

Celebration of Worship

Sunday, March 22, 2020

Downtown Presbyterian Church

Rochester, New York

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Pat Youngdahl

Introit

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

Tune: Third Mode Melody

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
and in your weariness lay down your head upon my breast.

I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give the living water,
thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."

I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
Look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk till pilgrim days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

Call to Worship (from Psalm 96)

One: O sing to God a new song; Sing to God, all the earth.

Many: Tell of God's salvation from day to day.

One: Declare God's marvelous works among all the peoples,
For great is God, and greatly to be praised.

Many: Honor and majesty, strength and beauty are in God's sanctuary.

One: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it.

**Many: Let the fields be jubilant and everything in them;
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy!**

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of Heav'n to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;
All thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

4. Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in Heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Centering Prayer

Thank you, God, for a fresh abundance of days stretched out before us, as spring begins. Meet us, we pray, in this season of new creation. Let your Spirit move like a stirring breeze over the waters of our souls. May we be blessed by the gift of Jesus, who lifts our burdens and sets us free to live in simplicity, love, and peace. Amen.

First Reading

Psalm 23

The Message Translation

Music for Reflection

Precious Lord

Thomas A. Dorsey

Heather Holmquest, soloist

Arr. Nathan Carter

Precious Lord, take my hand,

Lead me on, help me stand;

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.

Through the storm, through the night

Lead me on to the light;

Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear precious Lord linger near,

When my life is almost gone,

Hear my cry, hear my call

Hold my hand lest I fall;

Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,

And the day is past and gone

At the river I stand,

Guide my feet, hold my hand;

Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

Gospel Reading

John 13:34-35, 14:1-4

NRSV

Meditation

Rev. Youngdahl

Music for Reflection

The Earth Adorned

Waldemar Åhlén

The earth adorned in verdant robe sends praises upward surging,
while soft winds breathe on fragrant flowers from winter now emerging.

The sunshine bright gives warmth and light to budding blossoms tender,
proclaiming springtime splendor.

From out the wood, the birds now sing and each its song now raises,
to join with all the universe in voicing thankful praises.

With hope and joy their songs employ a rapturous exultation
in praise of God's creation.

Prayers for Healing and Transformation
Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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 Spirit, and the power, and the glory, forever Amen.

Benediction

Choral Response

Amen

Justin Wallace

This service was recorded in the sanctuary of
Downtown Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St., 14614
Rochester, New York
on Friday, March 20, 2020.

Participants

The Rev. Dr. Pat Youngdahl, pastor
Dr. Lee Wright, Director of Music Ministry

Heather Holmquest and Kim McConnell, sopranos
Marisa Miller, alto
Jonathan Rhodes, tenor
Alan Jones, bass
Lee Wright, bass, and organ