



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,
servicing Christ's community, and
growing together in faith.



March 17, 2024
Fifth Sunday in Lent

The Service for the Lord's Day

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March 17, 2024

9:30 am

Prelude

Prelude on "Rhosymedre"
Intermezzo on an Irish Air

Ralph Vaughan Williams
C. V. Stanford

Call to Worship

One: Why are you here?

All: I am seeking God with my whole heart, with my entire mind, with a fire burning in my bones.

One: I see it! You're in the right place! This is God's house. The door is open to you.

All: Why are *you* here?

One: I am seeking God with my whole heart, with my entire mind, with a fire burning in my bones.

All: We see that in you! You're in the right place. This is God's house. The door is open to you.

One: Let us worship God.

All: Let us learn from the Spirit. Amen!

*Hymn

My Song Is Love Unknown
(stanzas 1, 2 and 5)

No. 209

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Holy God, we long to be lifelong learners. We long to approach you with curiosity and an open mind. Instead, we often live as if we know best. We forget that the disciples called you "Rabbi, Teacher." Forgive us for the times when we fail to be curious. Forgive us for the times when we assume we know best. Forgive us for the moments when we imagine that our learning is done and that we have all the answers. Like Peter — who was brave enough to ask, "How many times should we forgive?" — make us brave. Spark a desire in us to learn, and may our curiosity carry our faith into deeper waters. With hope and humility we pray, 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

Anthem

Celtic Grace
Joyful Ringers

Susan Geschke

Children's Message

Jennifer Miller

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

Hubert King

Old Testament Reading Psalm 119:9–16 (page 493)

Anthem *No Hands But Yours* J. Jerome Williams
Christ has no body now on earth but yours: no hands but yours: no feet but yours: Christ has no body now on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which to look out Christ's compassion to the world. Yours are the feet on which he is to go about doing good. And yours are the hands with which he is to bless us now.

Gospel Reading Matthew 18:15–22 (page 799)

Sermon *Teach Me* Rev. Amy Lincoln

*Affirmation of Faith

One: We believe that questions are a building block of faith.
All: "How many times should I forgive?" "Jesus, where are you going?" "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

One: We believe that humble curiosity can open our eyes.
All: "Where does it hurt?" "What do you need?" "How can I help?"

One: We believe that God is a teacher.
All: "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." "Here I am." "Send me."

One: We believe that faith invites our whole being to engage,
All: with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our strength.

One: We believe. Help our unbelief.
All: In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

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.**

Prayers of the People and 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.

*Hymn *What Wondrous Love Is This* No. 215

*Charge and Benediction

Response *A Blessing of Grace* Mark Patterson
May God be gracious unto you and bless you. May God's face shine down upon you. May God give you grace, may God give you peace, may God's love go with you forever. May God be gracious unto you. Amen.

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Margaret Sheneman, Director of Handbells
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