

called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; for it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. For

'All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers, and the flower falls,

but the word of the Lord endures forever.'

That word is the good news that was announced to you.

Music Siciliano front Sonata in E Major J.S. Bach

Prayers of Intercession

Music Beau Soir Claude Debussy

*Ron Stabinsky, piano and Christopher Johnson, alto flute*

Benediction\*

Participating in Worship

*Rev. Dr. Ronald Wood, Transitional Pastor*

*Christopher Johnson, Organist, Flute, Alto flute*

*Ron Stabinsky, Piano*

\*Those who are able, please stand

**Labyrinth**

The Labyrinth will be available in the Sawtelle Auditorium on Wednesday from 1:00-4:00 P.M.

**Thursday Lenten Services**

Weekly Thursday Lenten services will be held in the sanctuary with different musical guests each week to enhance scripture and message:

March 24th Tom Heinze, oboe

March 31st Meghann Vaughn, mezzo-soprano

April 7th Andrea Wittchen, harp



# Covenant Presbyterian Church

Thursday Lent Worship

March 17, 2022

Prelude                      Etude in E Major, Op. 10, No. 3                      Frédéric Chopin  
*Ron Stabinsky, piano*

## Call to Worship

One: Look to the stars—filling the sky with light!

All: God's word is a light, shining bright in the darkness.

One: Look to the stars—spread across the universe, farther than any eye has seen.

All: God is everywhere present, whether we go to the ends of the earth or depths of the sea.

One: Look to the stars—more than we even have numbers to count.

All: God's grace is beyond imagining, beyond language, beyond counting.

One: Look to the stars—signs of God's promise, shining through all generations.

All: We come to worship God, in whom we trust.

## Prayer

O God, the light of all the stars is but a pale glimmer in your vast ocean of light. We praise you for mysteries we cannot comprehend; for your gracious, gentle will be working through everything that lives to form a holy people. Yours alone is the scope to comprehend how all our separate lives and desires cohere into a grand pattern, reflecting your design. O God, though we know little about your ways, work through us that your will be done, not ours; and that one day all the earth shall rise to praise your name and dwell forever in your peace. Amen.

\*Hymn #301 - Lord Jesus, Think on Me

## Call to Reconciliation

## Prayer of Confession

God of Moses, you call us as you called the faithful of ancient times—mysteriously shedding light in the midst of uneventful days. Through a shrub alight with divine fire, you reveal that our common days are steeped in holiness and mystery. We confess that we fail to recognize that all ground is holy ground, or that our routine lives are encompassed by splendor, or that this day is the time when you call us to do your work. Forgive us, God. Free us to see the blessing of your presence, and give us the strength to work as you call us. Amen.

Music                      Sarabande from Partita in A minor                      Johann Sebastian Bach  
*Christopher Johnson, flute*

The Old Testament Reading                      Exodus 3:1-15                      NRSV

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,  
and this my title for all generations.

Music                      Syrinx                      Claude Debussy

The Epistle Reading                      I Peter 1:13-25                      NRSV

Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. Instead, as he who