



CAHABA SPRINGS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



**Service for the Lord's Day**

March 19, 2023

Pastor deNay Kirkpatrick

March 19, 2023

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

### GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

*\*Please stand, as you are able*

#### Chiming of the Hour

#### Welcome to Worship

Karen O'Brien

#### Prelude

*Chorale on "Blessed Jesus, We Are Here"*

J. S. Bach

#### \*Call to Worship

Karen O'Brien

One: Scripture is full of questions . . .

**Many: Where are you?**

One: Am I my brother's keeper?

**Many: Whom shall I send?**

One: Who do you say that I am?

**Many: Who sinned?**

One: How many times shall I forgive?

**Many: If God is for us, who can be against us?**

One: Scripture is full of questions, so just like those in our scriptures, may we bring our full curiosity and wonder into this space.

**All: Let us ask and seek after our merciful God.**

#### \*Hymn 327

*O God, Show Mercy to Us*

THAXTED

#### \*Prayer of Invocation (Unison)

Gracious God, giver of all light and vision, by your Word you made the day and night. Let your wondrous work be revealed in us so that your glory might shine like the sun; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen

#### A Moment with the Children

*Children may choose to go to Junior Church after Children's Sermon*

### CONFESSING TO GOD

#### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession (Unison)

One: Who here has sinned?

**Many: We have sinned. We put our heads in the sand. We ignored people in need. We make false assumptions and fail to be kind. We are in need of forgiveness.**

One: Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.

**Many: Thanks be to God for a love like that.**

One: Have you sinned?

**Many: I have sinned. I put my head in the sand. I ignore people in need. I make false assumptions and fail to be kind. I, too, am in need of forgiveness.**

One: Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.

**One: Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

\* **Gloria Patri**

## **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

Karen O'Brien

### **First Reading**

**John 9:1-7**

1As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. 4We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. 5As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." 6When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, 7saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Anthem**

*The Secret Place*  
(Setting of Psalm 91)

Maureen Cranston

Those who dwell in the secret place of the Lord most high,  
shall remain in the shadow of the Almighty God.  
He is my refuge and strength, on Him I can rely.  
I will dwell in the secret place of the Lord most high.  
Under His wings He shall cover me if I place my trust,  
In His truth and faithfulness He will hold me fast.  
Night has no terror for me, or arrows that fly by day.  
I am safe in His dwelling place as I serve and obey.  
He has set His love on me, and I call on Him;  
I will set Him high above for He knows my name.  
He is my refuge and strength, on Him I can rely.  
I will dwell in the secret place of the Lord most high.

## Gospel Reading

John 9:8-41

8The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" 9Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." 10But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" 11He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." 12They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

13They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." 16Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. 17So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

18The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" 20His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 21but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." 22His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. 23Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

24So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." 25He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." 26They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" 27He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" 28Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." 30The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. 31We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. 32Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. 33If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." 34They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

35Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." 37Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." 38He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. 39Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." 40Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" 41Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

This is the word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

*seeking: Who sinned?*

deNay Kirkpatrick

Hymn 329

*God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength*  
verses 1, 3 and 4

WINCHESTER OLD

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

### \* Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

One: We believe in a merciful God,

Many: **a God who does not keep score, a God who wants good for us.**

One: We believe in a creative God,

Many: **a God who would heal with mud, a God capable of seeing what we cannot.**

One: We believe in a saving God,

Many: **a God who heals, a God who greets our questions with patience, a God who sends us out with hope in our step.**

All: **What wondrous love is this. Amen.**

### Worship of God with Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

arr. Albin Whitworth

### \* The Doxology

### \* Prayer of Dedication

deNay Kirkpatrick

### \* Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

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

## SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

\*Hymn 465

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

### \*Charge and Blessing

And all God's people say: **Amen!**

deNay Kirkpatrick

### \* Choral Benediction

*Go in the Name of the Lord*

Cindy Berry

### \*Postlude

*Toccata in C major*

Felix Mendelssohn

### CREDIT INFO:

Prayers & Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

## ***March Happenings at Cahaba Springs***

***PW Monthly Luncheon & Study***—today immediately following worship. Please bring a salad or dessert. We will study Lesson 7 of *Celebrating Sabbath* by Carol M. Bechtel led by Karen Rainwater.

***XYZ March Luncheon*** – Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:30 AM in *Harmony Hall*. This month Ron Dauphinee will have his puppets come for a visit. Please bring a side, salad, or dessert; meat will be provided.

***Stated Session Meeting*** – Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM.

***TEAM Food Collection*** – Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. We will be collecting nonperishable food items for TEAM in Trussville. Please remember those in need.

***CSPC Book Club*** – Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM in the Conference Room. This month's discussion will be on *At the Quiet Edge* by Victoria Stone led by Karen O'Brien.

### ***Coming Soon***

***Easter Egg Hunt*** – Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. Details to follow.

***CSPC Yard Sale*** – May 26-27; rain date June 2-3. As you are doing your spring cleaning, please consider bringing your gently used clothing, household items, and small furniture for our huge yard sale! Items may be brought to the church now during normal business hours or on Sunday. We will need lots of volunteers to do the pricing, staging, etc. prior to the sale & many others the days of the sale. Please see Lynda McLean or Karen O'Brien for any other information. All proceeds go towards the general fund.

### ***Weekly Classes & Events:***

Inter-Generational Sunday Morning Class --Sundays at 9:30 AM in the Ladies' Room

Adult Discussion Class -- Sundays at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room

Birmingham Youth Group -- Sundays at 4:20-7:00 meet at CSPC & traveling to Edgewood Presbyterian

Thursdays Together --Thursdays at 10:00 AM in Conference Room

Chancel Choir – Thursdays at 6:30 PM

Chordmakers -- Fridays at 5:30 PM in *Harmony Hall*

# PRAYER CONCERNS

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## *for our church family...*

Agnes Dauphinee	Nellie Songer	Margaret Linville	Wayne Hughins
Melissa Scholl	Jim Gillespie	Joan Lowery	Al Greenburg
Edward Giddens	Laura Reichert	Jean Camp	Carol Brown
Ed Swartz, Jr.	Cecile Floyd	Chuck Smith	Haley Crew
Janet Prevatt	deNay Kirkpatrick		

## *for our extended family...*

Lisa Kraymer Smith	Jennifer Lee	Stephen Hogger	Sonia Burrage
Louis Scholl	Heather Hawkins	Mary Hammett	Leslie Speakman
Debbie Collins	Clay Charlton	Eleanor Garner	Donna Ford
Mac & Matthias	Ophelia Nichols	Ronnie Eades	Bobby Hoglund
Allison Solomon	Barry Parvin	Aaron Dailey	Cindi Wesley
Mason Ford	Pat & Vicky McCann	Perry Johnson	Susie Abbott
Laura Rainey	Joy Martin & family	Debbie Lambert	Jeff Strickland
Deborah Braswell	Dan Southern	Tommy Robbins	Carol Bos
Amy Baughman			

## *grieving the loss of loved ones . . .*

the family of William Porter

*Contributions may be made electronically by using [myeoffering.com](http://myeoffering.com)  
There are flyers located in the narthex for more detailed instructions*

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