**The Presbyterian Church**

**at Tenafly**

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***For Every Heart a Home***

**February 5, 2023 5th Sunday after Epiphany 10:30am**

**Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

**Liturgist: Mary Jane Eimer Rev Dr Martin Ritchie**

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*Welcome to worship! If you are visiting or here for the first time and would like to stay in touch with us, please consider filling in one of the contact cards that you will find alongside the hymnals. These can be placed in the offering plate or handed to an usher.*

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements** Mary Jane Eimer

**Joys and Concerns**

**Call to Worship**

**\* Hymn 401** *Here in This Place*

**Prayer of Approach and Confession (unison)**

**God our Maker, we come into your presence with wonder at the ways in which you are at work in the world. We see you in the majesty of nature. In the flow of the mighty river, in the trickle of the brook. In the warmth of the sunshine, in the freshening shower of rain. In the unexpected beauty of a flower out of season as well as the familiar patterns of the year. We experience your presence in one another and in the moments of connection we find with strangers. Your reign is in and through and beyond all things, and for all of this, we offer you our praise and adoration.**

**You entice us towards you every day in the words of Scripture, in moments of prayer, and in the stuff of our lives. But often our sight is clouded, and we miss you in our pre-occupations. We don’t hear the guiding of your voice, and our actions may speak of darkness rather than light. We take a moment of quiet to bring all of this before you:**

*Silence*

**KYRIE ELEISON**

**Martin sings:** Kyrie Eleison

**Congregation & Cantor:** Kyrie Eleison

**Martin sings:** Christe Eleison

**Congregation & Cantor:** Christe Eleison

**Martin sings:** Kyrie Eleison

**Congregation & Cantor:** Kyrie Eleison

**Declaration of Forgiveness**

**Choir Anthem** *Christ Be With Me,* by Oliver Tarney

*Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me. Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in the hearts of all who love me, Christ in the mouths of friend and stranger.*

- Words attributed to St Patrick, 5th Century (tr. C. Alexander, 1818-95)

**Reading** Isaiah 58: 1-9 Mary Jane Eimer

Shout out; do not hold back!   Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion,  to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. “Why do we fast, but you do not see?  Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

**\* Hymn (Psalm 112)** *Hallelujah! Happy Are They Who Fear the Lord*

**(All) Refrain:** *Happy are they who delight, who delight in the law of God.*

**Solo:**

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord

And have great delight in God’s commandments!

Their descendants will be mighty in the land;

The generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches will be in their house,

And their righteousness will last forever.

**(All) Refrain:** *Happy are they who delight, who delight in the law of God.*

**Solo:**

Light shines in the darkness for the upright;

The righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

It is good for them to be generous in lending

And to manage their affairs with justice.

For they will never be shaken;

The righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance. ***Refrain***

**Solo:**

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;

Their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

Their heart is established and will not shrink

Until they see their desire upon their enemies.

They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;

They will hold up their head with honor.

The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;

The desires of the wicked will perish. ***Refrain***

**Reading** Matthew 5:13-20 Rev Dr Martin Ritchie

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

**\* Hymn 700** *I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

**Sermon**  Rev Dr Martin Ritchie

**Offering** during which we hear our Director of Music play the piano solo,

*Menuet* from *Sonatine,* by Maurice Ravel

**Doxology**

**Prayer of Dedication**  Mary Jane Eimer

**Sharing the Peace and Welcome to a New Member, Mary Whitney Keen**

**Invitation to Communion**

The table of bread and wine has been made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a while. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

**\*Song**  *We Are Coming, Lord, to the Table*

We are coming, Lord, to the table. We are coming, Lord, to the table.

With the gift of bread, we are coming, Lord.

With the gift of wine, we are coming, Lord.

Oh, we are coming, Lord. Oh, we are coming, Lord.

Oh, we are coming, Lord. Oh, we are coming Lord.

We are coming, Lord, to the table. We are coming, Lord, to the table.

To receive the bread, we are coming, Lord.

To receive the wine, we are coming, Lord.

Oh, we are coming, Lord. Oh, we are coming, Lord.

Oh, we are coming, Lord. Oh, we are coming Lord.

(*Remain Standing*)

**The Great Thanksgiving**

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.**

Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness.

Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos, brings a harvest out of sorrow

and leads the exiles home.

In Christ your Son enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven and strangers made welcome. Your Spirit frees us to live as sons and daughters in our Father's house.

We who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross, sharing the joy of his obedience, now offer you our praise, with angels and archangels

and the whole company of heaven saying the hymn of your unending glory:

**Sanctus and Benedictus (unison)**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, in the highest.**

(the congregation sits)

**Telling the Story**

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father,

for Christ in whom the world is reconciled.

Lifted on the Cross, his suffering and forgiveness

spanned the gulf our sins had made.

Through that dark struggle death was swallowed up in victory,

that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night

of Israel's release, the night in which the sons of Egypt died,

your Chosen One, himself the First-Born, freely offered his life.

At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks.

He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:

"Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup,

he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:

"Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant;

it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven.

Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command.

We recall his blessed passion and death,

his glorious resurrection and ascension;

and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.

Made one with him, we offer you these gifts

and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us

and upon this bread and this wine,

that, overshadowed by your life-giving power,

they may be for us spiritual food and drink,

and we may be kindled with the fire of your love

and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptized into the fellowship of Christ's Body

to live and work to your praise and glory;

may we grow together in unity and love

until at last, in your new creation,

we enter into our heritage in the company of the apostles,

and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you,

Lord of all ages, world without end.

Amen.

**Agnus Dei**

Jesus, Lamb of God

**Have mercy on us**

Jesus bearer of our sins

**Have mercy upon us**

Jesus redeemer of the world

**Grant us your peace.**

**Sharing the Bread and Wine**

(The Elders will serve the bread to you in your seats. The wine glasses are pre-set in the pews. Please wait to eat and drink all together.)

**Post-Communion Prayer (Unison)**

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\* Hymn 65** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

**Charge, Benediction and Celtic Amen**

***Amen, Amen, Alleluia, Amen (x2)***

**Postlude**

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**\*Those who are able, please stand.**

**Livestreaming of Worship.** Today’s service is broadcast live online.

You can watch the service again later via our website homepage if you wish to. Huge thanks to our entire technical team.

**Annual Congregational and Corporate meeting** will be held in the church house immediately following worship this morning. Coffee will be provided.

**Presby Readers** next book willbe *Lessons in Chemistry: A Novel*, by Bonnie Garmus.

We’ll meet at the Shima’s home on February 26th at 4pm. All are welcome!

**Lunch and Learn –** February 8th and 15th at 12noon in the Lounge. Join Pastor Martin to share thoughts about the previous Sunday worship themes. Everyone is welcome. Bring your lunch, if you like – drinks will be provided.

**Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday/Fat Tuesday party - February 21st from 6pm in Jim Henry Hall**. Join us for a party before the start of Lent! We will welcome some guests from East Harlem along with Chris Lawrence of *Inner Change*. Crepes with various fillings, music - maybe even some dancing! - and good company; suitable for all ages. There will be activities for children. To help us plan, sign up in the Narthex or contact the office.

**Ash Wednesday, 22nd February, is the beginning of Lent,** the day after our party, and we’ll be sharing a service of Communion in the Chapel at 7:30pm that evening.

**Lent Space**. Reflective time by candlelight in our chapel, each Wednesday evening in Lent from March 1st from 7-7:30pm.

**Lent Study** begins Wednesday March 1st. This year we will share a study based on the movie *Chocolat.* Meet in the church house at 12noon (bring your lunch) or **7:45pm**. Everyone is welcome.

**Muhammad Najem, War Reporter: How one boy put the spotlight on Syria.** We’re going to be welcoming Nora Neus, who grew up in Tenafly and will be known to some of you. She’s an Emmy-nominated producer, writer, and journalist, and recently collaborated on this graphic novel. She’ll be joining us for a discussion with Debbie Abitante about this fascinating book **Sunday, March 5th at 4pm in the sanctuary.**

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY**

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Doodle away . . .

We all have different personalities, and we engage in worship in different ways. This space is left for you to use in any way that you would like during the service. You may like to write notes or you may wish to draw in response to how you hear God speaking. You can use the pencils which are in the pews or bring your own.

We are providing this space every week.