

# St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

MARCH 7, 2021

3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

## WELCOME

## OPENING VOLUNTARY

*If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*

Anna Laura Page

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Again and again,

**We come to this space.**

Again and again,

**We gather as a community.**

Again and again,

**We move closer to God.**

And again and again,

**God is here.**

We are met.

**We are heard.**

We are shown the way.

**So again and again,**

**Let us worship holy God.**

## HYMN

*In an Age of Twisted Values*

CHURCH UNITED

In an age of twisted values we have lost the truth we need.

In sophisticated language we have justified our greed.

By our struggle for possessions we have robbed the poor and weak.

Hear our cry and heal our nation; your forgiveness, Lord, we seek.

We have built discrimination on our prejudice and fear.

Hatred swiftly turns to cruelty if we hold resentments dear.

For communities divided by the walls of class and race,

Hear our cry and heal our nation; show us, Lord, your love and grace.

When our families are broken, when our homes are full of strife,

When our children are bewildered, when they lose their way in life,

When we fail to give the aged all the care we know they need,

Hear our cry and heal our nation; help us show more love, we plead.

We who hear your word so often choose so rarely to obey.

Turn us from our willful wandering; give us truth to light our way.

In the power of your Spirit come to cleanse us, make us new;

Hear our cry and heal our nation till our nation honors you.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Justice,

We are guilty of building tables.

**We have built tables that oppression dines on,**

**Sexism thrives on, and racism lives on.**

God of Justice,

We are guilty of forgetting where we are,

**Of turning faith into a negotiation tool**

**And the church into a place for insiders.**

God of Justice,

We are guilty of ignoring the point;

**For you taught that the temple was for worship**

**And your message was for all.**

God of our hearts,

**Be in our decision making.**

*Continued*

Draw near to our choices.

**Forgive our mistakes.**

And as you do,

**Flip every table, habit, belief, or point of view that needs adjusting.**

With hope we pray for a better day.

*Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession*

**CHORAL PETITION**

*Oh Lord, Hear My Prayer*

HEAR MY PRAYER

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

All my hope comes from you.

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

Come and listen to me.

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Phyllis Bearden

**EPISTLE READING**

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

**GOSPEL READING**

John 2:13-22

**SERMON**

*Again & Again, We Are Shown the Way*

Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in a God who knows holy rage—

A God who stands with the underdog,

Who passionately protects the suffering,

And who overturns systems of corruption.

We believe in a God who leads by example—

Feeding the hungry,

Welcoming the children,

Offering water to the Samaritan,

Eating with the tax collector,

Healing the sick,

Preaching from the mountaintop,

And offering second chances.

We believe in a God who knew that we would lose our way,

And still said, "This is my body broken for you."

We believe in a God who knew our capacity for mistakes,

And still said, "I'm going to prepare a place for you."

And because of this love,

We believe that God shows us the way,

Again and again and again.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS OF GOD'S CHURCH, COMMUNITY AND WORLD**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

**Offertory Response**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

TALLIS' CANON

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**Prayer of Dedication**

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### Invitation

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

#### Communion of the People

#### Prayer after Communion

### HYMN

*The Lord Now Sends Us Forth*

ENVIADO

The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,  
To make of all the earth a better place to live. (2x)

The angels are not sent into our world of pain  
To do what we were meant to do in Jesus' name;  
That falls to you and me and all who are made free.  
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will today. (2x)

### CHARGE AND BLESSING

#### THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

#### BLESSING IN SONG

Peace of God Be with You  
Peace of God be with you.  
Peace of God be with you.  
Salaam, Salaam.  
Peace of God be with you.

AS-SALAAMU LAKUM

#### BLESSING IN MUSIC

*Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten*

Johann Sebastian Bach

Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and Affirmation of Faith by Sarah Are  
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## Notes on Today's Music

For the **Opening Voluntary** and Benediction in Music, the music and text for "If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee" (*Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten*) were composed and written by Georg Neumark (1621-1681) in thanksgiving and acknowledging God's providential care based on Psalm 55:22.

This setting for the Opening Voluntary is by Anna Laura Page (b. 1943), active as a composer, clinician, and organist. Her publications include choral works for children, youth and adults, and compositions for handbells, organ, and piano.

The text for **In an Age of Twisted Values** was written by Martin Leckebusch (b. 1962) and first published in *New Start Hymns and Songs* (Stowmarket, Suffolk, England, 1999). Drawing on the internal refrain that occurs in the seventh line of every stanza, it was originally named "Heal Our Nation." There are numerous Scriptural references in the text.

The tune CHURCH UNITED was composed by Alfred Fedak (b. 1953) and was first published in *Songs of Rejoicing* New Brunswick, NJ, 1989). The tune is named for the United Reformed Church in Somerville, New Jersey, where the composer and his wife then served as ministers of music.

The text for the **Second Hymn**, *Enviado soy de Dios*, was written by José Aguiar, a 20th century Cuban Pentecostal pastor and translated by Gerhard Cartford (b. 1923).

The tune was composed by Pedro Infante and again no specific dates are available. First publication is unknown but it first appeared in this form in *Renewing Worship: New Hymns and Songs* published by Augsburg Fortress (Minneapolis, 2003)

The setting for the **Benediction in Music** is from the pen of Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). It is from the *Orgelbüchlein* (Little Organ Book), a set of 46 chorale preludes for organ. They are intended as introductions for the hymn to be sung. Bach originally planned for a collection of 164 settings of existing Lutheran chorale tunes sung during the Church year so that each part of the year was represented.

The *Orgelbüchlein* was also intended as a pedagogical exercise to demonstrate the many various means to compose hymn preludes (*choralevorspiele*). A further step towards perfecting this form was taken by Bach when he employed various compositional elements in his music as a means of reflecting certain emotional aspects of the words. It is regarded by Bach scholars as one of the composer's most important achievements and by organ scholars as a milestone in the development of the chorale.