

ONLINE WORSHIP FEBRUARY 21, 2021

WE GATHER TOGETHER PRAISING GOD

Introductions and Invitations

Welcome & Welcoming Music Responsive Reading

One: God meets us in the night—

All: Before the sun rises, Before the wound heals, Before there are answers, Before there is closure.

One: God meets us in the light—All: Where joy is effervescent,

Where laughter is contagious,

Where flowers bloom from cracks in the sidewalk,

And where people gather around the table.

One: God meets us at the threshold—

All: At the edge of the water,

At the beginning of the wilderness,

At the start of something new,

On the edge of faith.

One: And if God meets us in all those places,

Then surely God meets us in between—

All: Staying with us through the wilderness.

One: We are not alone. God is all around.

All: Let us worship the God of the here and now.

Hymn #555

"Forward Through The Ages"

Call to Confession (worship leader prays aloud)

Again and again, God meets us where we are. God's love knows no bounds, which is hard for us to understand and easy for us to forget. Therefore, in confession we remember together that we are not alone. And in a unified voice, we once again ask for God's grace in that holy reminder. Family of faith, please pray with me.

Prayer of Confession

One: God who meets us where we are—

There is nowhere we can go that you are not.

All: You were with Jesus at his baptism.

You were with him in the wilderness,

And even in between, you were there,

Saying aloud, "This is my beloved."

One: We know that you are with us too—

In the good, the bad, and everything in between—

But so often we act like we are alone.

All: Instead of coming to you with our hurt,

We hold it in or cast it onto others.

Instead of coming to you with our joy,

We credit ourselves and offer you nothing.

One: How can we long for a deeper relationship with you

While living like you are nowhere to be found?

All: Forgive our self-centered ways.

Remind us that in every breath, in every step, you are there.

One: You are the God who meets us where we are.

All: Before and behind, above and below, within and around. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness:

One: Family of faith, if you hear nothing else today, hear this:

God is here. God sees you. God knows you. God meets you at the edge of every new beginning,

And God calls you beloved.

All: We are washed by the water.

We are called beloved.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Sharing the Peace of Christ (*greet fellow worshipers in the live chat as we sing song #507* "Through It All")

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Children In Ministry

Erich Grimm-Schmitt

Music to Lift Our Spirits

Scripture: Mark 1:9-15

Message: "Holy Footprints through the Wilderness" Lori Leopold

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

Song of Prayer (we pray for God's guidance as we sing #3098 "Dust and Ashes" v. 1 & 2)

Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer Offering of Gifts (followed by) Doxology

Prayer of Dedication (we read and pray aloud together)

Source of life, receive the gifts we offer; and let all our service, inspired by the Breath of life give you glory and praise; in the name of the Word of life. Amen.

Hymn #378

"Amazing Grace" (v. 1, 2, 6)

Benediction

And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.

All are invited to share in virtual coffee time online via Zoom (may require app download).