

NORTHRIDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MARCH 29, 2020  
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

GATHERING

Prayer of Preparation

Loving God, in this season of Lent we look forward to our remembrance of Jesus' death and our celebration of his resurrection. We pray that your Spirit will renew in us today our anticipation for these events. Comfort and challenge us as we worship you. In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*

**And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

PREPARING FOR GOD'S WORD

✧ Call to Worship

*"I will put my breath within you, and you shall live."*

**In gratitude, we praise the Giver of Life.**

*"I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;*

**Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.**

*Whoever serves me must follow me, says the Lord,*

**And where I am, there will my servant be also."**

**Let us worship God.**

✧ Hymn 681

NUN DANKET ALL' UND BRINGET EHR'

"This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made"

✧ Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, we confess our failure to appreciate and enjoy the good things you provide for our lives; our insensitivity to the needs of others and our over-sensitivity when we are hurt by them. Too often, we become consumed in the business of life, losing faith in your sovereignty and power. Forgive us for our moods of disobedience, our outright rejection of your will, and for consenting to wrong practices by our cool silence. Reform our will, reinforce our courage: create in us a new heart, O God, and put your righteousness in us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✧ Silent Confession

✧ Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us;  
Christ, have mer - cy up - on us;  
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

✧ Assurance of Pardon

*Jesus, for the sake of the joy that lay ahead of him,  
endured the cross, making light of its disgrace.*

*Friends, our faith depends on Christ and our hope and assurance  
rest in him:*

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

✧ Congregational Response "Gloria Patri"

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly  
Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,  
world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

✧ Passing the Peace

*The peace of Christ be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Please pass the peace of Christ with your neighbors.*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Covenant Lesson Ezekiel 37:1-14 (N.T. p.806)

*The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem "Psalm 130: My voice is mute..." Bryan Page

My voice is mute, and yet my soul cries out to you:  
"Lord, send your-Spir it, and make these dry bones dance - a gain!"

Second Covenant Lesson John 11:1-45 (N.T. p.104)

*The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "The Importance of Presence" Tom Gibbons

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✧ Hymn 250 "In the Bulb There Is a Flower" PROMISE

✧ Affirmation of Faith (from *The Confession of 1967*)

**In Jesus of Nazareth true humanity was realized once for all.**

**Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of**

**sinful people... In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which all humanity stands convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. Amen.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Invitation to Prayer

*The Lord be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

✧ Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Christ, all peo - ple  
here be - low; Praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more - One  
ho - ly God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

SENDING

✧ Hymn 288 "Spirit of the Living God" LIVING GOD

✧ Charge and Benediction

**Go out into God's world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all persons; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Closing Voluntary "Ah, Holy Jesus" Michael Costello

(✧ Congregation standing)

**Thank you to those leading worship today:**

Rev. Tom Gibbons, Pastor and Acting Head of Staff

Rev. Wendy Fenn, Parish Associate

Bryan Page, Director of Music Ministries

Emily Cox, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries

Rebecca Jones, Videographer and Soundboard

Shirley Latham, Interim Organist

**The flowers** we would have ordered today are given by Kay Cox to the glory of God in thanksgiving for our Northridge church family and honoring our commitment to helping others during the pandemic.

**For those of you who would like to look up the Scriptures** at home we use the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible.