

# Shine God's Light

As disciples of Christ, we share and rejoice in the warmth of God's love and light by teaching the holy word, serving Christ's community, and growing together in faith.



March 3, 2024 Third Sunday in Lent

## The Service for the Lord's Day

Third Sunday in Lent
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

March 3, 2024 9:30 am

Prelude Sonata in F Major Georg Telemann

(Vivace, Largo and Allegro) My Song Is Love Unknown

My Song Is Love Unknown Larry Shackley

Margaret Sheneman, flute

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 19)

One: If you ask the sky who God is,

All: the sky will tell you of God's reach.

One: If you ask the day who God is,

All: the sun will tell you of God's warmth.

One: If you ask the night who God is,

All: the moon will tell you of God's comfort.

One: "The heavens are telling the glory of God." Are you listening?

All: We are listening! We will sing of God's glory. Let us worship Holy God.

\*Hymn How Firm a Foundation No. 463 (stanzas 1, 2 and 5)

## **Prayer of Confession**

One: Holy God, some days, we are quick to declare your goodness. Like Peter, we see you in our midst and we are confident in our faith. Other days, we are distracted and uncertain, desperate for answers.

All: Forgive us for losing sight of you.

One: Some days we are quick to trust your blessings —

All: trusting that we are called, that we can make a difference.

One: Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in.

All: Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.

One: We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith; but for the days when we are far from you and far from ourselves, we ask for your tender grace.

All: Pull us closer toward you. Remind us of the mountaintop moments of our faith.

Amen.

## Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

\*Passing the Peace

(Please check first with those you approach)

Welcome and Announcements

Children's Message

Children's offering will be collected as they come forward for the message. After the message, children and youth may depart for Sunday School or return to their pew.

Prayer for Illumination

Steve Lederach

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 19: 1-10, 14 (page 433)

Anthem

In the Seasons of Our Silence

Sandra T. Ford

In the seasons of our silence, in our darkness, in our day, gracious Savior as you promised, you are never far away. Neither life, nor death can part us, earth below, nor stars above; nothing in this world divide us from your everlasting love. In the kindness of a stranger, in the comfort of a friend, in the closeness of a family, there is love that knows no end. For the silver thread that binds us to these lives we've touched and known, binds us also to your keeping, for by grace we are your own. As the Pulse of All Creation guides a sparrow on its flight, Living Spirit ever present, guide our journey to the light. Through the shadows of our seeking, help each heart to be aware that your peace is all around us and each soul is in your care.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:13-20 (page 798)

Sermon

Praise the Mount

Rev. Amy Lincoln

\*Affirmation of Faith

One: Jesus asked the disciples, "But what about you? Who do you say that I am?" Church, what do you say?

All: Jesus is a hand reaching out in the storm, the voice of truth spoken over us, and love without walls. Jesus is justice for the weary, healing for the hurt, and welcome for the stranger. Jesus is teacher, Messiah, and friend — with me on the mountain and beside me in the valley. Jesus is a star in the night and the love that knows my name.

One: Jesus asked, "Who do you say that I am?"

All: Like Peter, we say, "Jesus, you are the Messiah, son of the Living God."

#### Offering

We invite you to consider giving out of gratitude to God after worship today either by placing your offering in the wooden box hanging on the wall at each exit, scanning the QR code in your pew and/or giving online through the church website at www.flemingtonpres.org, or mailing a check to the church office at 10 East Main Street, Flemington, NJ 08822. We give thanks for your generosity, allowing our mission and ministry together to continue.

### Prayer of Dedication

\*Doxology No. 607

Praise God from whom all blessings flow: praise Christ all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

Anthem Come to the Table of the Lord Patrick M. Liebergen Come, eat the bread at the table of the Lord; the bread of life shall set you free. Come, drink the cup at the table of the Lord; now He lives! Proclaim the victory! As prophets long ago foretold, the Son of God we now behold; he came to earth from God above, the King of love. He gave his life at Calvary, He died for me! My Savior lives eternally! Come, Christians, come to the table of the Lord; be with him in his loving care.

#### The Sacrament of Communion

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup

It is our common practice to hold onto the elements until all have received them and then to partake of them together at the direction of the pastor.

## Prayer after Communion

Loving God, you promise to meet us where we are and to provide the soul food we need to thrive. We are grateful that in this shared meal we meet you and are nourished for our journey. Renew our faith so that as we are sent out into the world, we will help to shine your light for those seeking hope. We thank you and praise you for your loving care. Amen.

\*Hymn For the Bread Which You Have Broken No. 516

\*Charge and Benediction

Response Peace Go With You Douglas Nolan May the peace of the Lord bring joy, love, comfort, hope, rest and life. May the peace of the Lord surround you. Amen.

Postlude Giqa (Sonata in F Major) G. F. Handel

Rev. Amy E. S. Lincoln, Pastor

Cindy Hall, Office Manager

J. Jay Smith, Director of Music/Organist

Margaret Sheneman, Director of Handbells

Jennifer Miller, Youth Coordinator

Marion Barry, Sexton

Connor Runk, audio/video engineer

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