

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Sunday, March 29th, 2020

Fifth Sunday in Lent

GATHERING IN COMMUNITY

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PRELUDE *A Meditation* G. Oldroyd

WELCOME *Affirming, Caring, Growing Spiritually, Reaching Out*

CALL TO WORSHIP ...Nicolaas and Anneka Van Gemert

Out of the depths have I called to you. O God, hear my cry!

Let your ears be attentive to my plea for mercy.

I wait for you, O God. My soul waits, and in your word is my hope.

My soul waits for God more than watchers long for morning.

O Israel, wait in hope, for with God there is love unfailing.

With God is great power to redeem! *(adapted from Psalm 130)*

VOICES UNITED **326** *O For a Thousand Tongues*

O for a thousand tongues to sing

my great Redeemer's praise,

the glories of my God and King,

the triumphs of God's grace.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,

that bids our sorrows cease;

'tis music in the sinner's ears,

'tis life and health and peace.

He speaks, and listening to his voice,

new life the dead receive,

the mournful broken-hearts rejoice,

the humble poor believe.

My gracious Master and my God,

assist me to proclaim,

to spread through all the earth abroad

the honours of your name.

PEACE GREETING

...Michael Brooks

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

...Martha Reynolds

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Jesus, You spoke to a woman at a Samaritan well,

yet, in chaotic times, we often fail to hear you speaking to us.

You opened the eyes of a man by the side of the road,

yet, in distracting times, we often fail to see you at work within us.

You raised Lazarus from his tomb,

yet, in discouraging times, we often fail to claim your new life in us.

(Silent Prayer)

Forgive us, O God. Forgive us, and help us.

Help us:

To reach out with our hearts when we can't touch with our hands.

Help us:

To be socially connected when we have to be physically distant.

Help us:

To love as perfectly as we can,

knowing that "perfect love casts out all fear." Amen.

(by Richard Bott, Moderator, The United Church of Canada)

MORE VOICES **91** (sing three times)

Cradle me in your arms, cherish and comfort me.

O Jesus, source of healing love, in your presence I am free.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

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,

but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory

forever and ever. Amen.

SEEKING TO GROW SPIRITUALLY

GOSPEL BIBLE READING John 11 *The Raising of Lazarus*

Verses 1-6: Lazarus is sick

MORE VOICES **14** *Where Two or Three Are Gathered*

Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there, I am there.

Verses 17-27: "I am the resurrection and the life"

Verses 28-37: Jesus weeps

Verses 38-44: Lazarus comes out alive

SERMON "IF YOU HAD BEEN HERE..."

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONDING IN CARE

INVITATION FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Blessed Jesus, We Are Present* J. S. Bach

VOICES UNITED **537**

**Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.
Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make:
be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

REACHING OUT IN LOVE

VOICES UNITED **410** *This Day God Gives Me*

**This day God gives me strength of high heaven,
sun and moon shining, flame in my hearth,
flashing of lightning, wind in its swiftiness,
deeps of the ocean, firmness of earth.**

**This day God sends me strength to sustain me,
might to uphold me, wisdom as guide.
Your eyes are watchful, your ears are listening,
your lips are speaking, Friend at my side.**

**God's way is my way, God's shield is round me,
God's host defends me, saving from ill.
Angels of heaven, drive from me always
all that would harm me, stand by me still.**

**Rising, I thank you, mighty and strong One,
King of creation, giver of rest,
firmly confessing Threeness of Persons,
Oneness of Godhead, Trinity blest.**

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Morning Has Broken*

C. Walz