

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
March 19, 2023
Fourth 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.*

Prelude *Prelude on an Irish Folk Melody* John G. Barr
[Slane]
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Choral Introit *Steal Away* Gwenyth Walker

Invitation to our Shared Ministry Pastor Lisa Schrott

Call to Worship UKirk at MSU

One: We gather, seeking to follow God's call wherever it may lead us.

All: Together, we make the journey of faith.

One: Through transitions and turning points, through questions and doubts, we are not alone.

All: Together, in life and death, we belong to God.

One: Whoever we have been, whoever we are today, and whoever we will be tomorrow,

All: Together, let us worship God!

* **Hymn #401** *Here in This Place*
[Gather Us In]

Prayer of Confession Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: In the prayer of confession, we turn our attention toward ourselves and invite God into that honest and vulnerable space. Let us pray together:

All: Patient and loving God, we confess that our love for you, neighbor, and self are not what they could be. We focus more on our own interests or insecurities than on the needs of others. We seek comfort in systems that harm people and the planet. We are tied up in practices based in fear, scarcity, and power over others, rather than in love, abundance, and mutual empowerment. Forgive us and help us to keep becoming your people. Touch us with hope, that we may join you in building the world of your dreams. Pour out mercy upon us, that we may be compassionate to all who hurt. Reshape us with your love, that we may be whole. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.

All: Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

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

UKirk at MSU

Children's Worship Experience

Children ages 3-8 may depart for the Children's Worship Experience in the Chapel after the Children's Sermon.

Prayer of Illumination

UKirk at MSU

Holy One, help us to find new meaning and new life in the ancient words of Scripture, that we might be hearers, dreamers, and doers of your life-giving Word, for the good of the world you love. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 43:1-3a

UKirk at MSU

New Testament Reading

Matthew 28:16-20

UKirk at MSU

* **Hymn #177**

I Will Come to You
[You Are Mine]

Sermon

Remember, I am with you
UKirk at MSU Campus Minister Neil Myer

Anthem

The Wondrous Cross

arr. K. Lee Scott

When I survey the wondrous cross,
where the young Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
and poor contempt on all my pride.
See from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love, flow mingled down!
Did air such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
Is dying crimson like a robe
spreads o'er his body on the tree;
Then I am dead to all the globe is dead to me.
Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that we're a present far too small;
Love, so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Minute for Gratitude

One Great Hour of Sharing

Kent Workman

Offering

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Invitation

Offertory

Andante

G.F. Handel

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

UKirk Beatitudes

UKirk at MSU

The Lord's Prayer

The New Zealand Anglican Lord's Prayer

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world;

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trial too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

*** Hymn # 761**

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

[Beecher]

*** Benediction**

Neil Myer

Postlude

Fugue in C Major

G. F. Handel

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Education Time: Please join us for a program on Legacy Giving led by Steve Keizer from the Presbyterian Foundation in Fellowship Hall. The program will be followed by a lunch where Steve will answer more specific questions. For those that did not reserve a lunch spot, we do have a few extra spots. Please let Barbara Given or Pastor Lisa know of your interest.

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

This Morning's Fellowship Team: *Thank you to the Cones for preparing the coffee today and Shirley Rumminger for providing snacks.*

Next Week's Scripture: John 11:1-44, selected verses

Next Week's Education Time: The Journey Inward: Embracing the Divine in Our Truest Selves.
Led by Pastor Rebekah. Part 3.

Today's liturgy comes from *Belonging & Becoming: A Worship Resource For College and Young Adult Sunday*, written by Rev. Dorothy Piatt-Esguerra (UKirk at UVA). UKirk Beatitudes were written by Rev. Rachel Penmore (UKirk UTK) and Rev. Allison Wehrung (UKirk Ole Miss). The New Zealand Anglican Lord's Prayer comes from *The New Zealand Book of Prayer* by the Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand (HarperOne, 1997).

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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