

# Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

Service of Worship, Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020, 10am

## Gathering All People in a Caring Christian Community

GATHERING CHIMES

“Sanctuary”

arr. Nylea Butler Moore

*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (*unison*)

**We are here, in the name of Christ Jesus. So ask right now, and it shall be given to you. Seek right now, and you will find. Knock right now, and the door will be opened.**

HYMN #175, v. 1 & 2

“Seek Ye First”

LAFFERTY

PRAYER OF ASKING (*unison*)

**Loving God, during the ministry of your Son Jesus here on Earth, he showed your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Through your Holy Spirit, be present now to people who need your loving touch. If anyone is ill because of COVID-19, may they feel your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses. Take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine, but also from all of us who are experiencing that isolation. Help us to remember that we do this out of love for others. Give us a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect our families and friends and bring peace to all who we love.**

**But we ask, O God, that you keep us mindful of the people we don't know, the people who have lost jobs and income, those people we often pass by when life is “normal.” Encourage us to reach out and to serve just as Jesus did, strengthening us with the Holy Spirit. We bring this to you in prayer, trusting you will give us what we ask of you, for Jesus told his disciples you answer these prayers. Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you and everyone.

**And also with you and all others!**

*“Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset.” —Saint Francis de Sales*

HYMN #343, (v. 1, 2, 3 & 6)

“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”

GERMANY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

...as Jesus taught his disciples to pray, saying:

**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.**

SOLO

“Somewhere It's Snowing”

arr. Mark Hayes

Terri Monrad, soprano

## Equipping People to Develop and Share a Faith That Works in Real Life

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Chronicles 20:1-12

After this the Moabites and Ammonites, and with them some of the Meunites,<sup>[a]</sup> came against Jehoshaphat for battle. <sup>2</sup> Messengers<sup>[b]</sup> came and told Jehoshaphat, “A great multitude is coming against you from Edom,<sup>[c]</sup> from beyond the sea; already they are at Hazazon-tamar” (that is, En-gedi). <sup>3</sup> Jehoshaphat was afraid; he set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. <sup>4</sup> Judah assembled to seek help from the Lord; from all the towns of Judah they came to seek the Lord.

<sup>5</sup> Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord, before the new court, <sup>6</sup> and said, “O Lord, God of our ancestors, are you not God in heaven? Do you not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations? In your hand are power and might, so that no one is able to withstand you. <sup>7</sup> Did you not, O our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel, and give it forever to the descendants of your friend Abraham? <sup>8</sup> They have lived in it, and in it have built you a sanctuary for your name, saying, <sup>9</sup> ‘If disaster comes upon us, the sword, judgment,<sup>[d]</sup> or pestilence, or famine, we will stand before this house, and before you, for your name is in this house, and cry to you in our distress, and you will hear and save.’ <sup>10</sup> See now, the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, whom you would not let Israel invade when they came from the land of Egypt, and whom they avoided and did not destroy— <sup>11</sup> they reward us by coming to drive us out of your possession that you have given us to inherit. <sup>12</sup> O our God, will you not execute judgment upon them? For we are powerless against this great multitude that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.”

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words. **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

“Even Here”

by Mark A. Miller

Chancel Ensemble – Sue Trigger, soloist

*At the land's dark roots, in the farthest deep, where the daylight dims,  
where no one can reach, can the hand of God, can the voice of love  
find me even here, find me even here?*

*I have turned away, I have set my fate, I have run too far, I repent too late,  
can the hand of God, can the voice of love find me even here?*

*O, to climb again where the eagle flies, where its nest is set in the sunlit skies!  
Can the hand of God, can the voice of love find me even here?  
Will the hand of God, will the voice of love find me even here?*

*O forgive me, Lord, may I see your face, may I die in peace with a song of praise,  
may the hand of God, may the voice of love find me even here?*

SERMON

“We Don’t Know What to Do, But...”

Rev. Mitch Trigger

ONLINE OFFERING

(You may submit your offering through our online giving portal at [www.gcpc.org/give](http://www.gcpc.org/give))

HYMN #630

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

CRUSADER’S HYMN

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

SENDING OUT

“Go, Now in Peace”

by Natalie Sleeth, Linda Dover, organist