



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
KIRKWOOD

WELCOME TO WORSHIP
March 19, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.
The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mission: We are called to be a welcoming and supportive community whose inspiring worship of God encourages everyone to deepen their faith and to respond to the needs of the world with the compassion of Christ.



The Way of
Compassion

ORDER OF WORSHIP

_____ *All who are able, please stand. _____

Chiming of the Hour

We encourage you to quiet your minds and hearts for worship at this time.

Welcome and Announcements

Sign the Friendship Register at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor.

Organ Voluntary

"In Heavenly Love Abiding"

Carolyn Hamlin

WE ADDRESS OURSELVES TO GOD

*Call to Worship

Leader: When the world divides us,

People: Come, Holy Spirit, make us one.

Leader: When the world calls us personalities,

People: Come, Holy Spirit, make us community.

Leader: When the world leads us astray,

People: Come, Holy Spirit, call us home.

Leader: When the world exhausts and confuses us,

All: Come, Holy Spirit, overwhelm us with God's grace!

***Processional Hymn** "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples" Hymn #757

*Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Grace-giving God, for being so proud, so smart, so able, that we forget how to be humble, how to learn, and how to seek help; for being so smug, so anxious, so mean, that we forget we are not always right, or in control, or good; for being less than what you created us to be – forgive us, Holy One. Forgive us and grace us, and point us always in the way of Jesus, whom we follow.....

*Assurance of God's Grace

*Silent Confessions

***Congregational Response** "You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy" Hymn #437

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

You are the Christ, giver of mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

***The Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share that peace with one another.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading Jeremiah 30.12-17a; Pew Bible, O.T., pg. 733

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn - Psalm 23 "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" Hymn #802

Stanzas 1, 2, 3, and 6 sung by all

Stanza 4 sung by low voices; Stanza 5 sung by high voices

Scripture Reading Luke 14.1-6; Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 77

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *The Way of Compassion* The Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn** "God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us" Hymn #436

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

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.

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Anthem "I Choose You" Deborah Govenor

When I am weak and heavy laden, Christ comes to me and I can hear Him say,

"Lean on me, I am your refuge. Trust in me and do not be afraid.

I choose you to be My beloved, I choose you to be My joy.

I choose you to live with Me forever. I choose you."

When days are dark and nights seem endless; when I am lost and cannot find my way,

Christ is my light, my hope, my comfort, I call on Him and then I hear Him say,

"I choose you to be My beloved, I choose you to be My joy.

I choose you to live with Me forever, I choose you."

Prayer of Dedication

WE DEPART TO SERVE THE LORD

***Closing Hymn** "Help Us Accept Each Other" Hymn #754

***Benediction**

Choral Response "Amen" John Stainer

Organ Voluntary "In Paradisum" Ghislaine Reece-Trapp

We continue our observance of Women's History Month by highlighting women that have composed sacred music. Our organ voluntaries today were written by Carolyn Hamlin, composer and organist from South Carolina. She has been an organist for over 50 years. Ghislaine Reece-Trapp, a fellow of the Royal College of Organists in the UK, has won several prestigious awards and positions and is just 31 years old.

She is an active recitalist and composer and was presented to the late Queen Elizabeth II at the age of 22 in recognition for her work as an organist and musician.

The Offertory Anthem was penned by American composer Deborah Govenor, who lives and works in Maine. Deborah is an active organist, and also plays the dulcimer, Celtic harp, and psaltery.

Worship Leaders:

Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz, *Interim Senior Pastor*
Rev. Linda Maconochie, *Interim Associate Pastor*

Music Ministry:

Bill Stein, *Director of Music Ministries*
Avi Mazzeo, *Choir Assistant*
Mark Pye, *oboe; Chancel Choir*

Cross Bearer:

Henry Meyer

Ushers:

Missy Wulff, John Becker, Amy Freshwater, Dennis Holt
Bob Schneider and Art McDonnell, *Assistant Usher Captains*
Larry Erwin, *Usher Captain*

Livestream Host:

Frank Darr
