

CELEBRATION AND WORSHIP – IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL

MARCH 21, 2021

To those joining in person: thank you for remaining masked, and keeping distance.

If you choose to sing, do so softly, and masked. Thank you.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

INVITATION TO WORSHIP AND HOPE

inspired by Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming. This is the good news that we need to hear right now. It is why we come to find wonder and possibility in the days ahead.

The days are surely coming is what we need to hear after this long year of isolation, worry and fear. We come to remember that this is not all there will ever be. This is not the end but a beginning of the days ahead where we will be a new people.

We remember God's covenant - with Noah, with Abraham. We remember the laws, a guide for who God wants us to be. We live in hope, as we remember God's faithfulness. *Light 4 candles.* Today, O God, we raise our hope, as we wonder who we might become in your love. *Light 5th candle.*

We come, O God, to worship you, in song, and prayer and praise.

OPENING HYMN *Change My Heart, O God*

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the potter, I am the clay.

Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You call us, O God, to follow in Christ's Way, but sometimes we are unsure of where it is we are going. We struggle to know what it is you ask of us, we feel as though the path is too hard.

And so we pray for your forgiveness and guidance. Help as we seek to play our part in creating your Kingdom here on earth. Guide, us, love us, lead us we pray. Listen to the prayers on our hearts.

Time for silent prayers

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Your forgiveness is never-ending, O God. So let us receive this gift and open ourselves to the new life that has been given! Thanks be to God! Amen and AMEN.

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

SCRIPTURE FOR THE DAY

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalms 51:1-12

MORNING REFLECTION

Written on the Heart

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

BLESSING OUR GIVING

God of Abundant Generosity, you call us to be your people. You spoke creation into being – the stars and the trees and the atoms – yet you choose to be in relationship with humans.

Accept the things that we offer – our time, our gifts and skills, our money, and our very selves – and transform them so that your love might be made known in every corner of the world.

We pray in and through Christ Jesus, who teaches and lives your love, teaching us to pray Our Father... Amen.

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

God will write a new covenant on our hearts. God will be our God and we will be God's people. No longer shall we teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord." For we shall all know God.

We go now - in the name of God the Source of Life, the Word of Truth, and the Spirit of Love.

We go now – to live and love and laugh and serve our God. Amen