

Order of Worship
March 29, 2020 – 11:00 a.m.
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Welcome, Announcements and Prayer Concerns

PRAISE AND ADORATION

Call to Worship: (responsively) (based on Psalm 130:3-7)

Leader: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, and so we worship and praise you.

People: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.

Leader: Hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

People: We will hope in the Lord, for he is ever with us.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us because of our sins and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts; Cleanse us from all our offenses and deliver us from proud thought and vain desires so that with reverent and humble hearts we might draw near to you, confessing our faults, trusting in your grace and finding in you a sure refuge and strength. This we pray in the name of Jesus and for his sake. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Reading: Psalm 51:1-17

Sermon: “Sometimes Confession Is Required”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

Loving and merciful God, we come to you in this time of uncertainty and disorientation, proclaiming that we believe you are present and active in our lives – here and now. Especially today:

We pray for our healthcare workers as they care for the sick and dying ...

We pray for our public safety workers as they watch over us and respond to emergencies ...

We pray for our leaders, as they make decisions for the good of our community, state and nation ...

We pray for those who are struggling to keep their businesses going in the face of this crisis ...

We pray for children and young adults whose education has been interrupted indefinitely ...

We pray for the teacher and other school workers who are working to provide resources for families ...

We pray for all other essential workers in our community – people like postal clerks and drivers, grocery store employees, package delivery services ...

We pray for the most vulnerable among us, those in personal care facilities, those with chronic illnesses and diseases, and those who are living in poverty ...

We pray for our brothers and sisters around the world, as they face this crisis in their own communities

And we pray for ourselves, that you would protect us from this virus, that you would keep us safe from all other harms and that you would keep us connected to each other in safe ways.

Lord, hear these prayers and all the other prayers of our hearts. This we ask in the mighty name of Jesus, who taught his disciple to pray saying,

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven.**

**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.**

Affirmation of Faith: (adapted from the Heidelberg Catechism, Q1)

Leader: What is your deepest comfort?

**All: My deepest comfort in sickness and in health, in times of
peace or times of trouble, in life and in death, is that I belong
– body and soul – not to myself but to my faithful Savior,
Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid
for all my sins and has completely freed me from the
dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that
without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall
from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose
for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also
assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly
willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

*Charge and Benediction

Yvonne M. Thurmond, Pastor – 828-544-5076 (home)

Mary Lou Furr, Pianist and Choir Director

Rachel Marler, Organist

The Session:

Class of 2020

Judy Galey

Anita Woods

Class of 2021

Ann Dietz

Grace Glenn

Ruth Pershing

Class of 2022

Lelia Bruder

Donna Harney

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