanctified Art, covers a wide range of genres, themes, and musical styles. May this serve as the soundtrack for your Lenten season.

Printed copies of the Lenten Devotional and Prayer Cards are available in the Narthex. Stay connected with the CPC App for devotionals, prayers, commentary, poetry, and art connected to the Seeking resources.

# THIS WEEK AT CARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Website and Online Member Directory: www.carypresbyterian.org

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Sunday,	9:15 a.m.	The Pastor's Class (Fellowship Hall)
March 5	9:30 a.m.	Faith Formation Classes (All Ages)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of	10:30 a.m.	Worship In-Person (Sanctuary) and Online
Lent	4:30 p.m.	Game Night with St. Giles (Fellowship Hall)
	5:00 p.m.	Lenten Reflections with Pastor Kim (Parlor)
Monday,	11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting (FH Annex)
March 6	6:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Brownie Troop 1951 (Youth Area)
	6:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Daisy Troop 271 (Youth Area)
	6:30 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack 232 (FHF)
	6:30 p.m.	Scout Troop 232G (Fellowship Hall)
	6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting (102)
	6:30 p.m.	Deacons Meeting (Zoom)
Tuesday,	10:00 a.m.	Triple F (100)
March 7	6:00 p.m.	Duke Health & Well-Being Mindfulness Based
		Stress Reduction Group (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00 p.m.	Scout Troop 232 (Youth Area)
	7:00 p.m.	Cool Books Club (Zoom)
Wednesday,	7:00 p.m.	NO Chancel Choir Rehearsal This Week
March 8	7:30 p.m.	Wednesday Night Virtual Class (Zoom)
Thursday,	7:00 p.m.	Community Partnership Team (Zoom)
March 9		
Friday,	7:00 p.m.	Courage, Strength, & Hope (Library)
March 10		
Saturday,		
March 11		
Sunday,	9:15 a.m.	The Pastor's Class (Fellowship Hall)
March 12	9:30 a.m.	Faith Formation Classes (All Ages)
3rd Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Worship In-Person (Sanctuary) and Online
of Lent	2:00 p.m.	Compass Group #2 (Parlor)
Daylight Savings Time Begins	5:00 p.m.	Lenten Reflections Group (Parlor)

