

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
March 20, 2022
Third Sunday of Lent



COVID-19 Safety Recommendations

- *Wear a mask while singing in the sanctuary, and when interacting with young children.*
- *Remember that young children are not vaccinated.*

Preparation: "...departing from ourselves, we turn to God, and having taken off our former mind, we put on a new...it is the true turning of our life to God..." Reformed theologian and pastor John Calvin.

Prelude

Be Thou My Vision
[Based on the Irish Folk Tune *Slane*]
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Dale Wood

Introit

Come and Fill Our Hearts
[Confitemini Domino]

Greetings and Announcements of the Church

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Call to Worship

David Cook, Liturgist

One: Come, all who are thirsty.

All: Come, all who are seeking.

One: Come, all who are waiting.

All: Come, all who labor.

One: Come, all who need rest.

All: Come, all who dream dreams.

One: Come—whether you're young or old, confident or curious, lonely or hopeful.

All: This is God's house. All are welcome here. Let us worship holy God.

*** Hymn #301**

Let Us Build a House, vs. 1, 2, 4, 5
[All Are Welcome]

Prayer of Confession

David Cook, Liturgist

One: There is something so healing, so life-giving, about telling our stories. In the prayer of confession, that is what we get to do. The mask comes off. Any pretense of perfection is removed. We let the pressure to perform slip away and we sit here, face to face with God, sharing honestly who we long to be. Friends, there is healing here. There is life to be gained here. So join me in this moment of honesty. Join me in the prayer of confession.

All: Holy God, we treat our self-worth like something that can be bought at a store; but you know this even better than we do. Instead of trusting that we are made good, instead of trusting that we are loved exactly as we are, we stockpile our value in earthly things—in trophies and awards, in likes and follows, in wealth and power. Forgive us for creating our own measuring stick.

Silent Prayer

Help us to repent of a life of busyness. Turn us away from that which fills our days and not our spirits. Turn us toward you. Heal our open wounds and remind us to rest in your love. Gratefully we pray, amen.

Promise of the Gospel

David Cook, Liturgist

One: Family of faith, even when we stumble, even when we take the easy way out, even when we forget our own self-worth, even when we lose our way—we belong to God.

All: We are loved. We are claimed. We are under God's wing. We are worthy of grace. We belong to God. Amen.

* **Act of Praise #581**

Gloria Patri

Children's Sermon

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Lisa Schrott

God of fig trees and foxes, of today and tomorrow, we would ask that you scoop us up. Pick us up like a great gust of wind. Startle us awake like a first love. Light a fire in us like tomorrow depends on today. Do all of this to get our attention and then turn us toward you. Catch our eye. Open our ears. Capture our attention. We are here. We long to be close to you. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 13:1-9

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Sermon

Healing Through Repentance

Pastor Lisa Schrott

***Affirmation of Faith**

From *Confession of 1967* (in unison)

We believe that the reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to us, moves us to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. We believe that the new life takes shape in a community in which we know that God loves and accepts us in spite of what we are. We therefore accept ourselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

Prayer of Installation & Laying on of Hands

Pastor Lisa Schrott

All who have been ordained as Elders, Deacons or Ministers are invited to come forward to lay hands on the one to be installed.

Declaration of Installation

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Benediction

Pastor Lisa Schrott

As you leave this place,
may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.
May you laugh, and may it be contagious.
May you overflow with love for those around you.
May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.
And in all of your living, and breathing, and being,
may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit,
and may it change your life. Go in peace. Amen

Postlude

Hornpipe from Water Music
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

GF Handel

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Ushers: *Bill & Barbara Given, Ron & Barbara Dorr*

Flowers: *The flowers beautifying the sanctuary today are from the family of Michael Morgan.*

Adult Ed: *Jonathan Townley will share poems inspired by his time at PCO. Please join us in the Kedhe Chapel and online to hear Jonathan's work and to visit with the Townley family.*

Next Week: *PCO Elder Ewen Todd will be presenting on Islam and Christianity.*

The Call to Worship, The Prayer of Confession, the Promise of the Gospel, and the Prayer of Illumination are adapted from prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed. *A Sanctified Art LLC* sanctifiedart.org. The Affirmation of Faith is from the Confession of 1967 (9.21-22) Inclusive Language Version;

https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/confess67.pdf

The liturgy of the Installation is from the PC(USA) *Book of Common Worship for the Presbyterian Church (USA)* Westminster John Knox Press, 2016.

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Colleen Chester, Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
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