

Second Sunday of Lent  
March 5, 2023



*Open Window, Collioure*, oil on canvas  
National Gallery of Art, East Building, Washington, D.C.  
Matisse, Henri (1869-1954)

**Faith Presbyterian Church**  
**Order of Worship**

**Gathering of God's People**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich**

**Joys and Concerns\*\***

**Prelude** *Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier*

**Johann Sebastian Bach**  
(1685-1750)

**\*Call to Worship**

**Rev. Christa Fuller Burns**

No human wisdom can discover God.

**No rational inquiry will reveal the Creator, no argument can lead there.**

So God came to search for us, in the vulnerability of human life,

\*Please rise in body or in spirit

**and trusted Christ to guide us to the truth, to lead us in the way.**

Let us worship God!

**\*Hymn 12** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

## Call to Confession

## Prayer of Confession

**Christ our teacher, each day offers opportunities to learn and grow, yet at times we ignore the wisdom of others. We believe what we can see and prove logically, and forget to leave room for the mystery of the inexplicable. In a society that prizes self-sufficiency, you point us to the struggles of siblings, the burdens others bear. By your mercy, forgive us. As we seek to journey with you, show us again the path of discipleship, that we might be reborn. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...**

**Kyrie 834** *Precious Lord, take my hand*

PRECIOUS LORD

Precious Lord, take my hand;  
lead me on, help me stand;  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
Through the storm, through the night,  
lead me on to the light;  
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

## Assurance of Grace

**\*Act of Praise 535** *Bless the Lord, O My Soul*

BLESS THE LORD

Bless the Lord, O my soul;  
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!  
Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all God's benefits.

## Proclamation of the Word

**A Moment with Faith Kids**

John Colmers

## Prayer for Illumination

## PSALTER READING Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills—  
from where will my help come?  
My help comes from God,  
who made heaven and earth.

God will not let your foot be moved;  
the One who keeps you and will not slumber.  
Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.

God is your keeper;  
and is your shade at your right hand.  
The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.

God will keep you from all evil  
and will keep you safe; will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.

## Music

### Gospel Reading John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?'

Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Holy wisdom, holy Word...

**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

*Born Again?*

Rev. Goodrich

**Responding to the Word**

\***Hymn 509** *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

HOLY MANNA

**Minute for Mission** One Great Hour of Sharing

**Susan Minor**

**Invitation to the Offering** *If you wish to contribute online, please scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to Faith's online giving site.*



**Offertory** *Witness*

Ayanna Freelon, *soprano*

arr. Hall Johnson  
(1888-1970)

## CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

**Invitation to The Table**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

*...the prayer continues, concluding with*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**Words of Institution**

**Sharing of Communion**

*In the sanctuary, you may either receive the juice by intinction (dip the bread in the cup), or with the sealed cup to take back to your pew. Gluten free bread is in a smaller dish on each plate. Come forward by the center aisle and return to your seat by the outside aisle.*

*If you are joining us from home, please break your bread when the bread is broken in the sanctuary. When the cup is poured, please pour it at home, or touch the cup if you've already filled it. We give*

*thanks that the Spirit is present wherever we are, knitting us together as the body of Christ in the world.*

## **Pray in Color**

*Jesus told Nicodemus he must be born again by water and Spirit to enter the kingdom of heaven. When you come forward for communion, please take a blue piece of paper and write a word or phrase that reminds you of a time when you experienced rebirth. You can also write the name of a person or situation in need of a fresh start. Give thanks to God for the promise of renewal.*

*Cut out your prayer into an organic shape and return it as an offering.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

**Holy God, giver of life, day by day you sustain us with your Word and here you have nourished us around your table. May this bread and cup and fellowship empower us to respond to the suffering of those around us with compassion. Send us out with courage and care, to share your peace with others. Amen.**

## **Sending God's People into the World**

**\*Hymn 137** *He Came Down*

HE CAME DOWN

**\*Charge & Benediction**

**Postlude** *Truro*

Seth Bingham  
(1882-1972)

## **Leading Worship Today**

**Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, Pastor**

**Rev. Christa Fuller Burns, Pastor Emerita**

**Dr. Samuel Springer, Minister of Music & Organist**

**The Chancel Choir**

**Ayanna Freelon, soprano**

**Kristin Herber, Zoom Moderator & PowerPoint**

**Andy Fuller, Audio/Camera**

**\*\*Joys and Concerns:** We are a community who prays with and for each other. There is a book in the narthex where you may write your joys and concerns to be included in the Prayers of the People and shared in our weekly prayer chain email. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain, please email [faithchurchbalt@gmail.com](mailto:faithchurchbalt@gmail.com).

## **This week we pray for:**

*Faith's homebound members and  
those receiving long-term care  
Our partners in Cuba*

*Victims of gun violence  
The people of Ukraine  
The people of Syria and Turkey*

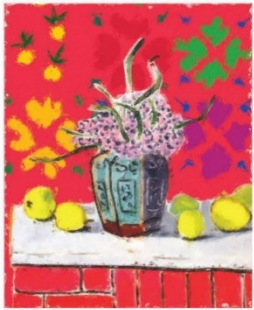
## Wednesday Bible Study 11:00 a.m. on Zoom

Join Cat every Wednesday to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome!

**The Forum:** Faith formation gathering for youth and adults, Sundays, 9:15 in the Woodmont Room and on Zoom. Rev. Christa Fuller Burns will lead next Sunday's Forum using our Lenten devotional booklet, *Henri Matisse and the Colors of Lent*.

## Observe Lent at Faith

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22. There are several opportunities to reflect, connect, pray, and create to practice your faith this season:



A Lenten devotional, *Henri Matisse and the Colors of Lent*, will be available to guide your own daily prayer at home. The devotional will also guide our conversation and learning in the Forum. A small group will meet on Monday mornings from 8-9 at Belvedere Square to reflect on the devotional together.

In worship, we will **pray in color** each week, creating banners inspired by the work of Henri Matisse to adorn our sanctuary.

Join a Lenten book study on Zoom with Govans and Knox Presbyterian Churches at 7 on Thursdays. The group will read and discuss *Burying White Privilege: Resurrecting A Badass Christianity*. The author, Rev. Dr. Miguel A. De La Torre will join them for the first session on March 2nd. Please email Andy Wilson, [wilson@govanspres.org](mailto:wilson@govanspres.org), to sign up.