

Conference Call Worship Service

Scripture Reader: K Liddle

Music Director: K Quinton

Minister: Rev. C Cooper

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 29th, 2020 11:00 a.m.

Moment of Reflection:

Patience is quiet hope and faith that things will turn out right. We trust the process of life. We are not hasty. We do not rush or allow ourselves to be overcome by pressure. Patience helps us to endure with a peaceful heart those things we cannot control. We respond to mistakes or delays, not with judgment but gentleness. We recognize the lessons that come through waiting, and receive them as gifts unfolding with Divine timing. Patience brings acceptance. It calls us to be still in the moment, to be restful and to listen deeply. Patience soothes our souls.

I am thankful for the gift of Patience.

It helps me to keep my peace.

(The Virtues Project)

Praising God

Prelude "Come Holy Spirit, Dove Divine"
H. Percy Smith, arr. Cindy Berry

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Let us take a moment to prepare our hearts and minds as we centre ourselves in the love of God...

There are times when our lives have felt like dry bones and we have lost our hope. But God says to us, "Prophesy to these bones. I am going to put breath into you and bring you back to life. Them bones are gonna live again."

Let us praise our Creator God who gives us hope and new life as we worship.

Opening Prayer (join in if you like)

God of spring, we worship You as the Source of life and Creator of new beginnings. Begin anew in us. Warm our hearts and rekindle our faith. Awaken us to dance with joy and sing Your praise as we gather to worship You. Renew our hope in what is possible, and breathe Your Spirit of life into us and Your world. Amen.

Hymn (373) "As Comes the Breath of Spring"

**1 As comes the breath of spring
with light and mirth and song,
so does your Spirit bring
new days brave, free, and strong.
You come with thrill of life
to chase hence winter's breath,
to hush to peace the strife
of sin that ends in death.**

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Prayer for Grace (join in if you like)
God of Love and Grace, as we continue on our Lenten journey we know there are times when the path is difficult and the way is uncertain. Our commitments feel like dry bones. We maintain structures, but we lack spirit. Breathe new life into each one of us, O God, and fill us with Your power for living and Your promise of new beginnings. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

The Spirit of God brings life and breath to us and to the world. We are God's people. Proclaim this good news. Amen.

Listening for God's Word

Hebrew Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14 K Liddle
(The vision of a valley of dry bones coming to life.)

Gospel Lesson John 11:1, 5-7, 17-27, 38-45
(Jesus raises Lazarus.)

Solo "How Great Thou Art" C Boberg
L Lazar, Soprano

Sermon "Opening Your Hearts" Rev. Cindy

Hymn (382) "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

1 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.

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2 Breathe on me, breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with thine,
to do and to endure.

Responding to God

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (join in if you like)
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,
and the power, and the glory.
For ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn (586) "We Shall Go Out with Hope..."

1 We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out,
from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs
of wrongs that can be righted;
we'll dream our dreams of hurts
that can be healed;
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.

2 **We'll give a voice
to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words for those
whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes
for those who sing no longer,
expressive love alive in every heart.
We'll share our joy
with those who still are weeping,
raise hymns of strength
for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,
including all in circles of our love.**

Commissioning and Benediction

May God bless you and keep you.
May God's face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you.
May God look upon you with kindness,
And give you peace.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of God's hand.
Numbers 6:24-26

Postlude "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
Charles C. Converse, arr. Jack Schrader

Thank you for joining in to listen to the Conference Call Worship Service today. We hope you found it meaningful. We are living through uncertain times and we pray this service brings a small sense of comfort and joy to your day.

Next Sunday, April 5th, is Palm Sunday. We thought we would celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. So we invite you when you call in, to have a piece of bread or cracker and a beverage, and together we will share the Lord's Supper.

On Friday, April 10th, at 11:00 a.m. we will have a Good Friday Conference Call Service.

Many thanks to B Kai for coordinating our Conference Call, to K Liddle for reading our scripture, and to K Quinton and L Lazar for inspiring us with their music.

God bless you, stay well, and we hope you tune in next week...same day, same time, same phone number.