

COLUMBIA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

February 21, 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

THE PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, all you people, come and worship.

People: **God has made a covenant with us.**

Leader: Come, all creatures of the earth, come and worship.

People: **God has made a covenant with all creatures.**

ALL: Remember the covenant and be thankful. God remembers the covenant and God will save us.

HYMN OF PRAISE # 31 NCH “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Refrain:

*All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.*

the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky; [Refrain]

1 Each little flow’r that opens,
each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors,
God made their tiny wings. [Refrain]

3 The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
God made them, ev’ry one. [Refrain]

2 The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,

4 God gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well.
[Refrain]

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Faithful God, You called all creatures into being, and You care for each one. As we begin our Lenten journey, send Your grace upon Your people gathered here, that we may follow Your ways of truth, and walk in the paths of steadfast love, proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ. Hear us as we pray those words given by Jesus...

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sins)

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 sins as we forgive those who sin
against us. 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.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 9: 8-17

9:8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 9:9 "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, 9:10 and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. 9:11 I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." 9:12 God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: 9:13 I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. 9:14 When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, 9:15 I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. 9:16 When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." 9:17 God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

New Testament Reading: Mark 1: 9-15

1:9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 1:10 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. 1:11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." 1:12 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. 1:13 He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. 1:14

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, 1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

SERMON Rev. MaryAnn Purtil

HYMN # 403 NCH “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

1 My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' love and righteousness;
I dare not trust this earthly frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.*

2 When shadows veil my Savior's
face,
I rest upon unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.
[Refrain]

3 Christ's oath and covenant and
blood
support me in the rising flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
Christ then is all my hope and stay.
[Refrain]

4 When Christ shall come with
trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in Love be found,
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.
[Refrain]

WE RESPOND TO GOD

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER

SUFFICIENTLY BLESSED LET US BE A BLESSING IN RETURN

OFFERTORY

Invitation to the Offering (in unison)

Just as God fulfills God's promises to each of us, let us each make our promise to God that we might fulfill our role as Christians.

A SILENT PROMISE OF OFFERING IS MADE

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

WE PREPARE TO GO TO THE WORLD

HYMN # 391 NCH “In The Midst of New Dimensions” vs 1-4

In the midst of new dimensions, in the
face of changing ways. Who will lead
the pilgrim peoples wandering in their
separate ways?

[Refrain] *God of rainbow, fiery
pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now
and ever, now and ever, now and ever
more.*

Through the flood of starving people,
warring factions and despair, who will
lift the olive branches? Who will light
the flame of care?

[Refrain]

As we stand a world divided by our
own self-seeking schemes, Grant that
we, your global village might
envision wider dreams

[Refrain]

We are man and we are woman, all
persuasions, old and young, each a
gift in your creation, each a love song
to be sung.

[Refrain]

BENEDICTION (IN UNISON)

We have received the Spirit.
We are blessed by God.
Believe the gospel.
Proclaim the good news.

WE CARRY THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

THE POSTLUDE

The end of worship is the beginning of our service to God.
Go forth and serve God gladly.