

MORNING WORSHIP

February 28, 2021

Half past Ten O'Clock

Second Sunday in Lent GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

TIME OF MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

WELCOME AND NOTICES

INTROIT

"My Song is Love Unknown"
Selwyn Quartet

LOVE UNKNOWN

DiAnne Cordell, soprano; Julie Harris, alto; Ivey Cherry, baritone; Ed Thomas, bass

CALL TO WORSHIP

Genesis 1:1-2

Leader: Come with your questions, come with awe!

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

People: For the God who broods over the chaos meets us in this place.

Leader: Come with your energy, come with your weariness!

The earth was without shape and empty. Darkness was over the surface of the watery deep.

People: For the God who breathes new life into the dust meets us in this place.

Leader: Come with your sadness, come with your joy!

Yet, the Spirit of God moved over the surface of the water.

People: For the God who dared to become human meets us in this place.

*HYMN

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

SOLID ROCK

**My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest 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.**

**When darkness seems to hide His face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.**

Refrain

**When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found,
dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.**

Refrain

CALL TO CONFESSION

God is gracious and merciful and knows our needs even before they reach our lips. Still, we engage in confession, admitting to God all that rests uneasily in our hearts. Confident of God's love, let us confess before God and one another.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy God, forgive us for our weariness and lack of understanding. This is really hard. It is difficult to wear masks, avoid public gatherings, and to spend so much time watching screens. We're losing patience, hope, focus and faith. We're caught between the selfishness of wanting to do whatever we want without regard for others, and wanting to be helpful and generous. Please help us. Help us to lean on You and one another when things get hard and we feel overwhelmed or depressed. Help us to be Your people in these strange days. Melt our hardened hearts. Remind us each day, this Lenten journey leads through the cross toward a life of resurrection and eternal life. This we pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 6:47-56

SERMON

"Take Heart"

Lori Archer Raible

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN

"Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult"

GALILEE

**Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day His sweet voice soundeth saying, "Christian, follow me."**

**In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still He calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."**

**Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior, may we hearty call,
give our hearts to Thine obedience, serve and love Thee best of all.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

Text to Give

704-734-9818

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"What Wondrous Love is This"
Selwyn Quartet

arr. P. Christiansen

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

**God of goodness and mercy, gentleness and kindness, righteousness and faithfulness:
be the light of our salvation and sustain our souls. We offer the daily tasks of our lives to You,
for we accomplish nothing without Your grace. We seek Your will, that we should love You and
our neighbors, and even our enemies, as ourselves. Renew and transform us by Your steadfast
love. May these offerings of our time, talent and treasure be multiplied for
the exhibition of Your Reign on Earth. Amen.**

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

For those worshipping in the Sanctuary, please be seated after the Benediction until after the Postlude ends. Then, take caution to maintain social distance as you exit the Narthex.

*Those who are able please stand.