Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church



Welcome to Worship at Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church!

Our faith community extends a warm welcome to all worshipping with us today and hopes that you will return often.

Welcoming All, Serving Christ, Transforming Lives

The Service for the Lord's Day; Third Sunday in Lent; March 7, 2021 Our vocalist today is Helen Ford.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS this Sunday are given by Laura & Kevin Jones to the glory of God and in honor of Ann Francisco Jones.

CHIMING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME Gerald Doyle

ANNOUNCEMENTS Gerald Doyle

PASSING OF THE PEACE

As you are seated, the right side of the sanctuary will turn to the left side of the sanctuary and share the ancient words of the church: "the peace of Christ be with you"

Then the left side of the sanctuary will turn while seated and respond: "And also with you."

PRELUDE Communion Morning Blake

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP Gerald Doyle, Liturgist

- L: Gather in sacred and faithful assembly
- P: We come in awe that God loves and cares for us.
- L: God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble.
- P: We rejoice in God, who supports us and guides us.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Gerald Doyle, Liturgist

Gracious God, whose power is made perfect in weakness, whose wisdom appears as foolishness in this world, we thank you for the scandal of the cross. In Jesus Christ, you overturn all our usual ways of behaving and believing. You scatter our false notions of discipleship as easily as coins are spilled from a box. You correct our notions of piety and order with fierce passion. Do not let your church become content or contained as an institution. Raze to ruins what is distorted in us, and raise us to new life as a community so that we may be the body of Christ in and for the world. With fear and joy we ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

HYMN #41

O Worship The King

1 O worship the King, all glorious above!
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love:
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
2 O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form;
and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.
3 The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your power has founded of old:

established it fast by a changeless decree, and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

4 Your bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air; it shines in the light; it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

5 Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail; your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Gerald Doyle, Liturgist

Despite all that God has taught us, we still act foolishly; we are still weak. In the cross of Christ, we find forgiveness and grace. We confess our sins, trusting in God's wisdom and strength rather than our own.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gerald Doyle, Liturgist

Holy and merciful God, we come in repentant humility seeking your forgiveness and grace. We confess that, at times, our worship is not genuine, but is full of empty rituals. You call us to deeds of mercy, yet we turn our backs on those in need. You empower us to work for justice, but we ignore the plight of those who suffer. Forgive us, O God, and help us to grow in humble service. AMEN

(Please take a moment of silence for personal confession and reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Gerald Doyle, Liturgist

Brothers and sisters, in Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and coming again, we are forgiven and set free to live in faithfulness with God and with one another! Thanks be to God!

CHORAL RESPONSE: HYMN #270 verse 1 O Lord, You are My God and King

O Lord, you are my God and King,

and I will ever bless your name;

I will extol you every day,

You, Lord, are greatly to be praised;

your greatness is beyond our thought;

all generations shall tell forth

and evermore your praise proclaim. the mighty wonders you have wrought.

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Gerald Doyle, Lector

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.' Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 13:1-9 David Gellert

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.' Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

SERMON The Last Domino Standing David Gellert

PROFESSION OF FAITH - Nicene Creed

I believe in one God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN #523

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart; verses 1-3

Chorus

You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat, Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

1.As when the shepherd calls his sheep, They know and heed his voice; So when You call Your family, Lord, We follow and rejoice. (Chorus) 2. With joyful lips we sing to You, Our praise and gratitude, That You should count us worthy Lord, To share this heavenly food. (Chorus)

3. Is not the cup we bless and share The blood of Christ outpoured? Do not one cup, one loaf, declare Our oneness in the Lord?

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Skip Wodke

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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE
WORDS OF INSTITUTION
PARTAKE OF THE ELEMENTS AS DIRECTED
PRAYER OF RESPONSE

David Gellert

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

Skip Wodke

O Lord our God, we want to follow all your commandments—to love only you, not worshiping the things of this world; to love our neighbor freely, not desiring for ourselves something they possess. Accept these offerings, we pray, and teach us to be generous, giving fully of ourselves that we may truly be the body of Christ in this world. Amen.

HYMN #523

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart; verses 4 - 5

Chorus 5. You give yourself to us, O Lord,

You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat,

Then selfless let us be,

Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

To serve each other in Your name

4. The mystery of Your presence Lord,

No mortal tongue can tell;

Whom all the world cannot contain

Comes in our hearts to dwell. (Chorus)

BENEDICTION David Gellert

In truth and charity.

POSTLUDE Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation arr. Turner