

Pilgrim Congregational Church United Church of Christ April 3, 2022

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

This Lent, our theme is Creation Care, Climate Justice, and the Renewal of the Earth.

In the words of Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light:

As people of faith, we begin with love. We see the earth not simply as an elegant mechanism, but as a miracle of creation.

We see people not only as producers, workers, and consumers, but as unique and precious souls.

We see ecological healing and environmental justice as our sacred responsibility.

MUSIC STREAMED IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Prelude Christ lag in Todesbanden ("Christ lay in death's bond") – Johann Heinrich Buttstedt Hymn – Be Known to Us PH 281

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Today's service will be recorded.

Service of Worship – April 3, 2022 THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

PRELUDE

Christ lag in Todesbaden ("Christ lay in death's bond") Johann Heinrich Buttstedt

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Reebee Girash

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Ed Bond

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 107)

Ed Bond

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: Let the redeemed of the Lord tell our story –

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: God has gathered us from east and west, from north and south.

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

OPENING PRAYER

Ed Bond

Eternal God, we come to you with hungry hearts, waiting to be filled: waiting to be filled with a sense of your presence; waiting to be filled with the touch of your spirit; waiting to be filled with new energy for service. Come to us, we pray.

Be with us. Touch us.

Empower us as your people that we might worship you here and act in the world for Jesus' sake. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 7:1-10

After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. ²A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly, and who was ill and close to death. ³When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. ⁴When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy of having you do this for him, ⁵for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us." ⁶And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; ⁷therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. ⁸For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it." ⁹When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." ¹⁰When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

One: Here ends the reading. Hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

"Go Down Moses" - African American Spiritual

Rev. Reebee Girash

ANTHEM

SERMON

RESPONSE HYMN

- 1. O love, how deep, how broad, how passing thought and fantasy, That God, the Son of God, should take Our mortal form for mortals' sake.
- 2. For us baptized, for us he bore His holy fast, and hungered sore; For us temptations sharp he knew; For us the tempter over threw.
- 3. For us he prayed, for us he taught, For us his daily works he wrought, By words and signs and actions, thus Still seeking not himself but us.
- 4. For us to wicked men betrayed, Scourged, mocked in purple robe arrayed, He bore the shameful cross and death; For us gave up his dying breath. Amen.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Reebee Girash

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Reebee Girash

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING Rev. Reebee Girash

Today, Pilgrim will collect to support One Great Hour of Sharing, one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries. When we serve our neighbors, near or far, we serve God. OGHS on your cash, check, or online donation, and thank you.

Love Remains: One Great Hour of Sharing Video

OFFERTORY

Rivers in the Desert (Psalm 126) Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

DOXOLOGY

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) 515

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

or

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

God, our Creator, through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our deep thanks and our concern for those in need, including our fellow creatures on planet Earth.

HYMN

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) 280



The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Our service of communion is open to all who wish to participate. The sacrament is a gift from God, and all are welcome to receive it.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and follow in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

THE 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

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

COMMUNION PRAYER

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Please hold the bread and juice until all have been served. We will receive them together.

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

BENEDICTION Rev. Reebee Girash

Vater Unser im Himmelreich POSTLUDE

("Our Father in Heaven") Dietrich Buxtehude variation I & IV

*Please be in a posture of praise.

A special thank you to **Ed Bond** for being our liturgist today and to **Nick Zorn** who is our Zoom host.

SOURCE NOTES: The Opening Prayer and the Prayer of Confession are from the Book of Worship of the United Church of Christ. The Prayer of Dedication is from Season of Creation

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Sunday Worship 10:30 am