

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
March 5th, 2023
Second Sunday of Lent



COVID-19 Safety Recommendations

- *Masking is now optional during the service (including while singing).*
- *Remember that young children may not have been vaccinated.*

Preparation: “You are only free when you realize you belong no place—you belong every place—no place at all. The price is high. The reward is great.” Maya Angelou

Prelude *Lord, Jesus Christ, Thou Living Bread* Johann Pachelbel
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Choral Introit *O Taste and See* Ralph Vaughan Williams
PCO Chancel Choir

Invitation to our Shared Ministry Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Call to Worship Deb Major, Liturgist

One: What is it like to begin again?

All: It is like flowers in the spring that push through frozen ground.

It is like babies learning to walk, one clumsy step at a time.

It is like Nicodemus in the night, asking Jesus for guidance.

It is like a Sunday morning, starting our week anew.

One: May we find God in our seeking.

All: May we learn as we go.

One: May we be brave enough to begin again.

All: Let us worship the God of new beginnings.

* **Hymn #509** *All who Hunger, Gather Gladly*, vs. 1-3
[Holy Manna]

Prayer of Confession Deb Major, Liturgist

One: When we confess our sins together, it offers us a new beginning. In our prayers, we lay our cards on the table. We speak honestly with God about who we are and who we long to be.

And in response, God wraps us in grace and lets us begin again. So together, with God’s grace, let us wipe the slate clean. Together, with God’s grace, let us pray the prayer of confession

All: God of new life, you call us into unknown places, and we bury our heads in the sand. You promise all the stars in the sky, and we doubt it can be true. You speak of new life in the Spirit, and we tell ourselves we’ve missed our chance. Over and over and over again,

you invite us closer to you. Show us the way. Forgive our mistakes. Give us the courage to begin again with you. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel

Deb Major

One: Family of faith, hear and believe this good news: There is a grace to God's love that is bigger than we can imagine. No matter what we did or didn't do yesterday, we have been forgiven. Today, the slate is wiped clean. Today, we are made new.

All: We belong to God. We are held in God's love. We are made new. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Deb Major, Liturgist

One: As a forgiven people, let us greet each other, sharing the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you. *Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.*

*** Act of Praise #581**

Gloria Patri

Children's Sermon

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Youth Special Music

What Wondrous Love is This

American Folk Hymn

Alex Juarez, trumpet

Maddie Pearson, trumpet

Andrew Mayhew, euphonium

Spencer Locke, tuba

Sarah Mayhew, director

Children's Worship Experience

Children ages 3-8 may depart for the Children's Worship Experience in the Chapel after the special music provided by our youth.

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Gracious God, guide us this morning to be patient toward all that is in our hearts. Help us to love the questions we have and our yearning to find a place that is our true home, even if that longing leads us to places we never imagined going. Give us the courage to go there together and to find in our journey, the answers to those questions in our hearts. And let some word of this be yours. Amen.

Scripture

Mark 6:1-13

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Sermon

Our True Home

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Anthem

As the Disciples
PCO Chancel Choir

Lee Hastings Bristol

Offering Pastor Rebekah Anderson
Invitation
Offertory *Deck Thyself with Joy and Gladness* Johann Crüger
[Schmücke dich]
***Doxology #606**
***Prayer of Dedication**

Holy Communion
Invitation Pastor Rebekah Anderson
The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving
One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up to God.
One: Let us give thanks to God.
All: It is right to give both thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer "...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors..."

Breaking of the Bread Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Communion Prayer Pastor Rebekah Anderson

*** Hymn #498** *Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken, vs.1-4*
[Beach Spring]

*** Benediction** Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Postlude *Fugue in D Minor* Pachelbel
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Education Time: The Journey Inward: Embracing the Divine in Our Truest Selves. Led by Pastor Rebekah. Part 2.

Next Week's Education Time: Discussion on the Lenten Devotionals

Next Week's Scripture: John 4:5-42

Ushers: *Jane Paterson, Jill Tribell, Tom Schaberg, Keith Camann,*

This Morning's Fellowship Team: *Thanks to the Locke family for providing snacks and to Edward Ennen for preparing coffee.*

Our liturgy is adapted from the work of the Rev. Sarah A. Speed, A *Sanctified Art LLC*.
sanctifiedart.org.

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Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott, Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Rebekah Anderson, Associate Pastor
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Colleen Chester, Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
Anna Thiel, Office Manager