

Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, February 28, 2021 The 2nd Sunday in Lent

Gathering

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

Rev. Sandra Hedrick

Prelude

Glory to God Hymnal #392

"Jesus, We Are Here"

Jesus, we are here; Jesus, we are here;

Teacher, we are here ...

Jesus, we are here; we are here for you.

Spirit, we are here ...

Savior, we are here ...

Call to Worship (based on Mark 8:22-30)

Rev. Sandra Hedrick

One: Mark tells us that after Jesus restored a blind man's sight, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him...

All: John the Baptist; and others Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.

One: Jesus asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him...

All: You are the Messiah! One: Let us worship God!

Gathering Prayer

Allen Shemetulskis

Call to Confession

Allen Shemetulskis

One: Often the first step to change is listening - listening to God listening to those we've hurt and listening to our own hearts.

So today as we begin our prayer of confession - we will start with a moment of silence, a moment to listen.

And then we will pray together trusting that God is listening and that God's ears listen with love.

So let us confess, silently and then together...

[Period of silent confession ending with "Listening God..."]

Prayer of Confession

Allen Shemetulskis

One: Listening God...

All: Take what is closed in us and open it. Take what is distracted and settle it.

Take what is hurting and hold it.

Take away anything that creates distance from you.

For we are like Peter, O God.

We argue what we don't know.

We fear what we cannot see.

And we almost always speak sooner than we listen.

So open us, settle us, hold us, and forgive us.

We long to hear you more clearly.

We long to know you more fully.

With gratitude we pray, Amen.

We Are Forgiven!

Allen Shemetulskis

One: Friends in Christ, No matter what we have done or what we have left undone, we are held in God's hand. So rest in this good news: All: God meets us where we are. God hears our prayers. God forgives us.

One: Thanks be to God for a love like that!

Word

A Time for Children

Rev. Sandra Hedrick

First Scripture Reading

Mark 8:31-9:1

Mike Brodersen

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

Message "Again & Again, We Are Called to Listen"

Rev. Sandra Hedrick

Affirmation of Faith (Philippians 2:5-11)

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above very name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

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.

Sending

Charge and Blessing

Rev. Sandra Hedrick

Postlude Glory to God Hymnal #450 v. 1, 3, & 4

"Be Thou My Vision"

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art; Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; thou, mine inheritance, now and always; Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art. High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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. The discussion focuses on questions the scripture raises for us. This week's passage will be announced in the email reminder sent on Wednesday morning.

Spanish Bible Study - Spanish Bible Study continues this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. We will study Psalm 92:1-2,4; Joy in praise.

El estudio bíblico en español continúa este miércoles a las 7:00 p.m. Estudiaremos salmos 92:1-2,4; Gozo en la alabanza.

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

Stewardship Season - Our 2021 Stewardship Season began on February 21 and continues through Palm Sunday, March 28. More information is coming soon.

Presbyterian Women - The next meeting is 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 leading worship next Sunday. If you are willing to lead in person or by Zoom, please text Kathy Stanley at 904.302.9030.

Youth Breakfast on March 14 (The Day We Turn Our Clocks Forward) - A Kirkwood tradition is our youth-provided and served breakfast on the day that Daylight Saving Time returns! The breakfast bar will open at 9:00 a.m.

Financial Giving - "God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 7:7b) 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>.

Thank you to Kathy Stanley for playing the piano this morning. Songs credits: "Jesus, We Are Here" – Patrick Matsikenyiri © 1990, 1996, General Board of Global Ministries, One License #735833-A; "Be Thou My Vision" - David Evans, Eleanor Henrietta Hull, and Mary Elizabeth Byrne © Words: Public Domain, Music: Oxford University Press, CCLI License # 11509317. For the art and some of the liturgy, we give credit to The Revs. Lauren Wright Pittman & Lisle Gwynn Garrity, and A Sanctified Art LLC/sanctifiedart.org.