

Sunday, February 28, 2021 ~ The 2nd Sunday in Lent

Welcome and Announcements ~ Chery Nicholas

Prelude ~ Leigh Emmett

Call to Worship

Leader: You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you children of Abraham, glorify the Lord! Stand in awe of him, all you children of the Lord!

People: **For he does not hide his face from us, but hears us when we call upon him.**

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the world shall worship before him.

People: **For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations of the world. Future generations will be told about the Lord, and they will proclaim the good news to a people yet unborn.**

**you are invited to stand in body or in spirit*

**Hymn #220 ~ "Go to Dark Gethsemane"*

Holy Vessels

Responsive Chorus #406 ~ *"We Are Standing on Holy Ground"*

We are standing on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around; Let us praise Jesus now; we are standing in his presence on holy ground.

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession ~ *in unison*

God of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, and always ready to forgive. Grant us the grace to renounce all evil and to cling to Christ, that in every way we may be your loving children, through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(A time of silent, personal prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response #423 ~ *"Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God"* (v. 1)

Create in me a clean heart, O God; create in me a clean heart, O God; create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture ~ Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16

Christian Scripture ~ Mark 8.31-38

Dance ~ *"I Have Decided To Follow Jesus"* (J. Lavik) ~ Claire and Lily Judd

Message ~ "Promise Keeper"

*Hymn #718 ~ *"Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said"*

Community at Prayer

Invitation to Prayer #698 ~ *"Take, O Take Me as I Am"*

*Take, O take me as I am;, summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.*

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer ~ *in unison*

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.

*Hymn #726 ~ *"Will You Come and Follow Me"*

*Passing the Peace

*Benediction ~

*Choral Response #748 ~ *"Go with Us, Lord"*

*Go with us Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.*

Postlude

CCLI#2342595/20863950 CVLI#504305417

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Sunday, February 21, 2021, the Rev. Nathan Achterhof accepted the call by the congregation to serve as pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. Pastor Achterhof will begin serving his call on April 12, 2021. His installation will follow at a date yet to be determined, at which time the Pulpit Nominating Committee will be dismissed, with gratitude, for their more than two years of dedicated service.

**ROMANS 12:4: CEREAL DRIVE for Blessings in a Backpack
Who will feed the kids this weekend?**

“Because hunger doesn’t take a break on weekends.”

All donations will be going to **Blessings in a Backpack: Livonia.**

Their goal is to provide nutritional meals on the weekend to children in need in the Livonia Public School district.

Please purchase ready to eat, full size boxes of cereal for donating.

The collection date is Sunday, March 14th, following worship until 1:00PM at St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church. Questions? Contact Kathy Potter christianeducator@stpaulspresbyterian.church or 313-719-8467

From the Board of Deacons: Single bags of non-perishable food are available from the Food Pantry to the members of St. Paul’s, their families, and to residents of the Livonia and Redford communities who seek assistance.

The distribution times are limited.

Please call the office during business hours for information.

The annual Per Capita Apportionment for St. Paul’s for 2021 is \$4,215.90, which translates to **\$32.00 PER MEMBER** based on the membership rolls as of December 31, 2019. Requesting **EVERY MEMBER** to voluntarily contribute their portion of the required apportionment reduces the financial impact on the General Fund. Your support of this request is greatly appreciated!

And as a REMINDER: To avoid what seem to be inevitable mail delays (we received a local offering envelope on February 10, 2021 postmarked November 30, 2020!!)-if you are in the area-you can deposit offering envelopes or any other correspondence in our SECURE mailbox. Just be sure to include your donations in your personal numbered envelopes, PLEASE! Thank you!!

*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*



Gail Artinian, Janet Frank, Karen Bright, Sheldon Davis, Doris Knecht, Joyce Barton
Pam Phillips, Suzanne Tabaka, Jim & Joanna Roye, Nola Bonandrini, Frank & Nancy Saunders
Jerry Stone, Beverly Dearth, Anita Falk, Kathleen Warren, Bob Liebertz, Grace Campbell, Susan Grant
Bruce Phillips, Patricia Hutchison, Linda Thompson & her sister, Shirley Kircoff
Glenn Ellan Rubright ~ sister of Mike Graham; Nicole Snead ~ daughter of Bill VanEck
Nancy Kreipke ~ mother of Christian; Rich McKenzie ~ son of Jean; Erin Lewis ~ daughter of Pattie Benoit
Phyllis Badman ~ niece of Georgia Hunt; Christie Piastowski ~ daughter of Karen Bright
Janet Kusuhara ~ cousin of Meta Tulley; Joe Ducsay ~ friend of Mike & Carol Graham; Mark Osborne ~ son of Janet
Diane Calloway & Tony S. ~ cousins of Gail Artinian; MaryAnn Tabaka ~ mother of Suzanne
Eric Tabaka ~ nephew of Suzanne; Cyndi Knecht ~ daughter of Doris; Joe Perko ~ friend of Wanda & Bob Seymour
David Bonandrini ~ son of Nola & Ben; Zoe Marcus ~ friend of Karen Erwin

Gideon Janku ~ great nephew of Bob Westbrook; Judy Siegfried ~ sister-in-law of Pam Phillips
Randy Tillman ~ son of Gloria Rubbo; Leslie Benoit ~ daughter of the late Tamar and Jim Duthie
Mary Rayes ~ friend of Pat Hutchison; Adam Schilling & Eric Shilling ~ grandsons of Ron & Janet Frank
Donald Keller III ~ son of Jan Lapenta; Scott Davis ~ son of Sheldon & Marion Davis

Please review the prayer list and report any changes to the office as soon as possible.

220 Go to Dark Gethsemane

1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, all who feel the
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; view the Lord of
 3 Cal - vary's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his

tempt - er's power; your Re - deem - er's con - flict see;
 life ar - rained; O the worm - wood and the gall!
 at his feet, mark that mir - a - cle of time,
 breath - less clay: all is sol - i - tude and gloom.

watch with him one bit - ter hour; turn not from his
 O the pangs his soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - fering,
 God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete; "It is fin - ished!"
 Who has tak - en him a - way? Christ is risen! He

griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
 shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
 hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
 meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

The composer intended this tune for "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" (no. 438), but its solemn tone and small range make it an effective setting for this series of somber vignettes portraying what Christians can learn from Christ: to pray, to bear the cross, to die, and to rise.

406 We Are Standing on Holy Ground

Holy Ground

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is accompanied by guitar chords indicated above the staff. The lyrics are: "We are stand - ing on ho - ly ground, and I know that there are an - gels all a - round; let us praise Je - sus now; we are stand - ing in his pres - ence on ho - ly ground."

Chords: G, D, A, D, G, D, Em, D, G, F#m, F#m7, B7, E, Gm, D, A7, D, G, D, Em, F#m7, G, D, G, D, Em7, D, G, D.

The phrase "holy ground" resonates with the experience of Moses at the burning bush, where he had an encounter with God (Exodus 3:5; also quoted in the martyr Stephen's sermon, Acts 7:33). The reference to angels may recall Jacob's vision (Genesis 28:12-17) or Hebrews 12:22.

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God 423

(Psalm 51)

Capo 5: (F) (Gsus) (G) (C) (Em7) (F) (A7)
B \flat Csus C F Am7 B \flat D7

1 Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God; cre -
 2 Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence; 7
 3 Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion; re -

(D) (D7) (G) (Dm)
G G7 C Gm

ate in me a clean heart, O God; cre -
 cast me not a - way from your pres - ence; 7
 store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion; re -

(E) (E7) (Am) (E7) (Am)
A A7 Dm A7 Dm

ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 cast me not a - way from your pres - ence 7 and
 store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -

(Dm7) (Em) (G) (C) [(Em)]
Gm7 Am C F [Am]

new a right spir - it with - in me.
 take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
 hold me with your free Spir - it.

The text here comes from Psalm 51:10–12, three verses that illustrate the pattern of parallels often found in Hebrew poetry. The first verse here centers on positive actions, the second on avoidance of negative actions, and the third on providing an improved spiritual condition.

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said 718

1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
 3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
 4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and

you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
 your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your
 let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -
 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -

will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
 spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

Written by a nineteen-year-old in Connecticut, this challenging text has been widely printed on both sides of the Atlantic. It is strengthened by its resolute repetition of the same four words at the beginning of each stanza and by the appropriately stark shape note tune.

698 Take, O Take Me as I Am

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall

be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

The brevity of this text and tune invite repeated singing, either as a sustained chain of sound or as a sung response in a series of prayers. It offers a more reflective approach to the same theme of self-dedication evident in older hymns such as "Just as I Am" (see no. 442).

TEXT and MUSIC: John L. Bell, 1995
Text and Music © 1995 WGRC, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

TAKE ME AS I AM
7.7.7.4

699 Fill My Cup

Refrain

Fill my cup; let it o-ver-flow; fill my

cup; let it o-ver-flow; fill my cup; let it

The refrain of this gospel song by a well-known Presbyterian pastor and musician can be understood as a meditation on Psalm 23:5, while the stanzas reflect an updated and easily accessible interpretation of the prayer often attributed to St. Francis of Assisi (see no. 753).

TEXT and MUSIC: Isaiah Jones Jr., 1969
Text and Music © 1970 Davike Music Company, assigned 1986 Fricout Music Company

FILL MY CUP
8.7.8.7 with refrain

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?"
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?"
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?"
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?"
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)
 Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

Go with Us, Lord

748

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and

ev - ery com - ing day, that in your Spir - it

strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.

*May be sung as a canon.

This very accessible sung prayer was created by the director of children's ministry at the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC, for use by their children's choir, but it is suitable for people of all ages. The familiar tune makes it easy to learn and to memorize.