

**3rd Sunday of Lent
March 20, 2022 Worship Bulletin**

Gathering for God's Word

Prelude

*Introit

#192, "Shine, Jesus, Shine," vs. 2, 3

Welcome & Announcements

Time of Silence & Ringing of the Bell

Preparing for God's Word

*Call to Worship

[inspired by Joel 2: 13-15, Hosea 14:1, Psalm 145:8, Zechariah 1:3)

Leader: Let us return to the Lord our God,

People: For God is gracious.

Leader: Let us confess to the Lord our God,

People: For God is merciful.

Leader: Let us repent to the Lord our God,

People: For God is slow to anger.

Leader: Let us praise the Lord our God,

People: For God abounds in steadfast love.

Leader: Together, let us worship the Lord our God.

People: For he is truly worthy of our praise!

*Hymn of Praise

#353, "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less," vs. 1, 2, 3

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

Refrain:

On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand

When darkness seems to hide his face
I rest on His unchanging grace

In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

His oath, his covenant, his blood
Support me in the 'whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay

Text Edward Mote, c.1834, alt.
Music: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1863, alt
CCLI#1963157

Prayer of Confession

[time of silent personal confession]

Leader: Let us continue in prayer.

All: Righteous God, in Christ you became sin for us. You took on what we are so that we might become what you are. But we confess that too often we try to ignore our sin. We fail to confess. We keep silent about the sin that clings to us. But Lord, our sins are too great a burden for us. Forgive us. In Christ take away our iniquity. You are our stronghold and our shelter. May we confess our sins, so that we might then rejoice and be glad as you change our hearts as your grace flows over us as a mighty stream. In Christ we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

[based on 2 Corinthians 5: 17-18]

Leader: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

People: All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Leader: Let us receive the Good News of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Praise God!

Hearing God's Word

Children's Message

Ages 12 and under gather up front as congregation sings, #188, "Jesus Loves Me."
After the Children's Message, the children may return to sit with their families.

Hymn of Preparation

#819, "Be Still, My Soul," vs. 1, 2

Be still my soul the Lord is on thy side
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain

Leave to thy God to order and provide
Who through all changes faithful will remain
Be still my soul thy best, thy heavenly friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end

Be still, my soul, thy God doth undertake
To guide the future surely as the past
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake
All now mysterious shall be bright at last
Be still, my soul, the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below

Songwriters: Jean Sibelius / Dan Bird

Be Still, My Soul lyrics © Word Music Llc, Talking Oak Music, Integrity Worship Music, Word Music, Llc, Paper News Publishing, Fred Bock Music Company
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Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 18: 1-11 (notice that this is a verse longer than mentioned in the newsletter)

18:1 This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: 2 “Go down to the potter’s house, and there I will give you my message.” 3 So I went down to the potter’s house, and I saw him working at the wheel. 4 But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.

5 Then the word of the LORD came to me: 6 “O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?” declares the LORD. “Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. 7 If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, 8 and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. 9 And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, 10 and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it.

11 “Now therefore say to the people of Judah and those living in Jerusalem, ‘This is what the LORD says: Look! I am preparing a disaster for you and devising a plan against you. So turn from your evil ways, each one of you, and reform your ways and your actions.’”

Sermon

“Flashes of God’s Glory... Muddy Clay”

Responding to God’s Word

*Affirmation of Faith

[based on the Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 43, 56]

Leader: What do we believe we receive from Christ's death and resurrection?

People: Through Christ's death our old selves are crucified, put to death, and buried with him, so that the evil desires of the flesh may no longer rule us, but that instead we may dedicate ourselves as an offering of gratitude to him. God, because of Christ's atonement, will never hold against us any of our sins nor our sinful nature, which we need to struggle against all our lives. Rather, in his grace God grants us the righteousness of Christ to free us forever from judgment.

Offering

Offertory

Choral Anthem: "The Master's Hand"

*Response

#606, "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

[particular prayers]

Leader: God of grace and mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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. 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.

*Hymn of Response

#695, "Change My Heart, O God"

Refrain:

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

Songwriter: Eddie Espinosa, 1982
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*Benediction

*Benediction Response

#2015, "Bless His Holy Name," Sing the Faith Hymnal

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
And all that is within me, bless his holy name!
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
And all that is within me, bless his holy name!

He has done great things,
He has done great things,
He has done great things,
Bless his holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
And all that is within me, bless his holy name!

Andraé Crouch (1973)
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*Postlude

*Please Stand if Able