Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church USA

~ Service for the Lord's Day ~

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

The Prelude to Worship

Sheri Martin

We acknowledge that our church is on the traditional homelands of the Puyallup Tribe.
The Puyallup people have lived on and stewarded these lands since the beginning of time, and continue to do so today. We recognize that this land acknowledgment is one small step toward true allyship and we commit to uplifting the voices, experiences, and histories of the Indigenous people of this land and beyond.

<u>Welcome</u>

Rev. John Asher

* Call to Worship (please stand)

Kathryn Lehmann

Our lives feel all disjointed as though they were a valley of dry bones.

But the Spirit of God will bring connection and continuity to our lives.

The Spirit of God breathes hope into each one of us.

The Spirit of God challenges us to be people of faith.

Open our hearts, Lord, and bring us to your light.

Open our lives, Lord, and break us free from doubt and fear.

* Hymn # 404

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Sharing Our Burdens Prayer

Kathryn Lehmann

Jesus of Nazareth,

I confess: I forget that you know this feeling.

I forget that you, too, have wept.

I forget that you, too, have lost.

I forget that you, too, have gathered at the tomb,

have grieved for a friend, have felt the sting of humanity.

Forgive me for all the times I place blame on you.

Forgive me for all the times I create distance, imagining that you could never feel what I feel. Forgive me for allowing the valley of dry bones to be a sea of space between us. Pour yourself into the cracks in my heart. Bring these bones back to life. Bring me closer to you. With gratitude I pray, amen.

Friends, you could spend your whole life ignoring God, pushing God away, or trying to solve the world's problems all on your own, and God would still love you all the same. Even in our shortcomings, we are God's beloved. So hear and believe this good news: We are saved by grace through faith. We belong to God. We are not alone.

Special Music

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Shepherd Choir

Children's Message

Rev. John Asher

Children are welcome to remain in the service with their family or follow the leaders to Sunday School.

Scripture

John 11: 17-37

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

<u>Sermon</u>

"Can These Bones Live?"

Rev. John Asher

Song

"Graves Into Gardens"

I searched the world but it couldn't fill me Man's empty praise and treasures that fade Are never enough

Then You came along and put me back together And every desire is now satisfied here in Your love

(Continued...)

Chorus:

Oh there's nothing better than You There's nothing better than You Lord there's nothing Nothing is better than You

I'm not afraid to show You my weakness
My failures and flaws, Lord You've seen them all
And You still call me friend, 'Cause the God of the mountain
Is the God of the valley, There's not a place
Your mercy and grace won't find me again

Charus

You turn mourning to dancing, you give beauty for ashes You turn shame into glory, you're the only one who can

You turn graves into gardens, you turn bones into armies You turn seas into highways, you're the only one who can *Chorus*

<u>Welcoming New Members</u> *Ken Duvall, Cindy Gammon, & Kathryn Lehmann*

Affirming Our Faith

Rev. John Asher

We believe that God loves us—
God loves us enough to weep when we are gone.
We believe that God does not give up on us—
breathing new life into tired bones.
We believe that God returns to us—
always seeking us when we are lost.
We believe that God holds hope for us—
so we hold onto hope as well.
We believe, help our unbelief.
In Christ's name we pray, amen.

Songs

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee/The Old Rugged Cross"

(see insert)

Community Life

* Hymn # 371 (please stand)

"Lift High the Cross"

* Benediction

* Postlude

Sheri Martin

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Call to Worship: Written by Nancy Townley, accessed at

https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4558/worship-connection-march-26-2023.

Burden's Prayer: Used with permission from A Sanctified Art, LLC.

Just a Closer Walk With Thee
I am weak but Thou art strong,
Jesus keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long,
As I walk let me walk close to Thee

Chorus:

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it Jesus is my plea Daily walking close to Thee, let it be dear Lord let it be

Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter Lord who cares
Who with me my burden shares, none but Thee dear Lord none but Thee
Chorus

The Old Rugged Cross

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross
The emblem of suff'ring and shame
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain

Chorus:

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross Till my trophies at last I lay down I will cling to the old rugged cross And exchange it some day for a crown

O the old rugged cross so despised by the world
Has a wondrous attraction for me
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary

Chorus

- 3. Kuhn shim guhk juhng moo guh ooh jim 3. Are we weak and heavy laden, Ah nee jin jah noo goon gah Pee nahn chuh nun oo ree Ye su Joo ggeh kee doh duh ree seh Seh sahng chin goo myul see ha go Nuh rul joh rong ha yuh doh Joo eh poo meh ahn gee uh suh Cham dwen wee ro baat get neh.
 - Cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our refuge— Take it to the Lord in prayer! Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer! In His arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a solace there.

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

PRECIOUS LORD 6.6.9 D



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Lift High the Cross

