

Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, February 21, 2021 The 1st Sunday in Lent

Gathering

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

Rev. Sandra Hedrick

Opening Song

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.

Call to Worship

One: God meets us in the night All: before the sun rises,
before the wound heals,
before there are answers,
before there is closure.
One: God meets us in the light All: Where joy is effervescent,
where laughter is contagious,
where flowers bloom from cracks
in the sidewalk,
and where people gather around
the table.
One: God meets us at the threshold

One: God meets us at the threshold - **All: at the edge of the water,**

"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)" Katelyn Brodersen and Paige Brody

How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

My chains are gone, I've been set free my God, my Savior has ransomed me and like a flood His mercy reigns unending love, amazing grace.

Rev. Sandra Hedrick

at the beginning of the wilderness, at the start of something new, on the edge of faith.

One: And if God meets us in all those places, then surely God meets us in between -

All: staying with us through the wilderness.

One: We are not alone. God is all around.

All: Let us worship the God of the here and now.

Gathering Prayer

Colin Luttrell

Call to Confession

Lizzy Mee

One: Again and again, God meets us where we are. God's love knows no bounds, which is hard for us to understand and easy for us to forget. Therefore, in confession we remember together that we are not alone. And in a unified voice, we once again ask for God's grace in that holy reminder. Family of faith, please pray with me.

Lizzy Mee

One: God who meets us where we are - there is nowhere we can go that you are not.

All: You were with Jesus at his baptism. You were with him in the wilderness, and even in between, you were there, saying aloud, "This is my beloved."

One: We know that you are with us too - in the good, the bad, and everything in between - but so often we act like we are alone.

All: Instead of coming to you with our hurt, we hold it in or cast it onto others. Instead of coming to you with our joy, we credit ourselves and offer you nothing.

One: How can we long for a deeper relationship with you while living like you are nowhere to be found?

All: Forgive our self-centered ways.

Remind us that in every breath, in every step, you are there.

One: You are the God who meets us where we are.

One: Please continue in silent confession.... Amen.

We Are Forgiven!

Kylie Barnes

One: Family of faith, if you hear nothing else today, hear this: God is here. God sees you. God knows you. God meets you at the edge of every new beginning, and God calls you beloved.

All: We are washed by the water. We are called beloved. Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Special Music

"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)" Katelyn Brodersen and Paige Brody

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

My chains are gone, I've been set free

my God, my Savior has ransomed me and like a flood His mercy reigns unending love, amazing grace. (Repeat verse)

Word

A Time for Children

Rev. Sandra Hedrick

Scripture Reading

Mark 1:9-15

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In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Message "Again & Again, God Meets Us" Rev. Sandra Hedrick

Special Music

"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)" Katelyn Brodersen and Paige Brody

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine. But God who called me here below will be forever mine, will be forever mine.

My chains are gone, I've been set free my God, my Savior has ransomed me and like a flood His mercy reigns unending love, amazing grace.

Prayers and Offering

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

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.

Closing Song

Great is your faithfulness, O God. You wrestle with the sinner's heart. You lead us by still waters into mercy, and nothing can keep us apart.

Refrain
So remember your people,
remember your children,
remember your promise, O God.
Your grace is enough,
your grace is enough for me.

Great is your love and justice, God. You use the weak to lead the strong.

"Your Grace is Enough" Katelyn Brodersen and Paige Brody

You lead us in the song of your salvation, and all your people sing along. *Refrain*

Your grace is enough, your grace is enough, your grace is enough for me. *Refrain*

Your grace is enough, heaven reaching down to us. Your grace is enough for me.

God, I see your grace is enough; I'm covered in your love.
Your grace is enough for me, for me.

Sending

Charge and Blessing

Rev. Sandra Hedrick

On this day, and every day to come, again and again and again

remember: God is meeting you:

in the waters of new life in the change of the seasons in the wilderness places

when your heart is broken when angels wait on you

when you feel safe and loved when you believe in hope.

Now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

Announcements

Sermon Series - "Again & Again" is this year's theme for Lent at Kirkwood. Lent reminds us that brokenness finds us again and again. We doubt again, we lament again, we mess up again. Life is fragile, and everything keeps changing. Yet in the midst of it all, God offers us a sacred refrain: "I choose you, I love you, I will lead you to repair." Again and again, God breaks the cycle and offers us grace and a new way forward. Therefore, we have confidence that we can come to God as we are, and God will meet us again and lead us on the way to hope.

Wednesday Night Bible Study at 6:00 p.m. - All are welcome to our online Wednesday night Bible study. Each week we discuss the following Sunday's scripture or another seasonal selection. The discussion focuses on questions the scripture raises for us. This week's passage will be Mark 8:31-9:8.

Spanish Bible Study - Spanish Bible Study continues this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. We will study 2 Corinthians 5:19, It depends on you.

El estudio bíblico en español continúa este miércoles a las 7:00 p.m. Estudiaremos 2 Corintios 5:19, Depende de ti.

The Zoom link will be sent to those wishing to participate. Please contact Yvette Grant at 904.881.3289 or at clgygcj2@yahoo.comif you wish to participate.

Stewardship Season - Our 2021 Stewardship Season begins today, the First Sunday in Lent, and continues through Palm Sunday, March 28. More information is coming soon.

Presbyterian Women - Our next Presbyterian Women's meeting will be on Zoom on Monday, March 1 at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend!

Gifts of Women Sunday March 7 - We want as many ladies as possible (all ages) to be a part of this day. If you are willing to lead in person or by Zoom, please text Kathy Stanley at 904.302.9030.

Financial Giving - Because we believe that in Jesus Christ, God's time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is near (Mark 1:15), we respond in tangible ways. You may place your offering in the offering plate at the back of the church, drop off a check at the office, put it in the mail, or use our online giving portal that can be accessed <u>here</u>.

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