

Worship Guide

March 22, 2020

In Preparation for Worship

"Love God. We have heard the words so often that we no longer hear them. They are too loud to hear, too big to take in. We know the words so much by heart that we scarcely know them any longer as words spoken to the heart out of a mystery beyond all knowing....We hardly stop to wonder where they are taking us."

- Frederick Buechner, "Love," Secrets in the Dark

Gathering Prayer

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

At this time, please take a moment to let us know you are worshiping online with us by sharing your name in the "comments" on our live feed!

Call to Worship

Leader: We are travelers.

People: We sing songs and say prayers. Leader: We give thanks and break bread.

People: We wrestle with life, death, and everything between.

Leader: We struggle together along this Lent journey.

All: In our worship, God, remind us once again that we do not travel alone.

Opening Hymn #37*

Let All Things Now Living

*Hymn sheets are located at the end of the bulletin.

Call to Confession

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession

from Dietrich Bonhoeffer

O God, the struggle of our calling is great, and so every morning we turn and cry to you. Help us to pray and to concentrate our thoughts on you; We cannot do this alone. In each of us there is darkness, but with you there is light. We are lonely, but you do not leave us. We are feeble in heart, but with you there is help. We are restless, but with you there is peace. Whatever this day may bring, may your name be praised. Hear also the personal confessions on our hearts... (Silence is kept for personal reflection.)

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Song of Praise #581

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: World without end. Amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ

We encourage you to pass the peace with your fellow worshipers in the "comments" of our live feed!

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Mark 12:28-34

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our StoryCatherine Anne Thomas

Sermon What We Will Become Shannon Dill

Hymn #795* Healer of Our Every III

*Hymn sheets are located at the end of the bulletin.

Prayers of the People

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.

Offering

Giving is a tangible sign of worship. During this interesting time in our world, we encourage you to continue to share your time, talent and treasure. You may also "Text to Give" to **73256**. The body of the text needs to start with the keyword GIVETOSLPRES followed by the amount.

Offertory

Song of Thanksgiving #607

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

Closing Hymn #542*

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

*Hymn sheets are located at the end of the bulletin.

Benediction

Postlude

SUNDAY SPOTLIGHT:

For the latest information, go to slpres.org.

All church activities that require in-person gathering have been canceled indefinitely, consistent with the decision made by Dekalb County School District in consultation with state and county boards of health. Once Dekalb County Schools re-open for gathering, the Session will meet to decide when it is safe for Saint Luke's to resume gathering in person again. The cancellation of gathering activities will go at least through Sunday, March 29th, but likely beyond, even including Holy Week. As long as we are on hiatus from in-person gathering, we will conduct our worship services online Sundays at 10:30, we will conduct business and stay connected with other forms of communication, and we will explore new ways to grow together using internet and phone. If you have an emergency or need pastoral care, please do not hesitate to contact one of the pastors on their cell phones.

The church building and office will be closed for at least two weeks (beginning March 16), consistent with the closure of Dunwoody's City Hall. This will apply to all groups using the Saint Luke's campus for gathering, with an exception made for Family Promise's hospitality for families experiencing homelessness. Once City Hall re-opens, the Session will meet to decide when it is safe and wise to open the building again. In the meantime, the Saint Luke's pastors and staff will work together remotely, and develop ways to be supportive in the community during this trying time.

The Board of Deacons of the church has also mobilized care and caregivers for anyone who needs assistance during this time of isolation, like shopping and other errands. There will be more information forthcoming about care at Saint Luke's, but you can contact Pastor Shannon Dill (shannondill@slpres.org) or Loving Care Committee deacon chair Emily Ritzler (eritzler@gmail.com) for more information. We will be checking on each other even more so these days and no one in the Saint Luke's family is alone.

Adult Sunday school classes and other small groups will be meeting virtually! Please check with your class/group leader for more information. We will also have online opportunities for everyone to join in fellowship and spiritual growth. Details will be posted on our Facebook page, website and Highlights emails as they become available.



Written for an easy-to-sing folk melody familiar in England as Well as Wales, this 20th-century North American text bears many resemblances to both Psalm 148 and the traditional canticle *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini* (Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord).

Healer of Our Every III



Heal-er of our ev-ery ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be-yond our fear, and hope be-yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad-ness, grace us with your peace and
- 2 In the pain and joy be-hold-ing how your grace is still un-
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth er, ev ery sis ter, ev ery
- 4 You who know each thought and feel-ing, teach us all your way of



glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts. fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love. broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide. heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

As soon becomes apparent, this sung prayer is not limited to personal physical healing. It deals with the larger and intangible gifts of peace and hope to vanquish fear and sorrow, and it is cast in the plural because it is concerned with the healing of a wounded community.

542 God Be with You Till We Meet Again



After writing the first stanza of his "Christian Good-bye," the author sent it to two composers, one celebrated and one unknown, to see how each would set it. This is the second person's tune, which the author found more effective and used for the hymn's first publication.