



Pilgrim Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
First Sunday of Lent  
February 21, 2021

Music streamed in today's service

Song Without Words Op 85 No 1 - Felix Mendelssohn  
Lord Who Throughout - PH#153  
Anthem  
Guide Me - NCH#18  
Won't You Let me Be your Servant - NCH#539  
Sonata in C: Allegro - Franz Joseph Haydn

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***Today's service will be recorded.***

Image: Kramskoi, Ivan Nikolaevich, 1837-1887 . Study for Christ in the Wilderness, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.  
<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54213> [retrieved February 17, 2021]. Original source:  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/duckmarx/402675938/>.

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Prelude

Song Without Words Op 85 No 1

Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome and Announcements

Sarah Fuller

Call to Worship

From water to wilderness:

**God's covenant continues;**

**God's kingdom comes near.**

On stone and in hearts:

**God's covenant continues;**

**God's reign comes near.**

From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up:

**God's covenant continues;**

**God's kingdom comes near.**

We follow Jesus on the Lenten path,  
for where he is, we would be also.

# Opening Hymn Lord Who Throughout - Pilgrim Hymnal #153

1 Lord, who throughout these forty days  
For us didst fast and pray,  
Teach us with thee to mourn our sins,  
And close by thee to stay.

2 As thou with Satan didst contend,  
And didst the victory win,  
O give us strength in thee to fight,  
In thee to conquer sin.

3 And through these days of penitence,  
And through thy passion tide,  
Yea, evermore, in life and death,  
Jesus! With us abide.

4 Abide with us, that so, this life  
Of suffering over past,  
An Easter of unending joy  
We may attain at last! A-men.

**Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days** **153**

*Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838-1898* ST. FLAVIAN C.M.  
"Day's Psalter," 1562

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days'. It features two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system contains the first two verses of the hymn, and the second system contains the last two verses. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words in all caps and some in lowercase. The music is in 4/4 time and has a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days For us didst fast and pray,  
2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con - tend, And didst the vic - tory win,  
3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, And through thy pas - sion - tide,  
4 A - bide with us, that so, this life Of suf - fer - ing o - ver - past,

Teach us with thee to mourn our sins, And close by thee to stay.  
O give us strength in thee to fight, In thee to con - quer sin.  
Yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bide.  
An East - er of un - end - ing joy We may at - tain at last! A - men.

## Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, we begin this Lenten season in confession.

We do not live according to your ways, but according to our own.

We condone violence, participate in systems of injustice, treasure prosperity, and use power to our own advantage at the expense of others. Forgive us, we pray, when we are tempted to follow paths other than those you set before us. Teach us your commandments; help us to turn from evil in its many guises, and turn us toward your realm drawing near. Amen.

## Assurance of Grace

## Prayer of Illumination

Gracious God, in rushing waters and in dry wilderness, in every season and circumstance, we need your sustaining word. By the power of your Holy Spirit, proclaim the good news among us today so that we may repent and believe and see anew how the time is fulfilled and your kingdom has come near. Amen.

## Scripture Reading - Mark 1:9-15

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

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. 11 And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

12 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. 13 He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God,

15 and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

Children's Message

Sarah Fuller

Anthem

Sermon

Rev. Reebee Girash

# Response Hymn **Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer** NCH #18

1 Guide me, O my great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,  
feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain, where the healing waters flow.  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, ever be my strength and shield,  
ever be my strength and shield.

3 When I reach the River Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on heaven's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever sing to you,  
I will ever sing to you.

18

## Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

Exod. 13:21; 16:4; 17:6; Ps. 105:39-44; Rev. 22:1-2

William Williams, 1745

St. 1, transl. Peter Williams, 1771; alt.

St. 2-3, transl. William Williams, 1772; alt.

1 Guide me, O my great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, where the heal - ing  
3 When I reach the Riv - er Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but you are might - y;  
wa - ters flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar  
fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with your power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,  
land me safe on heav - en's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.  
ev - er be my strength and shield, ev - er be my strength and shield.  
I will ev - er sing to you, I will ev - er sing to you.

Passing the Peace

Rev. Reebee Girash

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father (Creator), 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.**

Invitation to the Offering

Sarah Fuller

Offertory

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Doxology (#515 Red)

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

Prayer of Dedication

God of steadfast love and faithfulness, we are humbled as we try to do what is right and to walk in your ways. Receive, we ask, these offerings, and use them for your own good purposes in the church and in all creation. We pray in Jesus Christ. Amen.



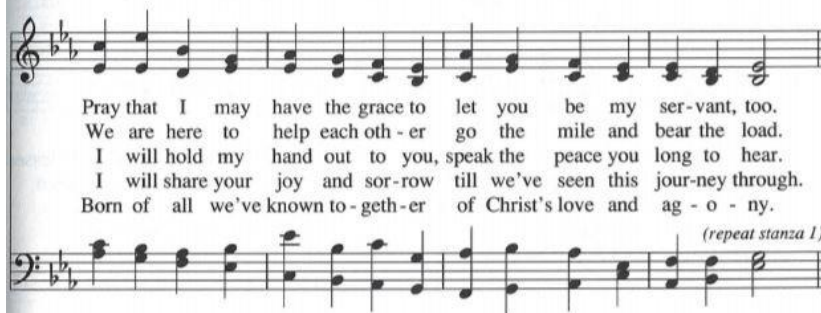
- 1 Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.
- 2 We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travelers on the road;  
We are here to help each other go the mile and bear the load.
- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shadow of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony,  
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.
- 6 Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

**Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?**

539

*Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.**Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-29*


1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser- vant, let me be as Christ to you?  
2 We are pil - grims on a jour-ney, we are trav - elers on the road;  
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;  
4 I will weep when you are weep-ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.  
5 When we sing to God in heav-en we shall find such har - mo - ny,



Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser- vant, too.  
We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.  
I will share your joy and sor-row till we've seen this jour-ney through.  
Born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

*(repeat stanza 1)*

## Benediction

Rev Reebee Girash

+  
Marked by a cross,  
cherished and forgiven  
We are traveling home.

Called to be holy,  
called to be whole  
We are traveling home.

Across deserts,  
over mountains,  
We are traveling home.

God in our hearts,  
God in our lives,  
We are traveling home.

Source Notes: Many of the prayers today are from *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Year B, Volume 1*. The Benediction is adapted from one by written by Ruth Burgess. Included in *Traveling to Easter with Jesus as our Guide*, posted on the website of Patmos Abbey—The Order of Saint Columba.  
<http://www.patmosabbey.org/>