



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship March 19, 2023 9:30am
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gathering

SONG TO GATHER

“Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)”

Hillsong

ALL Sing

**You call me out upon the waters ~ The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery ~ In oceans deep my faith will stand**

**And I will call upon Your Name ~ And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine.**

**Your grace abounds in deepest waters ~ Your sovereign hand will be my guide
Where feet may fail & fear surrounds me ~ You've never failed & You won't start now.**

**So, I will call upon Your Name ~ And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine.**

**Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders
Let me walk upon the waters wherever You would call me.
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander,
And my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my Saviour. (2xs)**

**I will call upon Your Name ~ Keep my eyes above the waves
My soul will rest in Your embrace ~ I am Yours and You are mine.**

WELCOME

Rev. Sue Trigger

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(spoken responsively)*

ONE: When we stand at the edge of fear and worry,

ALL: **God invites us to step into the waters of faith and trust.**

ONE: When we stand at the edge of the world's pain,

ALL: **Jesus invites us to step into the land of humble service.**

ONE: When we stand at the edge of hunger and thirst:

ALL: **The Spirit invites us to step into the world with food and drink.**

ONE: Holy God, we have gathered in your house to worship and learn of your ways.

ALL: **Teach us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit that we may go out sharing your great love with all our neighbors; in Jesus' name. Amen.**

***SONG TO PRAISE**

"Follow You"

by Leeland

ALL Sing

You live among the least of these ~ The weary and the weak

And it would be a tragedy for me to turn away.

All my needs You have supplied ~ When I was dead You gave me life

So how could I not give it away so freely?

I'll follow You into the homes of the broken ~ Follow You into the world

Meet the needs for the poor and the needy God ~ Follow You into the world.

Use my hands use my feet to make Your kingdom come

To the corners of the earth, until Your work is done.

Faith without works is dead, on the cross Your blood was shed.

So how could we not give it away so freely?

I'll follow You into the homes of the broken ~ Follow You into the world

Meet the needs for the poor and the needy God ~ Follow You into the world.

And I give all myself, I give all myself

I give all myself to You. (2sx)

I'll follow You into the homes of the broken ~ Follow You into the world

Meet the needs for the poor and the needy God ~ Follow You into the world. (2xs)

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

(Children ages 4 through 1st grade may go to Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time. Greeters at the back of the Sanctuary will go with children to Room 12 downstairs where parents may pick up their children following worship. Our Nursery welcomes young children and our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children's wing. Worship bags are available for children who stay in worship.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(spoken together)*

We admit we are hesitant to walk to Jerusalem and beyond with you, God of Glory. In a world where we worry about tomorrow before enjoying today, we race by your moments of silence, of learning. In that flood of worries, which can overwhelm us, we may miss that assurance that you have not cut us off from your grace. In the deserts of our desires, we may ignore that feast of hope, of joy, of life you offer to us. Forgive us and have mercy on us, Gentle Guardian of our souls. In humility, may we offer our lives to others. In love, may we share your grace with everyone we meet. In hope, may we wait for you all our days, as you come to us in the life and joy of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you and all others!

SONG OF PEACE

"I Will Fear No More"

by the Afters

Praise Team/**ALL**

Every anxious thought that steals my breath ~ It's a heavy weight upon my chest.
As I lie awake and wonder what the future will hold
Help me to remember that You're in control

**You're my courage when I worry in the dead of night
You're my strength 'cause I'm not strong enough to win this fight
You are greater than the battle raging in my mind
I will trust You, Lord ~ I will fear no more**

I will lift my eyes ~ I will lift my cares ~ Lay them in Your hands ~ I'll leave them there
When the wind and waves are coming, You shelter me.
Even though I'm in the storm, the storm is not in me.

**You're my courage when I worry in the dead of night
You're my strength 'cause I'm not strong enough to win this fight
You are greater than the battle raging in my mind
I will trust You, Lord ~ I will fear no more
(Oh-oh-oh-ohh, oh-oh-oh-ohh) I will fear no more
(Oh-oh-oh-ohh, oh-oh-oh-ohh) I will fear no more**

No power can come against me, 'Cause You have overcome
No darkness can overwhelm me, 'Cause You've already won (2xs)

**You're my courage when I worry in the dead of night
You're my strength 'cause I'm not strong enough to win this fight
You are greater than the battle raging in my mind
I will trust You, Lord ~ I will fear no more**

(Oh-oh-oh-ohh, oh-oh-oh-ohh) **I will fear no more**
(Oh-oh-oh-ohh, oh-oh-oh-ohh) **I will fear no more (2xs)**

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Philippians 4:6–7, Romans 2:1–2 (NRSVUE)

Barbara Douglas

Philippians 4:6–7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Romans 2:1–2

Therefore you are without excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others, for in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things. We know that God's judgment on those who do such things is in accordance with truth.

SONG TO REFLECT

“Even If”

by Mercy Me

Donna Goeckler, soloist

*They say sometimes you win some, sometimes you lose some.
And right now, right now I'm losing bad
I've stood on this stage night after night, reminding the broken it'll be alright.
But right now, oh right now I just can't
It's easy to sing when there's nothing to bring me down.
But what will I say when I'm held to the flame like I am right now?*

*I know You're able and I know You can
Save through the fire with Your mighty hand
But even if You don't ~ My hope is You alone.*

*They say it only takes a little faith to move a mountain
Well good thing a little faith is all I have, right now
But God, when You choose to leave mountains unmovable
Oh give me the strength to be able to sing “It is well with my soul”*

*I know You're able and I know You can
Save through the fire with Your mighty hand
But even if You don't ~ My hope is You alone
I know the sorrow, and I know the hurt
Would all go away if You'd just say the word
But even if You don't ~ My hope is You alone*

*You've been faithful, You've been good all of my days.
Jesus, I will cling to You, come what may.
'Cause I know You're able ~ I know You can...*

*I know You're able and I know You can
Save through the fire with Your mighty hand
But even if You don't ~ My hope is You alone
I know the sorrow, I know the hurt
Would all go away if You'd just say the word
But even if You don't ~ My hope is You alone
It is well with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul*

SCRIPTURE LESSON (video)

Matthew 6:25–34

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Sue Trigger

“What God Wants Us to Give Up: Anxiety, Fear, and Worry”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MINUTE FOR MISSION

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

SONG FOR GIVING

“Truth Be Told”

by Matthew West

Carrie DeVries

*Lie number 1; you're supposed to have it all together.
And when they ask how you're doing, just smile and tell them, "Never better"
Lie number 2; everybody's life is perfect except yours
So keep your messes and your wounds and your secrets safe with you behind closed doors
Truth be told ~ The truth is rarely told.*

*I say I'm fine, yeah I'm fine oh I'm fine, hey I'm fine but I'm not
I'm broken
And when it's out of control I say it's under control but it's not
And you know it
I don't know why it's so hard to admit it, when being honest is the only way to fix it.
There's no failure, no fall, There's no sin you don't already know
So let the truth be told.*

*There's a sign on the door, says, "Come as you are" but I doubt it
'Cause if we lived like it was true, every Sunday morning pew would be crowded
But didn't you say the church should look more like a hospital
A safe place for the sick, the sinner and the scarred and the prodigals like me.
Well truth be told ~ The truth is rarely told
Oh am I the only one who says*

*I say I'm fine, yeah I'm fine oh I'm fine, hey I'm fine but I'm not
I'm broken
And when it's out of control I say it's under control but it's not
And you know it
I don't know why it's so hard to admit it, when being honest is the only way to fix it.
There's no failure, no fall, There's no sin you don't already know
So let the truth be told.*

*Can I really stand here unashamed knowin' that your love for me won't change?
Oh God if that's really true, then let the truth be told.*

*I say I'm fine, yeah I'm fine oh I'm fine, hey I'm fine but I'm not
I'm broken
And when it's out of control I say it's under control but it's not
And you know it
I don't know why it's so hard to admit it, when being honest is the only way to fix it.
There's no failure, no fall, There's no sin you don't already know
So let the truth be told.*

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

SONG TO SEND

“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”

Words by Civilla Durfee Martin – Music by Charles Hutchinson Gabriel

ALL Sing

**Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heav’n and home,
When Jesus is my portion? My constant Friend is He:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.**

**I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.**

**“Let not your heart be troubled,” His tender word I hear,
And resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
Though by the path He leadeth, but one step I may see;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.**

**I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.**

**Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him, from care He sets me free;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.**

**I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.**

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU