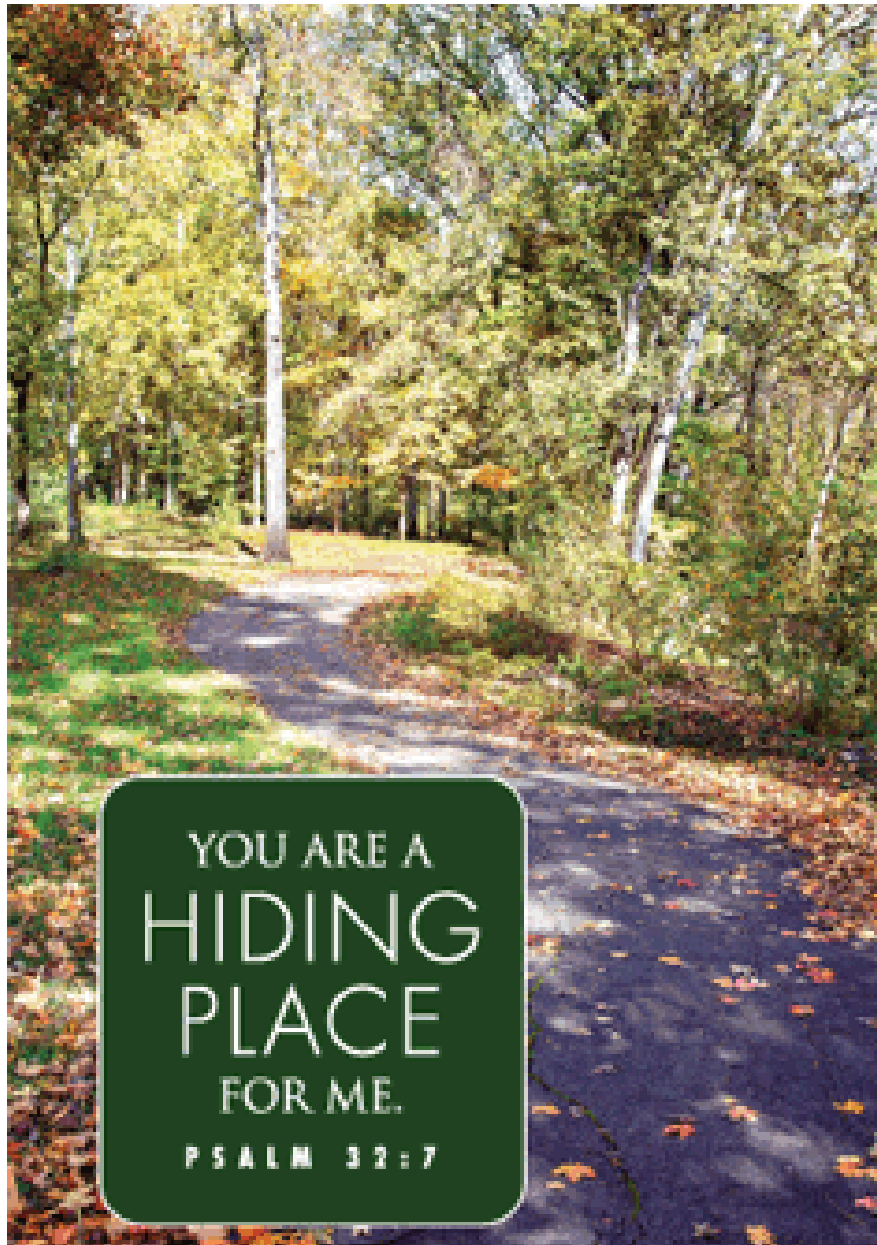


SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

March 30 and April 2, 2022



You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. - Psalm 32:7



*"And our wise Father in heaven knows when we're going to need things too. Don't run out ahead of Him."
— Corrie Ten Boom, [The Hiding Place](#)*

Gathering as the Body of Christ.

CENTERING SONG

“SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD”

UMH 393

GREETING

PRESIDER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

STUDENT MINISTER

Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

**For once we were lost and felt so far away;
now we have been found and welcomed home.**

Know that God’s love is lavished upon you forever.

We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

Amen!

*OPENING HYMN

“JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL” vs. 1 & 4

UMH 479

*CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE

[All are invited to turn toward the Baptismal Font.]

The baptismal font reminds us of God’s promise of cleansing and forgiveness. In that confidence, let us lift our voices in a prayer of confession.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

You are invited to pass the peace to each other in a non-contact way that's comfortable to you and your neighbor.

Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Let us share this peace with one another.

Service of the Word

POEM

“RENEWAL OF STRENGTH”

FRANCES ELLEN WATKINS HARPER

This poem connects to the theme of forgiveness and becoming renewed.

The prison-house in which I live
Is falling to decay,
But God renews my spirit's strength
Within these walls of clay.

For me a dimness slowly creeps
Around earth's fairest light,
But heaven grows clearer to my view,
And fairer to my sight.

It may be earth's sweet harmonies
Are duller to my ear,
But music from my Father's house
Begins to float more near.
Then let the pillars of my home
Crumble and fall away;
Lo, God's dear love within my soul
Renews it day by day.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

STUDENT MINISTER

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us this day. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 32

NRSV

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. While I kept silence, 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*

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*

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*

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. Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Hear what God is saying to the people.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

REV. DR. VANESSA LOVELACE

God the Father, you breathe life into your whole Creation.

Help us breathe deeply of your peace and presence.

God the Son, you give us yourself to make our joy complete.

Help us give our doubt, fear, hurt, and grief to you.

God the Holy Spirit, you move through our lives in unexpected ways.

Help us move in concert with your life-giving directions.

Holy Trinity, One God, accept our thanks and praise for all the blessings of this life, especially for those blessings that present circumstances may make difficult to see.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Shed the light of your healing love on all who are sick in body, mind, or spirit, that they may find new wholeness illumined by your grace.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Knit together in your love all whose relationships have frayed, that they may find reconciliation and new beginnings.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bless all who work to improve the health of others that they may bring hope, care, wisdom, and skill to all they serve.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Hold in the palm of your hand all who are near death and all who care for them, that they may know the peace that passes all understanding.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant all who turn to you the courage to participate with you in restoring this broken world to wholeness that everyone and everything may share in the hope of your kingdom.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For these and for all other petitions that are too deep for words, we pray to you.

Lord, hear our prayer.

You are the Lord whose promises never cease.

You are the Lord whose presence never fails.

At this time, we invite your prayers of thanksgiving or concern either silently or aloud.

Gracious God, you are close to us no matter how far we feel from you: draw us into the very heart of your grace and help us to live into the truth that nothing in all creation can separate us from your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Service of the Table

OFFERTORY SONG

INSTRUMENTAL

***THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Brothers, Sisters, and Siblings, this is the mighty feast, the joyful feast, the holy feast of and for the people of God. Our Savior invites all who trust him to come.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and a good thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Creator of heaven and earth. With your co-eternal Son and Holy Spirit, you are one God, one Lord, in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Being; and we celebrate the one and equal glory of you. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God of all.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him and with him and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRESIDER

We have a few COVID related options for those who wish to partake. If you wish to receive from the ministers, take an empty eco-friendly cup from the stack on the aisle table and approach the minister, who will place a piece of bread in your open hand. (Or take a cup that already has a piece of gluten-free bread in it, or take one of the sealed celebration cups with the wafer on top and juice beneath; hold them out to the minister for a blessing.) A minister will pour grape juice into your cup. Eat, drink, and dispose of the cup in the waste baskets at the side aisles as you return to your seat.

If you are unable to come forward, please signal the ministers and we will come to you at your seat. Those who prefer not to partake in Communion are invited to a different kind of divine encounter through an interfaith prayer of blessing. If this is your preference, we invite you to meet the preacher at the baptismal font.

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here at this table where Christ is the host.

COMMUNION SONG

“AS THE DEER”

NYSTROM

♩=74

VERSE

D A/C# A Bm D/A G A^{7sus} A⁷



1. As the deer pant-eth for the wa-ter, so my soul long-eth af-ter
 2. You're my friend and You are my broth-er e-ven though You are a
 3. I want You more than gold or sil-ver, on-ly You can sat-is-

4 D^{2sus} D A/C# A Bm D/A G A G/A



Thee. You a-lone are my heart's de-si-re, and I long to wor-ship
 King. I love You more than an-y oth-er, so much more than an-y
 -fy. You a-lone are the real joy-giv-er and the ap-ple of my

CHORUS

8 D D/C# Bm Bm/A G A/G D/F# G Bm/F#



Thee. You a-lone are my strength, my shield; To You a-lone may my
 -thing. eye.

12 Em Em⁷ F#^{sus} F# F#/E D A/C# A



spir-it yield. You a-lone are my

15 Bm D/A G A G/A D



heart's de-si-re, and I long to wor-ship Thee.

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Going Forth as the Body of Christ

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

PRESIDER

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*CLOSING SONG

“I WILL TRUST IN THE LORD” vs. 1

AAHH 391

*BENEDICTION

[All are invited to turn toward the Preacher at the Baptismal Font.]

SENDING & POSTLUDE

Listen to God; Bridge the chasm.

You are welcome to keep your bulletin, but if you do not wish to keep it please place it on the table at the entrance to the chapel as you leave.

Cover Art: https://www.churchart.com/subscriber/viewimages?book_number=19&chapter=32&image_type=cl%2cph%2cpp%2cbc%2cca%2cmv%2cwt%2cnt%2cpt%2cft&page=2&ipp=20

Call to Worship: Townley, Nancy C. "Worship Connection: March 31, 2019." Ministry Matters. January 24, 2019. <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3623/worship-connection-march-31-2019>

Prayers of Confession and Assurance: St. David's Episcopal Church. <https://stdavidschurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Evening-Prayer-Bulletin-for-Wednesday-081220-LIVESTREAM-PDF.pdf>

Poem: Harper, Frances Ellen Watkins. "Renewal of Strength." Poets.org. Accessed July 18, 2021. <https://poets.org/poem/renewal-strength>

Prayer for Illumination: http://www.flushingpres.org/uploads/1/2/5/7/12574707/prayer_for_illumination.pdf

Prayers of the Community: Litany of Healing, <https://www.bcponline.org/>

Communion Liturgy and Prayer after Communion: Adapted from The Episcopal Church "The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (Expansive Language." July 15, 2021. https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/01/lm_text_of_expansive_language_liturgies.pdf

****The worship planning team creates all other parts of the liturgy except where noted.***

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WORSHIP TEAM

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Cam Richesson, Stephanie Oelrich, Rev. Scott Sicciano, Beth Taylor, Rev. Kellie Turner.
Rev. Dr. Catherine E. Williams, Advisor*

THE WORSHIP TEAM SEEKS:

*To serve the universal church of our Creator.
To minister to the unique and diverse needs of the seminary community.
To foster an expansive culture of worship that values difference and challenges the normative.*