

MAUMEE VALLEY PRESBYTERY

(NW OHIO & SE MICHIGAN)



Lenten Service 2021
for General Use

GATHERING

WELCOME FROM MAUMEE VALLEY

Rev. Dr. Matt Meinke, General Presbyter

CALL TO WORSHIP – Psalm 130:1-2, 5-6

Rev. Katie and Bill Treadway/FPC Tiffin, OH

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

HYMN – Bless the Lord My Soul (*Taizé*)

Francisco Fernandez/FPC Tecumseh, MI

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

Bill Treadway

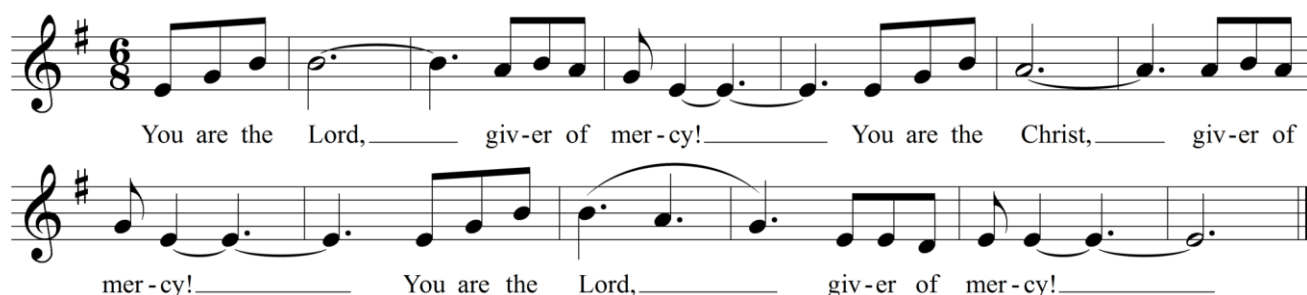
God of steadfast love, bring new life to our communities. We are eager to hear your voice and be filled with your Spirit. Come from the four winds, O Breath, and bring vitality and purpose as we gather in your name, that we might be energized and encouraged. Hear our voices, lifted in praise and crying out from our need. Be attentive to our supplications, lest we die apart from you. Only you can unbind us and set us free. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Katie and Bill Treadway

PRAYER OF CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Out of the depths we cry to you, O God. Hear our prayers, the confession of our neglect, the admission of our desire to rule in your place. We are like dead people, going through the motions of living. We cry out for forgiveness and a new start. We long to know you and to live in reverence before you. By your steadfast love, redeem us from our iniquities and raise us up to serve you, in Jesus' name.



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WAYFARING STRANGER

CCLI # 11141995, Maumee Valley Presbytery

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we were called as members of a single body.
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON - Lazarus

Rev. Lanie Sipes/Christ Presbyterian Church, Toledo

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Cathi King, FPC Tecumseh

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Ezekiel 37:1-14

Rev. Cathy Johnson, CPC Toledo

NEW TESTAMENT READING - John 11:17-27

Dr. Matt Meinke

SERMON – Walking Through Graveyards: A conversation with scripture, with Cathy, Matt, and Cathi

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, PCUSA

Rev. Cathy Johnson

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ the Church....In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,...and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus".

HYMN – Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Francisco Fernandez

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD Lisseth Calan, FPC Defiance & MVP Mission Partners in Mexico

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.**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Dr. Matt Meinke

POSTLUDE – J.S. Bach: *Prelude and Fugue in g minor, BWV 558*

Clinton Miller, FPC Findlay, OH



This Service for Lent 2021 was a collaboration of many churches within Maumee Valley Presbytery, which covers NW Ohio and SE Michigan. It is also a part of the Synod of the Covenant Lent/Easter 2021 offerings to churches. We hope it has helped the Synod feel like a small place, drawing us together in God's Spirit.