



CAHABA SPRINGS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



Service for the Lord's Day

March 5, 2023

Pastor deNay Kirkpatrick

March 5, 2023

2nd 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

David Perry

Prelude

Chorale Prelude on Liebster Jesu

Robert Graham

"Blessed Jesus, we are gathered to hear you."

* Call to Worship

David Perry

One: What is it like to begin again?

Many: **It is like flowers in the spring that push through frozen ground. It is like babies learning to walk, one clumsy step at a time. It is like Nicodemus in the night, asking Jesus for guidance. It is like a Sunday morning, starting our week anew.**

One: May we find God in our seeking.

Many: **May we learn as we go.**

One: May we be brave enough to begin again.

All: **Let us worship the God of new beginnings.**

*Hymn 409

God Is Here!

ABBOT'S LEIGH

* Prayer of Invocation (Unison)

How do we begin again? Do we slide into something new? Do we make a formal announcement? Dearest reader, I have decided to begin again. Do we turn gradually, a gentle yield in a new direction; or like a wave, do we crash onto the shore of a new day? Do we grieve the change? Are there breadcrumbs on the path? Will Nicodemus be there? Will it ever be easy? I'm not sure exactly how we begin again, but I know that moths wrap themselves in silk, and after quite some time, after many long nights, after days spent alone, they break out of their shell. They pull themselves out under open sky, and they spend the rest of their days chasing the light. Maybe it's always that way with beginnings. Maybe it feels like the protective layer falling away. Maybe we have to go it alone at first. Maybe it feels like pulling and dragging yourself into something new. Maybe there's always open sky at the other end.

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)

God of new life, you call us into unknown places, and we bury our heads in the sand. You promise all the stars in the sky, and we doubt it can be true. You speak of new life in the Spirit, and we tell ourselves we've missed our chance. Over and over and over again, you invite us closer to you. Show us the way. Forgive our mistakes. Give us the courage to begin again with you. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

* Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

David Perry

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a

1Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." 4So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

We Are One with You, O Lord

J. Althouse

We are one with You, O Lord. We are one with You, O Lord.
When we break the bread and taste it we are one with You, O Lord.
And we know that You have suffered for You gave your only Son.
We are one, O Lord, we are one.
We are one with You, O Lord. We are one with You, O Lord.
When we pour the wine and drink it, we are one with You, O Lord.
And your Spirit will be with us till our life on earth is done.
We are one, O Lord, we are one.
For all that You have given, for all we will receive,
we thank You, Lord. We thank You and we believe.
We are one with You, O Lord. We are one with You, O Lord.
You have given us our faith, and we are one with You, O Lord.
And your love is everlasting, like the moon and stars and sun.
We are one, O Lord, we are one. Amen.

Gospel Reading

John 3:1-17

1Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2He 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." 3Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." 4Nicodemus 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?" 5Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' 8The 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." 9Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" 10Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 11"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. 12If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16"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. 17"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."

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

seeking: How do we begin again?

deNay Kirkpatrick

***Hymn 629**

Jesus, The Very Thought of Thee

ST. AGNES

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*** Affirmation of Faith (Unison)**

We believe in a God who meets us in the shadows, who welcomes our questions, who invites us to begin again. We believe that Jesus showed us a new way, a deeper faith, a more compassionate existence. We believe that all of our beginnings should return us to this foundation, and that no matter how many times we lose our way, God always welcomes us home. Amen.

Worship of God with Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian
American Folk Hymn

Gilbert Martin

*** The Doxology**

*** Prayer of Dedication**

deNay Kirkpatrick

PARTAKING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Words of Institution

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

One: The Lord be with you

Many: **And also with you**

One: Lift up your hearts

Many: **We lift them to the Lord**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

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

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.

Sharing of the Sacraments (Intinction)

We will be celebrating Holy Communion by intinction. You will come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisles. If you prefer to remain seated, please let one of the ushers know and we will gladly bring communion to you.

Prayer after Communion

SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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|-----------------------|---|-------------------|
| * Hymn 435 | <i>There's a Wideness in God's Mercy</i> | ST. AGNES |
| * Charge and Blessing | | deNay Kirkpatrick |
| | And all God's people say: | |
| | Amen! | |
| * Choral Benediction | <i>A Blessing</i> | Carla Giomo |
| * Postlude | <i>Andante</i> | G. F. Handel |
| | <i>from the Organ Concerto in F major</i> | |

CREDIT INFO:

Liturgy and Poetry by Rev. Sarah A. Speed/A Sanctified Art, LLC/sanctifiedart.org

March Happenings at Cahaba Springs

Fellowship Luncheon – today immediately following worship in *Harmony Hall*. Please bring a side, salad, or dessert; meat will be provided.

First Tuesday Dinner – Tuesday, March 7th at 6:00 PM at El Patron in Trussville.

Knit Wits – Saturday, March 11th from 10 AM-noon in the *Ladies' Room*.

PW Monthly Luncheon & Study—Sunday, March 19th 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 21st 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 21st at 6:30 PM.

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

CSPC Book Club – Tuesday, March 28th 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 8th. Details to follow.

CSPC Yard Sale – May 26-27. Details to follow.

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 Edgewater 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

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	Joan Creighton	deNay Kirkpatrick	

For our extended family...

Lisa Kraymer Smith	Jennifer Lee	Stephen Hogger	Sonia Burrage
Louis Scholl	Heather Hawkins	Bill Wester	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	Mary Hammett
Deborah Braswell	Dan Southern	Tommy Robbins	Carol Bos
Jeff Strickland			

*Contributions may be made electronically by using myeoffering.com
There are flyers located in the narthex for more detailed instructions*

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