



Sunday, March 07, 2021
~ Third Sunday of Lent ~
Virtual Service

Worship Team: Rev. Pirie Mitchell, Dan Leaver, Horak-Stubley family,
Richard Yake & EJ Lamb

Music Team: Karen Schuessler, Tony Haworth (Hymn Leader)
Senior Choir (new recorded virtual video)

VU = red hymnal Voices United
Please sing along at home; we have provided the lyrics!

Prelude: Be Thou My Vision (arr. William France) Karen Schuessler

Welcome and Life & Work of the Church Rev. Pirie Mitchell

Call to Worship (responsive) Dan Leaver

Dan: In the days of Noah, God placed a rainbow in the sky as the sign of a covenant of God's love for all the earth.

**Cong: In the colours of the rainbow,
we see the sign of God's grace for all creation.**

Dan: In the days of Moses, the words of God were written on tablets of stone, as the sign of a covenant between God and all of God's people.

**Cong: In the tablets of stone, we see the sign of God's hope for each
to live in peace with God and neighbour.**

Dan: In the days of the prophet, God promised to place a new covenant in our hearts.

**All: As members of the living Body of Christ, we see the sign of God's
promise among us.**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Dan Leaver

Opening Prayer (in unison)

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

O God, as we move toward the climax of the Christian year, may the time of Lent remind us of our lives dedicated to the kingdom of God as revealed through Jesus of Nazareth. There are times when we fudge this call and walk away from it quietly and unashamedly. Help us meet his appeal to us head on and with the energy of a long-distance runner. As we approach each challenge let us remember we are not alone in our work. Continue to be with us we pray. Amen.

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

Hymn: Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights

VU 108 verses 1, 2, 3

The other verses of this hymn will be sung later in Lent.

1. Throughout these Lenten days and nights
we turn to walk the inward way,
where, meeting Christ, our guide and light,
we live in hope till Easter Day.
2. The pilgrim Christ, the Lamb of God,
who found in weakness greater power,
embraces us, though lost and flawed,
and leads us to his Rising Hour.
3. We bear the silence, cross and pain
of human burdens, human strife,
while sisters, brothers help sustain
our courage till the Feast of Life.

Learning with Children

Dan Leaver

Lord's Prayer (in unison) (VU page 921)

Horak-Stubley Family

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Scripture:

Richard Yake and EJ Lamb

Scripture: Exodus 20: 1-17
Secular reading: Plato's Cave
Scripture: John 2: 13-22

Special Music: On Eagle's Wings (Joncas, arr. Wagner) Senior Choir Virtual Video Anthem**Message:** The Mystic John

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision

VU 642 verses 1, 2, 4

1. Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart;
naught be all else to me save that thou art,
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife;
I ever with thee, and thou in my life;
thou loving parent, thy child may I be,
thou in my dwelling, and I one with thee.
4. Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Offertory Prayer

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

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Lord, today of all days we offer ourselves and our riches to fulfill the promises of Jesus. We know we are part of his kingdom and as such we are committed to his goals and mission. Lord, there is so much to do in this world to right the wrongs of the shellfish, the greedy and the powerful. Accept our gift and our lives in Jesus' mission, so that it may be fulfilled in our lifetime. Amen

Prayers of the People

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

O God, help us with that sense of feeling with your presence. We have the words of the gospels which talk about your intimacy with Jesus of Nazareth but these are not enough. Help us understand that there is a more intimacy available between us and you if we let it happen. John's gospel teaches us that the relationship we have with you can be more than rote words and simple remembrances. Our faith in you is foundational when we allow ourselves to relate with you on a personal basis. Help us be one with you as your created people.

We pray today for our congregation and its future life. We are a dedicated people in London who have discerned certain ways to implement your son's teachings. But

we are a dwindling group. At times we find it hard to translate the mission of Christ into the needs of the 21st century. We see human needs all around us but are often immobilized by the enormity of the problems and the possible solutions. Help us see this time of Covid as an opportunity for a change in direction for your followers here at Wesley Knox to examine. We are a willing congregation. We are a faithful congregation. We are a hopeful congregation.

As we journey through the Lenten season help us keep our focus on Jesus' great gift to us that first Easter Sunday. Help us to know that it was the Romans who killed Jesus on the cross because he would not accommodate himself to those who held onto the three human imperfections: greed, power and status. We know that the road to faith is often a difficult one. We can be easily trapped into the three human imperfections: greed, power, and status. Help us keep our eyes on the goal of Jesus' mission by reaching out to all in need with no greed, no power, and no status except the love of God. Amen

Hymn: Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

VU 681 verses 1, 4, 5

1. Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife,
we hear your voice of life again.
4. O Master, from the mountainside
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide,
and tread the city's streets again,
5. till all the world shall learn your love
and follow where your feet have trod,
till glorious from your heaven above
shall come the city of our God.

Commissioning

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

We have the love of God through Christ with us.
What more courage do we need to meet his challenges in life?

Benediction: Let us put on our working duds and get to work in the name of love!
Amen

Response (in unison)

VU 298

**When you walk from here, when you walk from here,
walk with justice, walk with mercy, and with God's humble care.**

Postlude: Prelude in D Minor (Krebs)

Karen Schuessler

WK Coffee Time

Stay tuned to see who Glen or Jane speaks with this week!