

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
APRIL 26, 2020

PRELUDE/MOMENT OF QUIET REFLECTION

"Holy is the Lord with Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

Cheryl Mayhew, organist
Arr. By Anna Laura Page

GREETING

Pastor Eric Gale

RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Lay Leader: Paul Auble

L: Christ is risen!

P: Christ is risen indeed!

L: Though we find ourselves isolated in our homes...

P: Yet, we would listen to the birds singing, reminding us that the whole creation rejoices in the love of our God.

L: Though we cannot reach out and touch our friends and neighbors...

P: We would rejoice that Jesus is in our midst, holding out hands of grace and hope to us!

L: Though we have to stand at a safe distance from others, whispering hello through masks,

P: We know that the Spirit is all around us, breathing peace on us in these moments, surrounding us with grace and hope.

OPENING HYMN *"Come, Thou Almighty King"*

Come, thou Almighty King, help us thy name to sing, help us to praise. Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, thou Incarnate Word, gird on thy mighty sword, our prayer attend. Come and Thy people bless, and give Thy word success. Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour. Thou who almighty art, now rule in ev'ry heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To the great One in Three, eternal praises be, hence evermore. Thy sov'reign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION (leader)

Like those disciples of long ago, we are filled with uncertainty, wondering what the next piece of news will bring, what awaits us today, tonight, tomorrow. Let us confess how hard it is to believe in the resurrection life and hope offered to us, by the One who offers us peace and healing, as we pray together, saying...

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS (unison)

O God, in You we find our path for life. In these ongoing days of isolation we wonder if we will ever find our way back. We could do more for others but multiply their sorrows by focusing more on ourselves and our needs. We see the ones who are risking their lives to care for those they don't even know, and grumble that they could be doing more. We ask you to walk through the closed doors of our worries and doubts and stand in our midst, offering us that grace which can heal us, that hope which can enliven us, and that faith which enables us to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. AMEN!

(Moment of Silence)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive)

L: It is God's great mercy through the resurrection of Jesus which gives us that hope which lives within us.

P: Thanks be to God for this precious gift by which we are able to believe and rejoice in our inheritance of redemption through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Thy Word"

Chancel Choir

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

Trish Moore

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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SONG OF REFLECTION

"No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus"

Michael Davis, piano

MESSAGE

The Coronavirus Conundrum: Saving Lives or Livelihoods? Pastor Eric Gale

"...now get to work, for I am with you, says the Lord..."

Haggai 2:1-9

CLOSING HYMN *"Glory to His Name"*

Down at the cross where my Savior died, Down where for cleansing from sin I cried, There to my heart was the blood applied; Glory to His Name!

[Refrain]

Glory to His Name, glory to His Name, There to my heart was the blood applied; Glory to His Name!

I am so wondrously saved from sin, Jesus so sweetly abides within; There at the cross where He took me in; Glory to His Name!

[Refrain]

Oh, precious fountain that saves from sin, I am so glad that I entered in; There Jesus saves me and keeps me clean; Glory to His Name!

[Refrain]

Come to this fountain so rich and sweet, Cast thy poor soul at the Savior's feet; Plunge in today, and be made complete; Glory to His Name!

[Refrain]

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"To God Be the Glory"

Arr. By Robert J. Hughes

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Ed Adams, vision issues.

Jeanne McCormack, recovering from a wrist injury.

Wes Green, recovering from an eye injury.

Linda Green, Ann Green's sister-in-law, and her husband Nick, Wes' brother, recovering from Covid-19.

Candi Putz, high school orchestra director of Pastor Eric, diagnosed with Pancreatic cancer. Candi and her husband Lee, live in Cincinnati.

Tom Jonas, childhood friend of Paul Auble, undergoing a bone marrow transplant this week. His brother Bill is the donor and a 100% match.

The Family of Jennifer Shock, on the passing of her grandmother **Ruth Clark**; as well as ongoing health concerns for her mother, **Brenda Kelly**, and sister **Courtney Nisbeth**.

Curtis Bittle, recuperating from eye surgery.

Medical Professionals, who are exposing themselves to take care of those in need.

Those who are feeling isolated, due to Social Distancing restrictions.

SERMON NOTES

As America seeks to make a comeback from the COVID-19 Pandemic, how can our faith in Christ inform the conundrum between saving lives and preserving livelihoods?

I. The V_____ of Life

II. The V_____ of Work

III. The V_____ of Faith

SCRIPTURE

Haggai 2:1-9 (NLT)

Then on October 17 of that same year, the LORD sent another message through the prophet Haggai. ²“Say this to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Jeshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of God’s people there in the land: ³‘Does anyone remember this house—this Temple—in its former splendor? How, in comparison, does it look to you now? It must seem like nothing at all! ⁴But now the LORD says: Be strong, Zerubbabel. Be strong, Jeshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people still left in the land. And now get to work, for I am with you, says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. ⁵My Spirit remains among you, just as I promised when you came out of Egypt. So do not be afraid.’

⁶“For this is what the LORD of Heaven’s Armies says: In just a little while I will again shake the heavens and the earth, the oceans and the dry land. ⁷I will shake all the nations, and the treasures of all the nations will be brought to this Temple. I will fill this place with glory, says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. ⁸The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. ⁹The future glory of this Temple will be greater than its past glory, says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. And in this place I will bring peace. I, the LORD of Heaven’s Armies, have spoken!”