

CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 25, 2024

Livestream & In-Person

10:00 a.m.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Keith L. DeVries

Click HERE to register your attendance

* GREETING ONE ANOTHER

PRELUDE "Deep River"

arr. Marianne Kim

African-American Spiritual

* CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Mark 8:13-38)

Anita Lawson

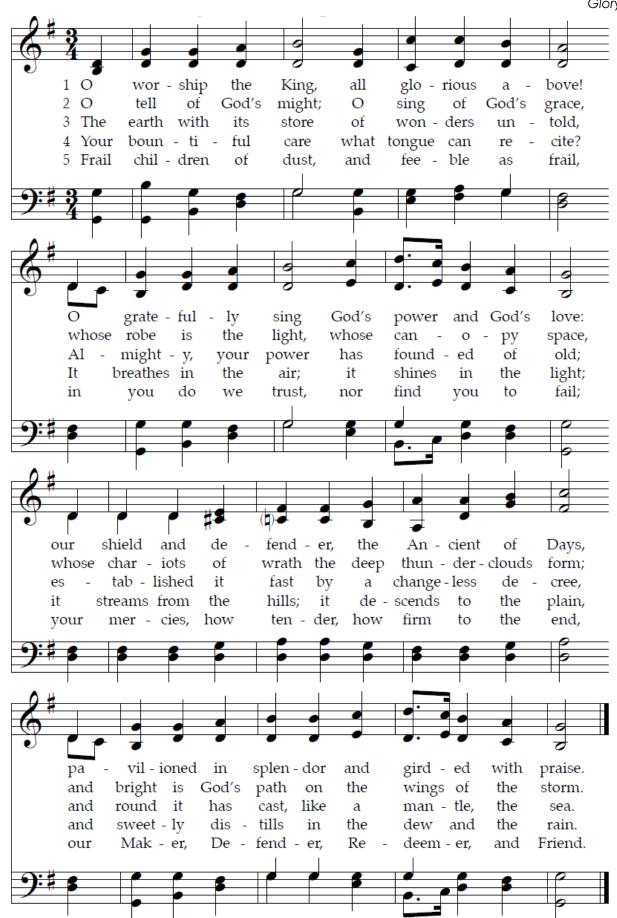
Leader: Let us not be ashamed of our Savior. Let us sing and praise God out loud.

People: In the midst of the crowd, we will praise you. In our community, we will bear

witness to our faith.

Leader: Let us set our minds on divine things.

People: Let us take up our cross and follow Christ.



CONFESSION AND PARDON

Anita Lawson

Leader: When we cry to God in prayer and confession, God hears. Let us approach

God's throne of grace with confidence and faith.

All:

Savior God, the public spectacle of the cross calls us to account. We hesitate and hedge when opportunities arise to speak of you. We are shy in faith and not bold to proclaim. Your story saves, yet we keep it to ourselves. Forgive our reticence of faith. Forgive the ways we fail to serve as public witnesses. Help us be your candlelight, held high to set the world aglow.

Silence

Leader: God does not forsake us. Our God is a gracious God, abounding in steadfast

love. Know that in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and be at peace.

People: Amen.

* RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE "Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)"

No. 581



SPECIAL MUSIC

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

PASSION CHORALE
Mission Bells
Rick Schlosser, Interim Director

Hans Leo Hassler arr. Lloyd Larson

TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Michael Lombrano

(Children are invited to the front of the church. Afterwards, children 4 years old through 5th grade are invited to Sunday School in Room 207.)



- 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.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er the same? Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er same? the be the pris-oners free and nev-er Will you set the same? be 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.



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.



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

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 8:31-38

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

SERMON

Dealing with Our New Normal

Pastor Keith L. DeVries

* SONG

"I Will Follow"

Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, and Reuben Morgan

Where You go, I'll go; where You stay, I'll stay When You move, I'll move; I will follow

All Your ways are good, all Your ways are sure I will trust in You alone.

Higher than my sight, high above my life I will trust in You alone.

Where You go, I'll go; where You stay, I'll stay When You move, I'll move; I will follow You Whom You love, I'll love, How You serve, I'll serve; If this life I lose, I will follow You. I will follow You

> Light unto the world, Light into my life, I will trust in You alone You're the one I seek knowing I will find All I need in You alone, in You alone

Where You go, I'll go; where You stay, I'll stay When You move, I'll move; I will follow You Whom You love, I'll love, How You serve, I'll serve; If this life I lose, I will follow You. I will follow You

In You there's life everlasting.
In You there's freedom for my soul
In You there's joy, unending joy - and I will follow
Where You go, I'll go; where You stay, I'll stay
When You move, I'll move; I will follow You
Whom You love, I'll love, How You serve, I'll serve;
If this life I lose, I will follow You. I will follow You.
I will follow You. I will follow You.

OFFERTORY

"If with All Your Hearts"

Felix Mendelssohn

from Elijah

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor:

God our hope and our holy companion, we come before you on this Second Sunday of Lent, knowing we can be honest because you know us; you know our thoughts, our struggles, our joys. You know our prayers even before they form in our minds and are articulated with whispered words. You know how we struggle. You know how we hope. You delight in our joy. You desire our peace.

What is the point of this prayer, then, we honestly ask of you who already knows everything? Or of any prayer, our doubt cries, when the world's struggles have opened a hole that seems impossible to fill? Can you stop the bombs from falling, God? Can you soften the hearts of warring dictators? Can you cure the cancer ravaging our loved one's body? Can you unburden the depressed from the weight of their sorrow? Can you make the chaos make sense?

God, we are vulnerable, and we know it. We need you. As the thirsty deer longs for the flowing stream, our souls thirst for you. Our hearts ache for your love. Our spirits cry for relief from the turmoil and the sorrow. Our bodies yearn for the ecstatic movement of joy. Our minds want to be assured, without a doubt, of your presence among us and with us. Life is a wilderness, and so often we are lost.

Therefore, in these long wilderness days of Lent, we audaciously ask for your help and hope. Comfort the sick and the grieving. Heal our wounds of heart and body. Calm our frantic anxieties. Order the chaos.

Also, help us pay attention to your still, small ways of working beauty and awe into the ugly and despairing; the bump of a bee's head on a windowpane; the spring crocus that's begun its journey out of the dark soil; the uninhibited bounce of a child, dressed as batman, heroically saving his friends at the playground; the heavens ablaze in the pink, red, and orange of your glory at the morning sunrise; the reminders – in the squeeze of a hand, the kindness of a smile, the receiving of an encouraging note – that we aren't alone in our wilderness wanderings; the grace that you make readily available when we are ready to receive it.

God, come near to us this Second Sunday of Lent, and near to those we love. Sit and stay awhile. And hear our prayers, as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us saying,

All: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

(If you would like to privately share a concern, thanksgiving, or request for healing, please come to the Stephen Ministry banner on the east wall of the Sanctuary immediately following the service for individual prayer with a Stephen Minister.)

* CLOSING SONG "Indescribable" Laura Story & Jesse Reeves

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea,
Creation's revealing Your majesty.
From the colors of fall to the fragrance of spring,
Every creature unique in the song that it sings. All exclaiming,

Indescribable, uncontainable,
You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name.
You are amazing God. All powerful, untamable,
Awestruck we fall to our knees and we humbly proclaim
You are amazing God.

Who has told every lightning bolt where it should go?
Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow?
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light,
Yet conceals it to give us the coolness of night? None can fathom,

Indescribable, uncontainable,
You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name.
You are amazing God. Incomparable, unchangeable,
You see the depths of my heart and You love me the same
You are amazing God.

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

Please rise in body or in spirit.
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Audio/Video: Steve Parker and David Stoffel

Music Director: Keith Atwater

Organist: Rick Schlosser

Piano: Gabe Bisho

Drums: Will Condrey

Guitar: Michael Schwab

Bass: Merlyn van Regenmorter

Vocalists: Tara Calderon, Beth Lindley, and Julie Ueltzen

