

Calvary United Methodist Church

Sunday, March 21, 2021; 10:15 am

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Dee Freeman

Call To Worship

Leader: We are alive to see this new day – Shout hallelujah my brothers and sisters.

People: **Hallelujah! We are God's people.**

Leader: Behold, the Lord has made a new covenant with us. Our hearts and minds will be renewed and restored. Rejoice and be glad for now we will know and see God's awesome power more clearly.

People: **Hallelujah! We are God's people.¹**

Invocation of the Spirit

First Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 31:31-34

“The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.” (NRSV)

Declaration of Praises

Sharing of Prayer Concerns

Prayer Time

¹ *Cynthia Bond Hopson, The Africana Worship Book for Year B, Discipleship Resources, 2007, p. 58.*

Lenten Reading

Leader: We lay before the cross today the bag of silver coins, payment given for betrayal of our Lord. Judas handed Jesus over to the authorities, hoping finally to force Jesus to demonstrate His power. The mission of Judas succeeded, but in a way he did not expect, and could not bear.

People: **Lord Jesus, it is easier to be unfaithful to You than to give up our desire for earthly power. Help us say “no” to our quest for this world’s kingdoms. Help us say “yes” to the cross.**

Leader: Judas pushed Jesus to bring a kingdom of earthly power, with swords and conquests. Jesus established the Kingdom instead in humility and service, with forgiveness, and with sacrifice. God’s Kingdom came, strangely enough, not through the shedding of enemy blood, but through the shed blood of its Ruler.

People: **Lord Jesus, when we are tempted to reshape the Kingdom of God for our own prestige, profit, or power, help us say “no” to the thirty pieces of silver. Help us say “yes” to the cross.**

Leader: Judas wanted a king to take away his country’s suffering. He received a High Priest who chooses to participate in those sufferings.

People: **Lord Jesus, the world seeks a life free from suffering. You lived a life made perfect in suffering. Help us say “no” to the way of the world. Help us say “yes” to the way of the cross.**

Leader: Let us pray together...

All: **Almighty God, you allowed Your Son to be perfected through suffering. Remind us today of our High Priest who meets us in our suffering. In our sufferings, teach us obedience; mold us into His image, we pray. Amen.²**

Scripture Lesson

John 14:23-31

“Jesus replied, “All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them. Anyone who doesn’t love me will not obey me. And remember, my words are not my own. What I

² <http://www.criovoice.org/lentliturgyYearB.html>

10:15 am Worship

am telling you is from the Father who sent me. I am telling you these things now while I am still with you. But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you. “I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid. Remember what I told you: I am going away, but I will come back to you again. If you really loved me, you would be happy that I am going to the Father, who is greater than I am. I have told you these things before they happen so that when they do happen, you will believe. “I don’t have much more time to talk to you, because the ruler of this world approaches. He has no power over me, but I will do what the Father requires of me, so that the world will know that I love the Father. Come, let’s be going.”
(NLT)

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Williams

Shalom To You: Freedom in My Mind

Closing Hymn

It Is Well with My Soul

Benediction

Postlude

Dee Freeman

It Is Well with My Soul

1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way,
 2. Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come,
 3. My sin, oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought!
 4. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,

when sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll; what - ev - er my
 let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ has re -
 My sin, not in part but the whole, is nailed to the
 the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall re -

lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is
 gard - ed my help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own
 cross, and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the
 sound, and the Lord shall de - scend, e - ven so, it is

Refrain

well with my soul.
 blood for my soul. It is well with my soul,
 Lord, O my soul! It is well with my soul,
 well with my soul. It is well with my soul,

it is well, it is well with my soul.

Announcements

- Please take the bulletin(s) that you have touched home with you.
- **West End Food Pantry Donations**
During Lent this year, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for our local food bank. A collection box is at the Bheam Ave. entrance.
- **Camp Allegheny Shoe Drive**
We can support Camp Allegheny by donating *gently worn*, used or new shoes! Clean out your closets – Kid's, Women's, Men's, any size, any color! From slippers, flip flops and tennis shoes – to high heels, snow boots and cleats. Help put shoes on feet around the world! Drop them off at the Bheam Ave. door. Deadline will be March 28.
- **Just My Smile Donations**
Just My Smile is a new nonprofit operating in our County. Their mission is to ensure that every family with a newborn is offered support and resources in the crucial first year of life. They are seeking donations such as diapers, bottles, etc. *A list of items is available in front of the sanctuary.*
- **Feed the Need**
Johnstown Christian School is partnering with an organization to provide meal kits to families in need. JCS students will be taking a day to pack these meal kits as a mission opportunity. If you would like to financially support this mission project, envelopes are available in front of the sanctuary. Put name or envelope number on the envelope if you wish to receive credit on your annual contribution statement. TODAY is last day to donate.
- **The Greatest Love**
This free booklet of 10 Easter Reflections from Our Daily Bread is available, in front of the sanctuary.