



SECOND SUNDAY
in
LENT

The Service for the Lord's Day
Bethel Presbyterian Church - Online Service
2nd Sunday in Lent
February 28, 2021 - 11:00 AM

Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship (L = Leader, P = People)

L: O come, let us worship and bow down:

P: let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

L: The hour is coming and is now here.

P: In spirit and truth, let us worship God.

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray:

Lord God, Great I Am, you are living water.

As we worship you this day show us who we are:
channels of your love and vessels of your grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

“THERE’S A WIDENESS IN GOD’S MERCY”

*There’s a wide-ness in God’s mer-cy,
like the wide-ness of the sea.*

*There’s a kind-ness in God’s jus-tice,
which is more than lib-er-ty.*

*There is no place where earth’s sor-rows
are more felt than up in heaven;*

*There is no place where earth’s fail-ings
have such kind-ly judg-ment given.*

*For the love of God is broad-er
than the mea-sures of the mind.*

*And the heart of the E-ter-nal
is most won-der-ful-ly kind.*

*If our love were but more faith-ful,
we would glad-ly trust God’s Word,
and our lives re-flect thanks-giv-ing
for the good-ness of our Lord.*

Call to Confession

In spite of our quarrels and distrust,

God provides grace to sustain us.

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us confess our sin.

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Lord, you know who we are.

You know everything we have done.

We thirst for things that will never satisfy us.

We commit ourselves to things that will never last.

We worship things that will never bring salvation.

Still, you offer us the gift of living water.

Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life.

Forgive us, O Lord,

and give us this living water,

so that we may never thirst again. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Christ the Lord speaks to us words of grace.

Your sins are forgiven, washed away and forgotten. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray:

Living God, through the reading of the Scriptures

and by the power of your Spirit,

may we hear for ourselves the good news,

and believe, because of your Word,

that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. Amen.

Readings from Holy Scripture

Torah Exodus 17:1-7 *(Water from the Rock)*

Gospel John 4:1-42 *(Jesus and the Woman of Samaria)*

Sermon

“See What God Sees”

The Rev. Dr. Wendy Neff

Affirmation of Faith

*Taken from The Brief Statement of Faith, 1991,
The Book of Confessions, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

In life and death we belong to God.

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,**

**and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.**

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

**preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,**

healing the sick

**and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,**

**suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

Prayers of the People

*With the words “Wellspring of mercy”,
you are invited to respond “hear our prayer.”*

Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,
Wellspring of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Saving God,
you are the giver of living water,
the source of deepest compassion,
the fountain of eternal life.

Therefore we pray to you:
Wellspring of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who are thirsty—
thirsty for a life of meaning,
thirsty for a word of grace,
thirsty for a drink of water ...
Wellspring of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who are weary—
weary from life’s long journey,
weary from quarreling and testing,
weary from pain or grief ...
Wellspring of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who are broken—
broken by sin and suffering,
broken by shame and rejection,
broken by acts of violence ...
Wellspring of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Living God, through your Spirit,
pour your love into our hearts,
your grace into our lives,
your healing into our world,
until the earth is filled with your glory
as the waters cover the sea;
through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

The Lord's 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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Hymn **“GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING”**

*God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing,
from your rich and end-less store,
na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom,
cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door:
gift-ed by you, we turn to you,
of-fering up our-selves in praise;
thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er,
gra-cious do-nor of our days.*

*Skills and time are ours for press-ing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and free-dom,
rac-es joined, the church made one.*

*Now di-rect our dai-ly la-bor,
lest we strive for self a-lone.
Born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants
fit to an-swer at your throne.*

*Trea-sure, too, you have en-trust-ed,
gain through powers your grace con-ferred:
ours to use for home and kin-dred,
and to spread the gos-pel word.
O-pen wide our hands in shar-ing,
as we heed Christ's age-less call.
heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing,
serv-ing you by lov-ing all.*

Benediction

The hour is coming and is now here.
Go forth to worship the Lord your God
in spirit and in truth,
in all that you say and do.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
springing up like living water,
fill your heart, and flow through your life.

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Wendy Neff

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Pianist: Judy Moyer

Sound: Adam Badger

Video: Jake Horton

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

Text: Frederick William Faber, 1854, alt.

Music: Dutch melody; arr. Julius Röntgen, c. 1906

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1961, alt.

Music: The Sacred Harp, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958

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(admin. Hope Publishing Company)

Music Harm. © 1958, ren. 1986 Broadman Press

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