

MECHANICSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
300 East Simpson Street
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17055-6596
717-697-0351 • www.mechpresby.org
February 21, 2021 • 1st Sunday of Lent • 10am



Prelude

Jesus Thou Art Going Forth

Camil Van Hulse

Welcome & Concerns of the Church

Call to Worship

As darkness gives way to light and winter sleep to fresh beginnings,
We come today to be reminded of God's love for us.

**Like the green shoots of renewed life, stirring beneath the soil,
We welcome an awakening of God's Word in our lives.**

In this time of reflection and repentance, we affirm our identity and we claim our security,
as children of God. Let us worship the Lord!

It is right to give the Lord our thanks and praise!

Hymn #166

Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

*Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.*

*As you with Satan did contend and did the victory win,
O give us strength to persevere, in you to conquer sin.*

*And through these days of penitence, and through this Passiontide,
yes, evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.*

*Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.*

Call to Confession

We are a community and a covenant people, who have all fallen short of the glory of God.
Therefore, trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins together.

Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God,
you call us to proclaim the gospel,
but we remain silent in the presence of evil.
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,
but we are content to live in separation.
You call us to seek the good of all,
but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.
You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,
but we sit idly by,
endangering the lives of people far and near.
Forgive us, O Lord.
Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,
and give us the courage and strength
to be reconciled to others;
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

Response #551

Lord, Have Mercy

*Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News! The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God, Amen!

We Love to Tell the Story

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

Special Music

Scripture Lesson

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you, Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD." Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

The story of God for the people of God... **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Moana

Reverend Kathryn Z. Johnston

Whom Shall I Send?

Declaration of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Our church states its faith and bears witness to God's grace in Jesus Christ by using ten creeds and confessions. In these confessional statements the church declares to its members and to the world who and what it is, what it believes and what it resolves to do. These confessional statements are subject to the authority of Jesus Christ and the Word of God. The following is the Apostles' Creed, which in its earliest form dates back to 180 AD. The word 'catholic' refers to the entire Christian church; 'quick' means living:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn #69, v.1

Here I Am, Lord

HERE I AM

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

In your mercy Lord... **hear our 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.

Offering of Tithes & Gifts

Offertory

Cantabile

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

Prayer of Dedication

Response #215, v. 1

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!*

*What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!*

Charge & Benediction

Pastors: Mark Allio & Kathryn Johnston

Liturgists: Courtney Gray, Martha Spong, Cathay Snyder

Organist: Mark McKeever

Don't forget! You can listen to a sermon snippet by calling 717-896-0131. The message usually changes on Saturday morning.

YOU CAN CALL IN TO HEAR WORSHIP AT 10AM on SUNDAY MORNINGS

Dial (toll free): 877-853-5247 or 888-788-0099

A voice will welcome you to Zoom and ask you to enter the meeting ID which is: 717-697-0351#

You should then be able to hear the worship service.

The line will be open on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:45am.

Join us for Tuesday Evening Prayer at 7:30pm this Lent on Zoom or Facebook Live:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/86551663078?pwd=MHkwFFNR2o3QlErbmFsalFMSzBoZz09>

Meeting ID: 865 5166 3078

Passcode: PRAYER

Or Dial toll free:

877 853 5247 US Toll-free

888 788 0099 US Toll-free

833 548 0276 US Toll-free

833 548 0282 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 865 5166 3078

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUTDOOR WORSHIP SUNDAYS AT 1pm!

- Please bring your own chairs (and maybe a blanket).
- Wear your masks at all times.
- Find an unoccupied "X" in the parking lot.
- Parking will be available on the Sanctuary-side of the lot and on the street.