

***West Kishacoquillas Presbyterian Church
Belleville, PA***



***5th Sunday of Lent
March 26, 2023***

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

This is the fifth Sunday of Lent. Today's scripture acknowledges a living death without the life of the Spirit and invites us to prepare for Palm Sunday and Passion Week as we walk with Christ through death to new life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT PRAYER

Almighty God, Jesus came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Your steadfast love endures forever. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days. Amen.

INTROIT - *Your Steadfast Love Endures Forever* (call and response)

(Leader) Your steadfast love endures forever and ever (repeat)

(Congregation) Your steadfast love endures forever and ever (repeat)

OPENING WORDS / CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to worship God
God who makes bones dance
God who calls Lazarus from the grave.
God who forgives us and gives us hope.

HYMN of PRAISE PH# 79 *Kind Maker of the World*

CALL TO CONFESSION

If the Lord marked our iniquities, we could not stand. But there is forgiveness with God. In trust and faith, let us offer our confessions to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord. Hear our voices and let your ears be attentive to the voice of our supplications. We come into your presence confessing our sins, aware we have behaved in ways that are contrary to your desire for our living. We come into your presence aware that too often we allow lifelessness to gain the upper hand. We come into your presence aware that we put our trust in our own abilities. Forgive us, O God. Infuse us with your life-giving spirit. Breathe into us and make us come alive.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hope in the Lord!
With the Lord, there is steadfast love.
With God, there is great power to redeem.
Thanks be to God who redeems us from all our iniquities.

*PEACE OF CHRIST Let us extend the Peace of Christ to those here and beyond the walls of our Sanctuary.
The Peace of Christ be with You!! C: **And also with You.**

*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory to be the Father
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning
is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Our souls wait for the Lord and in God's Word we hope. We wait for the Divine Word to envelop and guide us. We wait for the creating word to give us life and bring nourishment to our parched souls. Our souls wait for the Lord and in God's Word we hope.

FIRST READING Ezekial 37:1-14
SECOND READING Romans 8:6-11
GOSPEL READING John 11: 32-45

SPECIAL MUSIC *Now Comes the Gentiles' Savior* Seulki Yoo and Pastor Ela

MESSAGE *Too wrapped up in things to truly live?* Rev. Ela J. Robertson

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

HYMN PH#316 *Breathe on Me Breath of God*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jesus announced the coming of God's kingdom and its hidden presence amid the world's kingdoms. He taught his disciples to seek God's kingdom first. We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives in pilgrimage toward God's kingdom. Like Christ we may enjoy on our journey all that sustains life and makes it pleasant and beautiful. No more than Christ are we spared the darkness, ambiguity, and threat of life in the world. We are in the world, but not of the world. Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world, but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom. Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom: to serve as he has served us; to take up our cross, risking the consequences of faithful discipleship; to walk by faith, not by sight, to hope for what we have not seen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION One Great Hour of Sharing PCUSA

JOYS and CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of valley and grave, we come before you today and pray for your life-giving presence in places that seem dry and dead. There are those places we know from the news: Ukraine, Turkey, Syria, Greece, East Palestine — places where war, natural disaster and human greed has left dead bodies and broken lives behind. "Mortal,

can these bones live?" You asked, O God. And for people in these places where they have had to bury ones they love even as they worry about their own living, give them breath that indeed they may live.

And then there are the places that don't make the national news, but we know oh so well because they are close to us ... [what are the dry and seemingly dead places in your community? Offer those prayers here.] Across your created world, your people wait and hope.

We wait for an end to gun violence.

We wait for an end to racial injustice.

We wait for an end to groups who assume privilege, practice prejudice or profess hate for others.

We wait for an end to the priority of money over people.

We wait for an end to all those things that rob your people of life, that rob your people of breath, that rob your people of wholeness.

And we hope ...

we hope for the promise of the morning, the time when a new light will break on the horizon hinting at the glory of your presence in our midst.

We hope for the promise of the resurrection, of the life that is ours even when we don't see it fully.

We give thanks for ... the many joys and blessings given by God to our community

As we gaze across your world, O God, we wonder where we fit in. Where would you have us be, O God?

What would you have us do? You know, O God if the bones can live. Do you invite us into partnership with you as you did with the mortal in Ezekiel 37? Do you extend to us the invitation to co-create? Do you hold forth for us to see the ways we can be your presence of life, of wholeness, of healing for your creation?

Is it possible that in those things for which we wait, you invite us to be a sign of hope?

Give us the courage to live the reality of the resurrection.

Give us the courage to witness to new life.

Give us the courage to step into your created world with your words of prophecy, with the courage to believe that you call us and guide us so that bones may live and your people may breathe. AMEN.

LORD'S PRAYER

In your name, we pray in the way that Jesus taught us,

For the sake of our Savior, our Lord, Jesus Christ who taught us to pray like this:

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.

HYMN: *Calvary* (Organ 1x, congregation 1x)

Calvary

- for SATB Choir -

Slow

Bm F# Bm

Cal - va - ry, Cal - va - ry, Cal - va - ry, Cal - va - ry, Cal - va -

ry, Cal - va - ry, sure - ly he died on Cal - va - ry.

(Cal - va - ry)

Bm F#

1. Ev - 'ry - time I think a - bout Je - sus, ev - 'ry - time I
2. Don't you hear him say, "It is fin - shed!" Don't you hear him

Bm

think a - bout Je - sus, ev - 'ry - time I think a - bout
say, "It is fin - shed!" Don't you hear him say, "It is

GMaj7 Bm Em7 F#7 Bm D.C.

Je - sus, sure - ly he died on Cal - va - ry.
fin - shed!" Sure - ly he died on Cal - va - ry.

Words and music: Traditional African-American Spiritual, public domain.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

(Rom. 4:4)

We bring before God gifts of gratitude in response to God's gift of breath, life and wholeness.

***DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, may these gifts be one of the ways your life giving presence is experienced in our community. Use this money and use us to give hope to the hopeless, wholeness to the broken and fullness to the hungry. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

CHARGE Listen for the voice of God calling to you, "Mortal, can these bones live?" And in confidence, answer "O Lord God, You know." And then hold on — because God just may use you to make it happen. And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit rest, remain and surround you today and all days.

And all of God's people say ... Amen.

***SENDING SONG** *All Things Shall be Well*

All things shall be well, all things shall be well,
All things shall be well, my friends
Be well, my friends, be well.

BLESSING

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit rest, remain and surround you today and all days. And all of God's people say ... **Amen.**

Worship leaders:

Lay Readers: Matt Waddell, Bill Corbin, Ann MacNabb, Bill Corbin

Rev. Ela J. Robertson - Pastor

Seulki Yoo - Music Ministry

Attributions: Liturgy written by Sharon Core and provided for free distribution © Presbyterian Outlook, 2023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joys and Concerns

Elliana Byler, Laura Baggus, Anne Marie Yoder, Pam Ritchey Leevi Fultz, John Stroup, Cathy Drury, Ann Peachey, Hannah Faulkner, Jim Marthouse, Pat Byler, Sherwood & Barb Frankhouser, Kyung Sun Yim (Susie's mother), Bertha Penepacker, Jon Helfrick, Cindy Coder, Shawna Horn

Please pray for those who have lost loved ones in the past months

Please pray for all those who are undergoing diagnosis, operations, and treatments. Earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria. The safety of our Big Valley community.

In Rehab. Ann Peachey: Hawthorne Center - Sarasota, 5381 Desoto Road, Sarasota, FL 34235.

Valley View Haven Valley View Terrace

Alice Long – Room 510 Larry & Jean Ecklund A120 Doris Wilson – Room 502

Westminster Woods: Bill Rumbaugh – 360 Westminster Drive, Huntingdon, PA 16652

Ron Bailey (recently in hospital and rehab) 109 Sycamore Way, Huntingdon, PA 16652

In the Military: Rob Westover, Eric Kauffman, Shawn Seager, Michael Yutesle

Upcoming: Sunday April 2: **Palm Sunday**

Thursday April 6: **Maundy Thursday** Service 7PM at St. John's

Friday April 7: **Good Friday** Service 7PM at West Kish

Sunday April 9: 11AM **Easter SERVICE** Breakfast before church with special visitor - the Easter Bunny!!