



CAHABA SPRINGS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



**Service for the Lord's Day**

March 26, 2023

# Pastor deNay Kirkpatrick

March 26, 2023

5<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

*Prelude on "Morning Song"*  
from Wyeth's Repository of Scared Music, 1813

arr. Don Schlosser

#### \*Call to Worship

Karen O'Brien

One: Have you ever felt washed up, brittle, worn-down to the bone?

**Many: Have you ever felt grief lay heavy on your back?**

One: Have you ever felt like hope was out of reach?

**Many: Have you ever wondered, can these bones live?**

One: If you have, then you are in the right place, for this is God's house. Hope lives here.

**Many: So, come. Rest your weary bones.**

One: Let us worship Holy God.

#### \*Hymn 819

*Be Still, My Soul*

FINLANDIA

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

*from Touch Holiness*

**Mother of mercy, we come to you dry and lifeless, seeking your breath of life. Lead us to the place where our hopes lie buried and call us out from the tombs of despair. Call forth our faith that, with Martha, we may know you to be the resurrection and the life, in this world and the world to come. 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)

**Jesus of Nazareth, I confess: I forget that you know this feeling. I forget that you, too, have wept. I forget that you, too, have lost. I forget that you, too, have gathered at the tomb, have grieved for a friend, have felt the sting of humanity. Forgive me for all the times I place blame on you. Forgive me for all the times I create distance, imagining that you could never feel what I feel. Forgive me for allowing the valley of dry bones to be a sea of space between us. Pour yourself into the cracks in my heart. Bring these bones back to life. Bring me closer to you. With gratitude I pray, amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**\* Gloria Patri**

## **PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD**

**Prayer of Illumination**

Karen O’Brien

**First Reading**

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

1The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. 3He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” 4Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. 5Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.” 7So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. 9Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” 10I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. 11Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ 12Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 14I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act,” says the LORD.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*Christ, Be Beside Me*

Tom Fettke

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,  
Christ be behind me, the King of my heart;  
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,  
Christ be above me, He will never depart.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,  
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.  
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,  
Christ in my rising, light of my life.  
Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,  
Christ be behind me, the King of my heart;  
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,  
Christ be above me, He will never depart. Amen!

### **Gospel Reading**

**John 11:1-45**

1Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. 3So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." 4But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." 5Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, 6after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. 7Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." 8The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" 9Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. 10But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." 11After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." 12The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." 13Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. 14Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. 15For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." 16Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." 17When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, 19and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. 20When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. 21Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." 23Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." 25Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, 26and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" 27She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." 28When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." 29And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. 30Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. 32When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." 33When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also

weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. 34He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." 35Jesus began to weep. 36So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" 37But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" 38Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 39Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." 40Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" 41So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. 42I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." 43When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 44The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." 45Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*seeking: Can these bones live?*

deNay Kirkpatrick

**Hymn 463**

*How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

### **\* Affirmation of Faith (Unison)**

One: We believe that God loves us—

**Many: God loves us enough to weep when we are gone.**

One: We believe that God does not give up on us—

**Many: breathing new life into tired bones.**

One: We believe that God returns to us—

**Many: always seeking us when we are lost.**

One: We believe that God holds hope for us—

**Many: so we hold onto hope as well.**

One: We believe, help our unbelief.

**All: In Christ's name we pray, amen.**

### **Worship of God with Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**

*Take My Life, and Let It Be  
Consecrated to Thee*

arr. Barry Braman

### **\* 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 307

*God of Grace and God of Glory*  
verses 1, 2, and 4

CWM RHONDDA

\*Charge and Blessing

And all God's people say: Amen!

deNay Kirkpatrick

\* Choral Benediction

*Go with Us Lord*

TALLIS' CANON

\*Postlude

*Rigaudon*

André Campra

### CREDIT INFO:

Prayers & Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

### ***March/April Happenings at Cahaba Springs***

***TEAM Food Collection*** – today. 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.

***Fellowship Luncheon*** – Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> immediately following worship in *Harmony Hall*. Please bring a side, salad, or dessert; meat will be provided.

***First Tuesday Dinner*** – Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at El Patron in Trussville.

### ***Coming Soon***

***Maundy Thursday Service*** – Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

***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 Southminster 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 Kraye 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 Hogleund
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	Laura Stalls		

*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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