



Fountain Square
Presbyterian Church

February 21, 2021

Welcome

Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 126

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”**

The LORD has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.

**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.**

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

**Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.**

Song of Praise

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

**All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name,
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown him Lord of all;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown him Lord of all!**

**Ye chosen seed of Israel’s race,
Ye ransomed from the fall.
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
And crown him Lord of all;
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
And crown him Lord of all!**

**Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
To him, all majesty ascribe,
And crown him Lord of all;
To him, all majesty ascribe,
And crown him Lord of all!**

**O that with yonder sacred throng,
We at his feet may fall;
We’ll join the everlasting song,
And crown him Lord of all;
We’ll join the everlasting song,
And crown him Lord of all!**

*words Edward Perronet, 1779-1780; vs. 4 John Rippon, 1787;
music Oliver Holden, 1793; Public Domain*

Song of Praise

“Before the Throne of God Above”

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong and perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is “Love,”
Whoever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
My name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heav’n he stands,
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see him there,
Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on him and pardon me,
To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! The risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless Righteousness,
The great unchangeable I Am,
The King of glory and of grace!
One with himself, I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by his blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

One with himself, I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by his blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

words Charitie L. Bancroft, 1863; music Vikki Cook, 1997

Prayer of Confession

Loving and grace-filled God,
we confess that it is difficult to keep you
as the ultimate thing in our lives.
There are so many urgent demands on us
that we find it hard to focus ourselves on you.

There are many parts of your good creation
that we turn into ultimate things.
We confess that we seek satisfaction
in the created things
rather than in you, the Creator.

The culture around us sends
so many mixed messages that it is hard to listen
to your still small voice.
We get distracted and find ourselves
further and further from the abundant life
you want to give us.

Forgive us, O God, for these and all of our sins.

Assurance of Pardon and Hope

Based on Joel 2:12-13

“Even now,” declares the LORD,
“return to me with all your heart,
with fasting and weeping and mourning.”

Rend your heart and not your garments.
Return to the LORD your God,
for he is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and abounding in love,
and he relents from sending calamity.

Christian, you are forgiven.

Amen!

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**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 Spirit,
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 sits at 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.

(quick=living ; catholic= universal)

Life as Worship

BLACK HISTORY MONTH. Take the next few weeks to read the articles Pat shared in Wednesday's email. Community groups may want to use the resource for discussion. Email Pat with any questions (pat@fountainsquarepres.org).

LENT PRAYER GUIDE.

There are new prayer guides for the season of Lent. They are available on the Sinsabaughs' front porch (1306 Pleasant St), or digitally in the weekly email.

YOUTH EVENTS. All youth programming is announced via Redeemer's Daily Digest and their Sunday morning emails. Please check your inbox from this morning from Redeemer for information on upcoming events. Contact Caroline with questions (caroline@redeemindy.org).

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY. Men's Bible study meets Sunday evenings at 7pm via Zoom (Meeting ID: 469 444 059; Password: 056649). They are currently doing Tim Keller's study - Living in a Pluralistic Society: Judges, Daniel & Joseph. Contact Grant Thomas for more information (grantrileythomas@gmail.com).

COVID-19 RESPONSE. Our mercy team has put together a curated list of ways to serve each other and our community during this season. You can view the list online at [bit.ly/covid19-mercy]. Contact the mercy team with questions (mercy@fountainsquarepres.org).

NEW HOPE COUNSELING. Need an outlet to process everything? New Hope Counseling continues to be open to serve clients. They offer telecounseling via a secure provider on your computer, tablet, or mobile device. We all sense how disrupted life is right now. Need-based scholarships are available to Fountain Square Pres attendees. Email Intake Coordinator, Liz Escoffery at (counseling@newhopeindianapolis.org).

ONLINE GIVING. We can continue worshipping the Lord, entrusting back to him a portion of what He has provided by going online at [fountainsquarepres.org] and clicking "Give" in the upper right hand corner. Email Carrie if you have any questions (carrie@fountainsquarepres.org).

NEED SOMETHING? We all have needs and are in this together. We expect this season will press in uniquely upon all of us. If you need any kind of assistance to get through this season, please do not hesitate to email our mercy team (mercy@fountainsquarepres.org).

Prayer

Song of Grace

“From the Depths of Woe”

From the depths of woe I raise to Thee
The voice of lamentation;
Lord, turn a gracious ear to me
And hear my supplication;
If Thou iniquities dost mark,
Our secret sins and misdeeds dark,
O who shall stand before Thee?
(*Who shall stand before Thee?*)
O who shall stand before Thee?
(*Who shall stand before Thee?*)

To wash away the crimson stain,
Grace, grace alone availeth;
Our works, alas! Are all in vain;
In much the best life faileth;
No man can glory in Thy sight,
All must alike confess Thy might,
And live alone by mercy, (*Live alone by mercy*)
And live alone by mercy, (*Live alone by mercy*)

Therefore my trust is in the Lord,
And not in mine own merit;
On Him my soul shall rest, His word
Upholds my fainting spirit;
His promised mercy is my fort,
My comfort and my sweet support;
I wait for it with patience (*Wait for it with patience*)
I wait for it with patience (*Wait for it with patience*)

What though I wait the live-long night,
And 'til the dawn appeareth,
My heart still trusteth in His might;
It doubteth not nor feareth;
Do thus, O ye of Israel's seed,
Ye of the Spirit born indeed;
And wait 'til God appeareth, (*Wait 'til God appeareth*)
And wait 'til God appeareth, (*Wait 'til God appeareth*)

Though great our sins and sore our woes
His grace much more aboundeth;
His helping love no limit knows,
Our upmost need it soundeth.
Our Shepherd good and true is He,
Who will at last His Israel free
From all their sin and sorrow
(*All their sin and sorrow*)
From all their sin and sorrow
(*All their sin and sorrow*)

©1997 Christopher Miner Music. Words: Martin Luther. Music: Christopher Miner.

Scripture Reading

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11; 12:8-14

¹ The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

² Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

³ What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun?

⁴ A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever.

⁵ The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises.

⁶ The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north; around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.

⁷ All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again.

⁸ All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.

⁹ What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.

¹⁰ Is there a thing of which it is said, “See, this is new”?

It has been already in the ages before us.

¹¹ There is no remembrance of former things, nor will there be any remembrance of later things yet to be among those who come after.

⁸ Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher; all is vanity.

⁹ Besides being wise, the Preacher also taught the people knowledge, weighing and studying and arranging many proverbs with great care. ¹⁰ The Preacher sought to find words of delight, and uprightly he wrote words of truth.

¹¹ The words of the wise are like goads, and like nails firmly fixed are the collected sayings; they are given by one Shepherd. ¹² My son, beware of anything beyond these. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh.

¹³ The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. ¹⁴ For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pat Hickman

The Lord's Supper

Weekly Communion during the worship service is for any baptized follower of Jesus Christ who is not harboring secret sin and who is not in open, unresolved conflict with another member of the faith community.

Those receiving the sacrament, please come forward to receive the bread and wine. Please go ahead and eat the bread and return to your seat with the cup (wine is in tinted cups, grape juice in the clear cups). We will all partake of the cup together. Young children who do not yet partake of the sacrament may be brought forward for prayer.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth:

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief:

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Song of Communion

"Listen, Lord, and Answer Me"

**Listen Lord, and answer me
I am poor, in need of thee
Turn your ear and show your face
Listen to my plea for grace**

**When there's trouble when I fall
All my days, to you I call
Turn your ear, and gracious be
In your mercy rescue me**

**I will sing of your steadfast love
How you lifted me to heights above
There is no one like you,
No other God but you**

**Teach me all your ways, O Lord
That I may walk in your word
Bind my heart to fear your name
Take my sorrow, take my shame**

**Slow to anger, quick to save
Lifted me up from the grave
Full of mercy, keen to bless
Full of love and faithfulness**

Adrian Pumphrey, 2018

Communion Response

Leader We declare together the mystery of the faith.

People **Christ has died. Christ has Risen.
Christ will come again!**

Song of Response

"We Will Feast in the House of Zion"

**We will feast in the house of Zion.
We will sing with our hearts restored.
"He has done great things," we will say together.
We will feast, and weep no more.**

**We will not be burned by the fire;
He is the Lord our God.
We are not consumed by the flood—
Upheld, protected, gathered up.**

**We will feast in the house of Zion.
We will sing with our hearts restored.
"He has done great things," we will say together.
We will feast, and weep no more.**

**In the dark of night before the dawn,
My soul be not afraid;
For the promised morning,
Oh how long!
O God of Jacob, be my strength!**

**We will feast in the house of Zion.
We will sing with our hearts restored.
"He has done great things," we will say together.
We will feast, and weep no more.**

**Every vow we've broken and betrayed,
You are the faithful One;
And from the garden to the grave,
Bind us together, bring shalom.**

**We will feast in the house of Zion.
We will sing with our hearts restored.
"He has done great things," we will say together.
We will feast, and weep no more.**

Isaac Watts, 1707; arr. Lowell Mason, 1824; Public Domain

Benediction

New-ish here?

Welcome! We're so glad you joined us today. We hope you'll stay connected with us during this season. Please go to [<https://bit.ly/fspres-connect>] to complete our connection card and stay in touch. We send out two emails weekly with information on upcoming events, encouragements, and resources. Glad you are here.

Contact Us

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Explanation of Cover Art

"Lent Blooming"

-BA Thomas

As I've thought about this season of Lent, happening amidst a year where we're already giving up so much, I was drawn to flowers. Well, I'm always drawn to flowers in my work, but their connection to Lent felt especially poignant. New seeds and perennial roots sit through the long stretch of cold, buried in the dirt and mire, waiting for the earth to warm, for their signal to begin the next phase of their cycle. They start their work deep under our feet before we ever see tender, new growth. It reminded me not only of our current situation with the pandemic, but also of how our work during Lent, this recognition of our brokenness and need, has to start deep within us, slowly blossoming into a life of habitual repentance, of gracious mercy, of sacrificial love. But flowers don't bloom forever, pointing readily at the often repeated verse "from dust you came, and to dust you shall return." Tying these metaphysical ideas to something tangible in a period of time so intertwined with our physicality just made sense to me. So I chose to illustrate a trinity of flowers that represent key characteristics of this current season. Gentle reminders that though the darkness looms, brighter things are beginning to grow beneath us, within us, furthering the cycle of our faith. I think this year more so than ever, I'm ready for the bursting forth.

Symbolisms: Red Poppy: Sacrifice; Anemone: Anticipation; Lenten Rose: Serenity/Scandal