



Welcome to CHARLTON CHURCH

Where Faith Meets Life

Order of Worship for February 28, 2021

Please tune to station 87.9 FM while in the parking lot to hear the service

The Gathering and Welcome

Call to Worship and Introit

We walk these forty days; with You, we fast and pray.
We reflect, confess and return to You. Guide us in Your way.

Time of Confession and Grace

Creator God, You made the earth; and saw that it was good. We behold the vastness of the sky and seas, the majesty of the mountains and valleys, the beauty of the trees and flowers and vegetation. You have asked us to care for this creation, to serve You and praise You by loving all You have made. But we have failed Your call. Instead of seeing Your creation as a gift, we have viewed it as our own possession. Instead of tending and nurturing it, we have abused it and caused great harm. And although our hands may have not caused the harm, we have adopted a lifestyle of comfort and have remained silent to its abuse. **Lord, have mercy.**

Creator God, You made the earth and all that is in it; and saw that it was good. Our lives have been enriched by the birds that fly and the fish that swim and all the animals that walk or creep on the land. You have asked us to care for this creation, to serve You and praise You by loving all You have made. But we have failed Your call. Instead of taking responsibility for the care of the animal kingdom, we have once again looked upon them as possessions and trophies to hang upon our wall. We have stood by as others treated them horribly, or slaughtered them as sport. **Christ, have mercy.**

Creator God, You made the earth, and all that is in it, and created us in Your own image; and saw that it was good. But we have struggled to understand what it means to be made in Your image. The totality of Your love and compassion and hope is expressed in our diversity, in shades and tones of many colors, in the sounds of many languages, in traditions and experiences spread around the earth. You have asked us to care for this creation, to serve You and praise You by loving all You have made. But we have failed Your call. Instead of celebrating our diversity, we have used it to divide us and to build walls between us. We have failed to care for one another. We have forgotten what it is like to be part of your family and have created a world of 'us' versus 'them'. **Lord, have mercy.**

The Lord God made a covenant with Noah, and God keeps that covenant with us. Our God of the rainbow promises life and hope and joy and peace. Our God of love forgives us and is ready to restore us. Our God will help us to do better, one step at a time, just the way Noah built the ark one cubit at a time. Thanks be to God.

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Scripture Lesson

Genesis 6:11-14/ 7:17-19/ 8:6,17-21

Now the Earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. And God saw that the earth was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted its ways upon the earth. And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; now I am going to destroy them along with the earth. Make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. / The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; / At the end of forty days, Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made. / Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. And every animal, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out of the ark by families. Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And when the Lord smelled the pleasing odor, the Lord, said in his heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of humankind, for the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Message*"40 Days of Restoration"*

Pastor Miguel

Hymn of Reflection**"Breathe On Me, Breath of God"**

Words by Edwin Hatch, music by Robert Jackson

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion**Benediction and Response****"The Lord's Prayer"**

Grayson Warren Brown

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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation.
For the kingdom, the power, the glory are Yours; forever and ever, Amen.
For the kingdom, the power, the glory are Yours; forever and ever, Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS for the week of Sunday, February 28, 2021

CONTACT WITH THE PASTOR

Over these last several weeks, we have been praying for our pastor's health. For over a year, Pastor Miguel has been having difficulty with low blood platelet counts. His doctors have done multiple tests, which have ruled out cancer. The pastor is currently receiving a series of treatments to help improve his platelet count, the side effect of which affects his immune system. Therefore, the pastor needs to limit his contact with individuals during this time. If you need pastoral assistance, please reach out to him on his cell phone. During this time, the pastor will not be available to greet you as you enter or leave for worship. We thank you for your cooperation in giving his 'space', especially during this time of the pandemic.

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

During this Lenten season, we are encouraging our church members to reclaim the ritual of making the sign of the cross during your prayer time. Often misunderstood as a Roman Catholic tradition, this is actually an ancient practice of the early church and also has roots in our Wesleyan heritage. By making the sign of the cross, we bear witness to our faith, declaring that we are Christians, followers of the one who gave his life for us on a cross and rose from the dead.

EASTER EGGS

We will be making eggs on Mondays during the month of March, practicing strict social distancing. We will be focusing on the production of peanut butter eggs. A limited production of coconut cream and butter cream eggs will be made to use up ingredients on hand. ALL EGG SALE MUST BE PREORDERED. You can order your eggs in the church office or by going to our website: www.charltonchurch.org/eggs

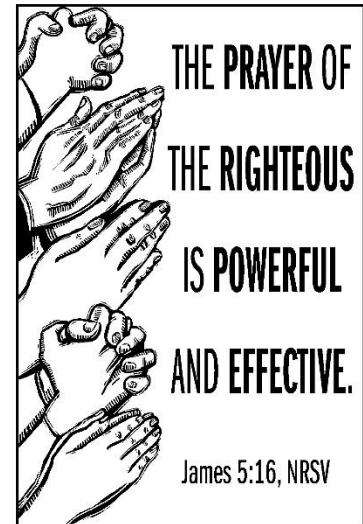
VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Beginning in April, we will be in need of a volunteer with a truck, van or SUV, willing to do a monthly pickup at Dollar Tree for our Giving Grace program. If you would be willing to help in this manner, please contact the church office.

PRAYER REQUESTS for the week of Sunday, February 28, 2021

THIS WEEK:

- Eric Millers asks prayers for his mother, Betty Miller, in the hospital with pneumonia and confusion.
- Janine Scott lifts Matt Holmes who is in the hospital, recently diagnosed with severe pancreatitis. Prayers for strength and healing so he can be home with new born son.
- Kathy Hoover lifts the McLaughlin family on the loss of their mother and brother, Lori for healing from melanoma surgery and Tara on her upcoming mastectomy.



LAST WEEK:

Family of Ken Wingert, who passed away on February 17.

PREVIOUSLY:

Pastor Miguel; Dee Lucas and family, Angie Eckhart and family; Anthony, Sherry Baker, Lynette Finch, Jean May, Bill Ruble.

WE CONTINUALLY PRAY FOR ...

All those who are affected by the coronavirus whether thru illness, grieving of those who have died, struggling economically, or experiencing loneliness. We also pray for Charlton Church, The United Methodist Church, Bishop Jeremiah Park, Rev. Barry Robison (Harrisburg District Superintendent).

CHARLTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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