

GREENSBORO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, March 10, 2024 | 4th Sunday in Lent

Hal Parker, Music Director

Rev. Dr. Ed Sunday-Winters, Pastor

Prelude

solo piano, Hal

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

One: God’s love is for all of creation.

Many: The vastness of God is for human, animal, soil, and sun, all together as God’s beloved.

One: God has not come into the world in Jesus to condemn us.

Many: Jesus has come to live God’s love in the flesh.

One: While the world is dim with injustice and the feeling of loneliness,

Many: it is in Jesus that the light of love illumines our path of friendship. Come, let us join our lives with the Friend, whose love is for the whole world. Let us worship God!

Opening Prayer

***Gloria Patri #36**

Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

***Hymn: #445 (Songs of Spirit)**

Be Thou My Vision

Scripture

John 3:14-21

Gina Jenkins

Anthem

“We Are Walking in the Light of God”, S African freedom song, 1984

Sermon

Come to the Light

Rev. Ed Sunday-Winters

A Time of Silence

Offertory

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Thank you, God, for loving us to the very ends of the earth and back. Your willingness to say yes to coming in the flesh to redeem our world through love and no to the powers of oppression has led us to give of ourselves generously this day. Take these gifts and multiply them across this world that you love so extravagantly. Amen.

** Those who are able, please stand.*

***Hymn: #183 (Songs of Spirit)**

What Wondrous Love Is This

Prayers of the People and The 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.



***Hymn: #364 (Songs of Spirit)**

This Little Light of Mine

***Benediction**

***Musical Benediction #334 (Songs of Spirit), Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name, verse 2**

Grant us thy peace upon our homeward way;
With thee began, with thee shall end the day;
Guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon thy name.

Postlude

solo organ, Hal

Our Church’s Wider Mission: As we support Our Church’s Wider Mission, we lift up the work of the National Christian Council in Japan as interfaith representatives and advocates for peace, we gathered “from east and west, from north and south” to support the values upheld in Japan’s Article 9 and to share our stories of the pain that violence has caused and threatens to portend in places like Okinawa. In communities of struggle like Okinawa or in contexts of geo-political confrontation like the saber-rattling between the U.S. and China, we seek peace in situations of threats and adversity and are committed to sharing the values of peace and non-violence enshrined in Article 9 of Japan’s constitution.

PARISH NEWS:

COFFEE HOUR: Please join us after Sunday service for refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

Puzzling for the Pantry: March 16, 2-4 pm. Next Saturday we will hold our 2nd annual fundraiser for the Hardwick Area Food Pantry! The event will be like church coffee hour but with puzzles and door prizes!! You can come to just visit with neighbors! All ages are welcome! Door prizes of gift certificates and special items have been donated by Whistle Emporium, Smith's Store, Gebbie's, Willy's, Allstad Farm, Hillcrest Nursery, House of Pizza, Greensboro Garage, Milkhouse Hair Studio and local Authors, Artists and Photographers! Please bring a can of food or make a donation at the door. Advance donations are welcome and can be made by check or cash. Checks should be made out to GUCC with memo- Puzzling. Cash donations should be made in an envelope with donors name and contact info provided. All attendees and advanced donors (received by 3/15) will be placed in the door prize drawing. All proceeds will go to Hardwick Area Food Pantry. Help us exceed the \$1,000 we raised last year!!

Gaza Reflections and the Path Ahead Public Discussion: Tues March 12, 6:30 pm, the Hardwick Peace Vigil Steering Committee will convene a public discussion in FH as a follow-up to the January 18th Gaza Forum. More info in the weekly newsletter. Join us!

Greensboro Free Library Annual Chili Dinner: Friday March 15, from 5-7 pm in Fellowship Hall, dinner by donation. Take the chill out of winter!

Weatherization Pays You Back - Expert Panel and Q&A: Join local energy efficiency experts to hear tips and ideas on how to improve the comfort of your home while reducing energy bills. Tues, March 19, 5:30-7:30pm, Fellowship Hall, Greensboro UCC. Free! For more details and information for registration, see this week's email newsletter

Save the Date: "Just Getting By: A Day In the Life" a documentary on Vermonters struggling with food and housing insecurity, Highland Center for the Arts April 4 at 7 pm.

Peace Vigil: Wednesday mornings from 7:45- 8:30 am at the Hardwick Peace Park. We are horrified by the violence on both sides. Join us in calling for an end to the bloodshed.

GUCC Directory: Have an edit? Send it to greensborochurchedirectory@gmail.com!

FELLOWSHIP HALL CLASS SCHEDULE:

- Bone Builders: Mon & Wed 10-11 am
- Global Campus: Tuesdays, 12-3pm
- TaiChi: Thurs, 9:15-10:30, 10:30-11:30 am
- Pilates: Tue & Thurs 4-5 pm

Gaza Discussion: Tuesday, March 12, FH, 5:30-9:30, event begins at 6:30

Deacons Meeting: Wednesday, March 13, 3-5 pm Library

Parents Group: Wednesday, March 13, 11-1, classroom

Lenten Book Study: Thursday, March 14, 7-8 pm, Library/Zoom

Annual Chili Dinner: Friday, March 15, 11 am -8 pm, FH and Kitchen, dinner from 5-7

Annual Puzzling Fundraiser: Saturday, March 16, 12-5, event from 2-4 pm

Next Week's Lectionary: Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16; Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33

Greensboro United Church of Christ *An Open and Affirming Congregation*

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To Our Visitors

If you are new among us, welcome!

*Whoever you are, wherever you are on
life's journey, you are welcome here.*

You are invited to become a part of our life together.

*Our goal is to be a loving and caring church,
and we hope you feel this*

*Please help us to know you by introducing yourself,
filling out a green pew card, and joining us in
fellowship following the service*

May you go forth refreshed by the Spirit here.

Our Mission: To love as Jesus loved, caring for others and joyfully serving God, our community and our world.

Worship During COVID: Masking is now optional

- *Stay home if you are ill (even a little)*
- *Distance from others around you*