



Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023

2860 Coventry Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio
44120

“My house is a house of prayer for all people.” (Isaiah 56:7)
Plymouth is A Just Peace Church and An Open and Affirming Congregation

Our Approach to God

Music calls us to worship so we may listen for God speaking to us. When the service begins with the lighting of the candles, please silence your voices and devices.

**All are invited to rise in body or spirit*

Preparation Music Communion.....Louis Vierne/arr. Charles Callahan
Robert Woolfrey, clarinet and Sol Rizzato, organ

Welcome

***Call to Worship** Will Sanborn

ONE: Where do we put our trust? Where do we find wholeness and meaning?

ALL: We lift up our eyes to the hills.

Our help comes from the creator of heaven and earth.

ONE: We trust in God, who neither slumbers nor sleeps.

We are held by the Holy Spirit of God.

ALL: We are one in the Spirit, one with Jesus in faith and calling.

Based on Psalm 121

***Hymn (Black) 212** O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns..... *Charterhouse*

Confession

All: Eternal God, we confess that our hearts chase after lesser things. We have turned away from relationships when they became too difficult. We have set aside our principles when they became too costly. We have held on to grievances instead of offering forgiveness.

Help us to be reconciled to one another. May the power of your Holy Spirit blow into our lives to make us new. Amen.

Response..... *Dust and Ashes*

Choir: Dust and ashes choke our tongue in the wasteland of depression. Holy Spirit, come, walk with us tomorrow through all gloom and grieving to the paths of resurrection.

ALL: Take us by the hand and lead us, lead us through the desert sands, bring us living water, Holy Spirit, come.

Silent Reflection

Words of Assurance

***Hymn of Praise**.....*Nettleton*

Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,
Come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.

***Passing of the Peace**

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Children's Message

Children in pre-school – 6th grade are invited to come forward for the children's message, and then return to be seated with their families. Children of all ages remain in worship for communion Sundays. Sunday School will resume next Sunday.

The Proclamation of God's Word

Reading from Scripture

John 3:1-17

Sermon

What Keeps You Up at Night? Rev. Dr. Matt Wooster
God in the Wilderness Sermon Series Part 2

***Hymn (Black) 208** God Loved the World*Rockingham*

Prayers of the People 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 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.

Response Help, Save and Strengthen Us*Eleanor Daley*

Living Out the Word of God

Announcements of Church Life

Call to Offering

Offertory O Love*Elaine Hagenberg*

The Plymouth Choir; Tanya Ell Woolfrey, cello

O love, that will not let me go, O love, I rest my weary soul in Thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be. O joy, that seeks me through the pain, O joy, I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be. (George Matheson)

At the start of Women's History Month, Elaine Hagenberg (b 1979) lives in Iowa and composes full-time. She writes, "I re-discovered the text to "O Love" in the summer of 2016 and immediately heard music to the comforting words. Though the lingering dissonances recall past pain, the ascending melody encourages us to trust that "morn shall tearless be."

***Doxology**.....*Old 100th*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

All: Generous God, with eyes wide open to your unending love, we offer these gifts, and our lives, to your service. We dedicate these offerings to strengthen the ministries to which you have called us and equipped us, and we trust in your blessing upon all that we give. Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Music at Communion God so Loved the World (*The Crucifixion*) John Stainer
Diane Julin Menges, Lia Bendix, Mitch Warmbein, and John Mills, soloists

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. (John 3:16-17)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Out of your abundance you have fed us what we need, sparing none of your good gifts in Jesus Christ. Thank you, Lord. Thank you! Now may we live as you taught us. Amen.

***Hymn** (Black) 294 There's a Spirit in the Air *Orientis Partibus*

***Commission and Benediction**

***Congregational Response**..... *Dust and Ashes*

ALL: Take us by the hand and lead us, lead us through the desert sands, bring us living water, Holy Spirit, come.

Voluntary Adagio Cantabile, BWV 1003 Johann Sebastian Bach/arr. Virgil Fox
James Riggs, organ

Many in the congregation wish to remain seated for the Voluntary. If you choose to leave, please be aware of those still participating in this part of the service. The Voluntary is music for worship and we ask that all be respectful of one another's worship practices, including those participating via livestream. Following the Voluntary, you may greet the ministers.

Scroll down for Hymns

LENT

212

O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymn

Matt. 23:37-39; Luke 13:34-35

Bradford Gray Webster, 1954; 4



1 O Je-sus Christ, may grate-ful hymns be ris-ing, in ev-ery
2 Grant us new cour-age, nev-er proud, but hum-ble, strong in you
3 Show us your Spir-it, brood-ing o'er each cit-y, as you onc-



cit-y for your love and care; In-spire our wor-ship, grant the
strength to ven-ture and to dare; To lift the fall-en, guide the
wept a-bove Je-ru-sa-lem, Seek-ing to gath-er all in



glad sur-pris-ing that your blessed Spir-it rous-es ev-ery-where.
ones who stum-ble, seek out the lone-ly and God's mer-cy share.
love and pit-y, and heal-ing those who touch your gar-ment's hem.



This text, written for a Convocation of Urban Life in America, was chosen by The Hymn Society for publication in Five New Hymns on the City. Bradford Webster, a Methodist minister, served churches in his native New York state for forty years.

Tune: CHARTERHOUSE 11.10.11.1

David Evans, 19

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Scroll down for Hymns

God Loved the World

John 3:16-17

Heiliges Lippen und Herzens Opfer, Settin, 1778
Transl. August Crull, 1845, ab

1 God loved the world, and lov - ing gave
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith,
 3 If you are sick, if death is near,
 4 Be of good cheer, for God in Christ

a won - drous gift, the lost to save,
 who was made flesh and suf - fered death;
 this truth your trou - bled heart can cheer;
 for - gives the flock, by sin en - ticed,

That all who would in Christ be - lieve
 All who con - fide in Christ a - lone
 Christ Je - sus saves us all from death;
 And jus - ti - fied by Je - sus' blood,

should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 that is the firm - est ground of faith.
 your bap - tism grants the high - est good.

Edward Miller, a skilled flutist in G. F. Handel's orchestra,
 adapted Rockingham from the tune Tunbridge. Miller named it
 for the Marquis of Rockingham, a patron and friend, and prime
 minister of Great Britain.

Tune: ROCKINGHAM L.M.
 Anon.
 Adapt. Edward Miller, 1790

Scroll down for Hymns

There's a Spirit in the Air

John 6:24-35, 51-58; 1 Cor. 2:9-16; 1 John 4

Brian Wren, 1969; rev. 1987

1 There's a spir - it in the air, tell - ing Chris - tians ev - ery - where:
 2 Lose your shy - ness, find your tongue; tell the world what God has done:
 3 When be - liev - ers break the bread, when a hun - gry child is fed:
 4 Still the Spir - it gives us light, see - ing wrong and set - ting right:
 5 When a strang - er's not a - lone, where the home - less find a home:

"Praise the love that Christ re - vealed, liv - ing, work - ing in our world."
 God in Christ has come to stay. Live to - mor - row's life to - day.
 Praise the love that Christ re - vealed, liv - ing, work - ing in our world.
 God in Christ has come to stay. Live to - mor - row's life to - day.
 Praise the love that Christ re - vealed, liv - ing, work - ing in our world.

6 May the Spir - it fill our praise,
 guide our thoughts and change our ways.
 God in Christ has come to stay.
 Live to - mor - row's life to - day.

7 There's a Spir - it in the air,
 call - ing peo - ple ev - ery - where:
 Praise the love that Christ re - vealed,
 liv - ing, work - ing in our world.

Brian Wren celebrates the Spirit's work in the world in this text written for Pentecost at Hockley, England. In it, Wren borrows a poetic device from the Isaac Watts hymn "Give to Our God Immortal Praise" with the alternating repetition of two choruses.

Tune: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS 7.7.7.
 Medieval French melody
 Harm. Richard Redhead, 1853