

The congregation is asked to remain silent during the prelude as a time of prayer and meditation.

"Lent is a time for discipline, for confession, for honesty, not because God is mean or faultfinding or fingerpointing but because he wants us to know the joy of being cleaned out, ready for all the good things he now has in store." N.T. Wright, English New Testament scholar and former Anglican Bishop of

Today's Prayer of Confession is adapted from a prayer written by John Birch and posted on his Faith and Worship website.

Durham

# WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Visit our Website: www.wallacepresbyterian.com

We support Presbyterian Church (USA) mission co-workers, Rev. Dustin and Sherri Ellington, in Lusaka, Zambia, Africa.

Please silence your cell phones.

\*All who are able may stand.

#### THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021

11:00 A.M.

### **GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

Prelude "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" setting by Lowell Mason When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Welcome and Announcements

**Opening Sentences** 

Elder Fred Burroughs

Leader: The season of Lent is the faithful journey to salvation -

All: salvation that will be found beyond the cross, in an empty tomb.

Leader: We remember that God has already saved us -

All: that God brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and brought us, in safety, to the other side of the sea.

Leader: We recognize that God is saving us now -

All: that God sends us into the wilderness of Lent filled with the Spirit to gather and to guide.

Leader: We celebrate that God will save us -

All: that God will give us signs and wonders to inspire and encourage us along the way.

Leader: Come, let us begin this journey of Lent;

All: let us follow Christ to the cross.

Hymn #726 (verses 1 & 2) "Will You Come and Follow Me" KELVINGROVE

Unison Prayer of Confession

Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining. In the blazing light of your love our failings are illuminated: our failure to give; our failure to love; our failure to follow; our failure to serve; our failure to be the people you would have us be. You know our nature and you know our failings. Lord, Forgive us and renew us. Enfold us in your arms that we might daily know your forgiveness and healing love. Lord Jesus, hear our prayers...

(A time for silent prayers of confession . . .)

"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you."

1 Peter 5:6-7

"O God, you are

my God, and I will

ever praise you. I

will seek you in

the morning, and I

will learn to walk in your ways. And

step by step you'll

lead me, and I will follow you all

of my days." Hymn #743, "O God, You Are My God (Step by

Step)," in Glory to

God: The Presbyterian Hymnal Responsive Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God's love is sure and steadfast, always providing a way out, a way through, a way back to God.

All: Through the waters of baptism, we have died with Christ and are raised with him. With gratitude, in faith, we will walk the way of Christ.

Gloria Patri

Glory Be to the Father

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, amen.

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Children's Sermon

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, reveal your presence to us this day as we journey this path with your Son. Through all of life's trials and tribulations your Word sustains us for the journey ahead. Send your Spirit upon us that we might listen, discern, and take heart. Be near us this day and may your Word with us stay and dwell with us forevermore. Amen.

Epistle Lesson

Philippians 3:7-16

Elder Fred Burroughs

Gospel Lesson

Luke 9:51-62

Sermon

A LUKAN LENT "The Summons"

Dr. Philip K. Gladden

A Time for Silent Reflection

The RD'S Prayer

Pastoral Prayer with 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.

# **GIVING THANKS TO GOD**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

"Self-denial means knowing only Christ, and no longer oneself. It means seeing only Christ, who goes ahead of us, and no longer the

path that is too difficult for us.... Self-denial is saying only: He goes ahead of us; hold fast to him." Dietrich Bonhoeffer Offertory

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus" arr. by Don Wyrtzen
(quoting Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata")

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss;

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

My sinful self my my only shame, my glory all the cross.

The Affirmation of Faith: From "A Declaration of Faith" of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

We believe that in the death of Jesus on the cross God achieved and demonstrated once for all the costly forgiveness of our sins. Jesus Christ is the Reconciler between God and the world. He acted on behalf of sinners as one of us, fulfilling the obedience God demands of us, accepting God's condemnation of our sinfulness.

In his lonely agony on the cross Jesus felt forsaken by God and thus experienced hell itself for us. Yet the Son was never more in accord with the Father's will. He was acting on behalf of God, manifesting the Father's love that takes on itself the loneliness, pain, and death that result from our waywardness.

In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not holding our sins against us. Each of us beholds on the cross the Savior who died in our place, so that we may no longer live for ourselves, but for him. In him is our only hope of salvation.

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

**KELVINGROVE** 

"O Lord, make this Lenten season different from the other ones. Let me find you again. Amen." Henri Nouwen (1932 - 1996),

Dutch Catholic priest, professor,

writer, and theologian

Benediction

Hymn #726 (verses 3 & 5)

Postlude

### **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Sunday, February 21 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

10:00 am Zoom Sunday School Classes11:00 am Worship--in person and online

Monday, February 22 7:00-8:00 pm Zoom Bible Study Wednesday, February 24 10:00-11:00 am Zoom Bible Study

#### **NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- \* Please join the minister for a Zoom Bible Study on either Monday, February 22 from 7:00 8:00 p.m. or Wednesday, February 24 from 10:00 11:00 a.m. We will discuss Luke 11:1-13, in which Jesus teaches his disciples how to pray and about prayer. During the season of Lent, we will make our way to Jerusalem with Jesus as we hear stories from the gospel of Luke. Check your email on Monday for the Zoom link/invitations.
- \* The session has received the following new members into our church family: Devan and Bailey Riley (transfer from Elizabethtown Presbyterian Church, Elizabethtown, NC); Charles and Barbara Swetits (transfer from St. Paul Lutheran Church, Flemington, NJ); Wayne Weller (reaffirmation of faith); and Steve and Gayle Godwin (reaffirmation of faith). These folks will be welcomed during worship on Sunday, March 7.



## FEED OUR HUNGRY CHILDREN BACKPACK MINISTRY OFFERING



Sunday, February 28

Although this year's school schedule is different right now due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this offering will help stock the shelves for backpack food to be distributed when students are able to return to their schools. Thank you for your generous support.





### **Easter Worship Congregational Survey**

The WPC Worship and Music Team will use your survey responses to plan Easter worship. Thank you for taking the time to respond to four short questions. The survey deadline is Sunday, February 28, 2021. The survey can be accessed by clicking on this link: https://forms.gle/NZiP7SUyuMLVEoGh6



