

Leading Worship This Evening

Leslie Anderson CRE, Minister at Pioneer Parish

Rev. Brett M. Foote, Minister at United Presbyterian Church

Jane Wester, Director of Vocal and Handbell Choirs at United Presbyterian Church

Chancel Choir - United Presbyterian Church

Joyful Noise Choir - Pioneer Parish

Jim Willmore RE, Technology Committee of United Presbyterian Church

Alex Sandor, Organist & Pianist at United Presbyterian Church

Cover Art

don't look up

by Rev. T. Denise Anderson [Former Co-moderator of the PC(USA)]

Inspired by Isaiah 58:1-12

Oil on canvas



Joint Congregational Service

United Presbyterian Church
& Pioneer Parish

Ash Wednesday Service

February 22nd, 2023

6:30 PM

If the text is bolded, everyone is invited to say the words in unison.

* Please rise in body or spirit

**PRELUDE
WELCOME**

**Alex Sandor
Rev. Brett M Foote**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Adapted from Joel 2:1, 12-16)

Leslie Anderson, CRE

One: Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a feast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people.

All: Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged and the young, men and women, all who rejoice and all who grieve.

One: "Even now," says the Holy One, "return to me with weeping and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your garments."

All: We will return to the Holy One, our God, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

***HYMN What Wondrous Love Is This #215**

RESPONSIVE READING FROM THE PSALMS

***Psalms 32* Jane Wester**

One: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

All: While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah*

One: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah*

All: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. *Selah*

One: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

All: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

One: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous ones!

All: Shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

EXPERIENCING THE BEAUTY OF GOD THROUGH ART

***Penumbrae* by John UpDike**

Rev. Brett M Foote

**AN INVITATION TO THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE
INCLUDING A TIME FOR SILENCE, CONFESSION AND
PERSONAL REFLECTION**

(You are invited to take this time for your own reflection—what hinders your relationship with God? What obstacles keep you from being the person God calls you to be? What are those things you could fast from or take on in this season that would fundamentally change you or your neighbor's physical and spiritual life?)

***HYMN & IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

I Refuse To Be Comforted Easily

#77B

(All who would like to receive the imposition of ashes may come forward up the center aisle in two lines to receive the ashes or a blessing. You may receive your ashes in two different ways: on the hand by outstretching it or on your forehead by doing nothing. You may receive only the words by crossing your arms in front of yourself.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: If we say we have no sin, we are lying to ourselves. But when we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us all sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. This God does, because each and every human is created in the image of God. Witness and believe the good news of the gospel: Because of Christ's birth, life, death and resurrection...

All: We are all forgiven, Amen.

UPC CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM

Lenten Meditation

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament Readings
New Testament Readings

Rev. Brett M Foote
Psalm 51, Isaiah 58:1-12
Matthew 6:1-6

HOMILY

Leslie Anderson, CRE

***HYMN** **Shepherd Me O God** **#23H**
Congregation sing refrain after each verse

Offering - Rev. Brett M Foote (Tonight's combined offering will go to a local mission in Superior. Return to your seat by the side aisle.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leslie Anderson, CRE
(Please respond to each petition with the words, "Holy God, hear our prayer.")

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

ANTHEM

Joyful Noise Choir

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 51

To the leader. A Psalm of David, when the prophet Nathan came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgement. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt-offering, you would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then you will delight in right sacrifices, in burnt-offerings and whole burnt-offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 6:1-6

'Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

'So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

'And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Our nursery is staffed 15 minutes before the service begins for children who are newborn through 4 years old. Stop by the Nursery and meet Iris, our Nursery Coordinator and her volunteer assistants. Once checked in, your young ones can play in a safe environment during worship.

What Wondrous Love Is This 215



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing
3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to
on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous
God and to the Lamb who is the great I
when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing

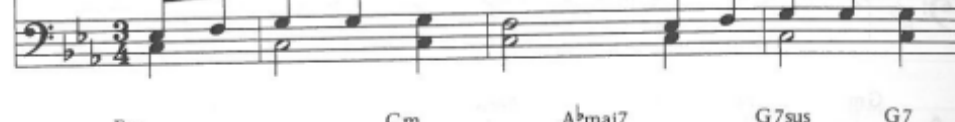


soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

77B I Refused to Be Comforted Easily



1 In com - plete des - per - a - tion and in ut - ter frus -
2 With my eyes shut in fright and with no hope in
3 Will God al - ways re - ject me? Will he nev - er re -
4 Then, at last, I re - mem - bered all the things I'd for -



tra - tion, I called out and God lis - tens to me.
sight, I was much too dis - tract - ed to speak;
spect me? Has God's love for me failed ut - ter - ly?
got - ten, all the won - ders you, Lord, had be - gun.



Both by day and by night, with hands raised and fists
I i - ma - gined times past which I knew could - n't
Has his grace been for - got - ten, has he grudged me com -
And I saw how mis - for - tune had dis - tract - ed at -



tight, I ex - pressed and re - peat - ed my plea.
last, and my heart, will, and bo - dy grew weak.
pas - sion, does his right hand not strength - en or free?
ten - tion from your faith - ful - ness in all you've done.



Refrain Fm7 Bb7 Ebmaj7 Abmaj7

1-3 I re - fused to be com - fort - ed eas - i - ly
 4 Now I'm sure that your way is a ho - ly way,

Fm G7 Cm

and the tears of dis - tress made me blind:
 for its pro - gress and path I can see;

Fm7 Bb7 Eb7 Abmaj7

I turned faint when my thoughts went too deep for me
 and I know that your faith - ful - ness in the past

Fm Gm7 Cm

and I groaned when I called God to mind.
 will be real and be pre - sent for me.

23H Shepherd Me, O God

Refrain Fm Db Ab Eb

Shep - herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

Cm7 Db Bbm7 Cm7 (Last time Db Eb Fm Bbm F)
 Fm Bbm Fm

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Fm Bbm Fm7 Bb

- 1 God is my shep-herd, so noth-ing shall I want, I
 2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
 3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I