

TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



First Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2020

829 Salem Road - Union, New Jersey

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAY LEADER

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*)

LAY LEADER

Forbidden fruit is such a delight to the eye.

God is our delight.

Forbidden pleasures tug at us each day.

God is our joy.

Temptation is everywhere.

**We can live as God intends,
through Christ who strengthens us.**

Let us sing to the Lord,

who saves us from the time of trial.

Sing to the Lord, our delight and our joy.

OPENING PRAYER

LAY LEADER

Walk with us, faithful traveler,
as we journey with Christ
through the season of Lent.

Help us overcome the temptations we face
each and every day.

Save us from the time of trial,
and send your angels to minister to us
in times of weakness.

Raise us to newness of life,
through the gift of your Spirit
and the love of your Son. **Amen.**

***HYMN:** #757 "Today We All Are Called To Be Disciples"

ALL

CALL TO CONFESSION

LAY LEADER

Happy are those whose sin is forgiven,
who no longer suffer in silence,
but name their sin and seek God's grace.

Let us confess our sin.

*Rise in the Spirit

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

ALL

Holy One, we do not always face temptation well.

We settle for loaves of bread

when our souls long for bread

that does not perish.

We put you to the test,

seeking signs of your favor,

when we should “be still”

and rest in the knowledge that you are God.

We place our trust in leaders

who make promises they cannot deliver,

when we should be putting our faith in you.

Forgive us, O God,

and help us be found worthy of your calling,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

LAY LEADER

When we acknowledge our failings before God,

God wipes away our shame.

Receive forgiveness and mercy,

through the gift of God’s grace in Christ. **Amen!**

***GLORIA PATRI**

ALL

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.

***THE PEACE**

LAY LEADER

Christ’s justifying love brings peace to those who love God.

Turn to one another and share the wondrous gift of God’s peace in Christ.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ANTHEM: "O Worship The King" arranged by Robert Lau (see insert)

*Rise in the Spirit

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PASTOR

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–7; Psalm 32;
Romans 5:12–19; Matthew 4:1–11

PASTOR

SERMON: “*The Need for Change*”

PASTOR

***HYMN:** #167 “Forty Days and Forty Nights”

ALL

A TIME OF SHARING – JOYS AND CONCERNS

LAY LEADER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

LAY LEADER

With all the faithful, let us pray to the Lord,
who is our hiding place in times of trouble,
who surrounds us with glad cries of deliverance.

We pray for all who are hungry—
whether hungry for power and glory
or hungry for a simple meal.

Show the mighty
that you alone can satisfy their deepest need,
and feed the poor from the abundance of your good creation.

We pray for the church in times of trial—
whether tested by tempestuous change
or tempted by safety of the status quo.

Give us peace
when anger and fear threaten to divide us,
and challenge us
when we are too comfortable in this world.

We pray for leaders in high places—
whether determined to help those who suffer
or distant from the cries of the oppressed.

Open their eyes
to see your saving power at work,
and open their ears
to hear your prophets’ calls for justice.

Lord God, instruct us in the way we should go
and let your steadfast love surround us always;

As we pray in the name of the one who taught us to pray...**Our Father...**

*Rise in the Spirit

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

LAY LEADER

Our God has revealed to us
a law and a love that leads us into becoming
God's own daughters and sons.
Therefore, let us gratefully give from that
which has first been given to us,
our lives, our talents, and our possessions.

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: HYMN #606

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

LAY LEADER

Holy One of Israel, work through these gifts.
As we provide loaves of bread for the hungry,
work through our offering,
that others may be fed, not only in body, but in spirit.
As we seek to bring justice to our world,
may we embody faith in your righteous love,
that your people may know
the source of their hope. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PASTOR

Here is the table of the Lord,
we are gathered to his supper, a foretaste of things eternal.
Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love.
Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith.
Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole.
Come, old and young, there is room for all

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Responsively*)

PASTOR

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Rise in the Spirit

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

Holy One, in this dry and weary land
we give you thanks and praise.
You provide for us in our need;
you set a table for us in the wilderness.
Even when we despair and complain against you,
you feed us with bread from heaven.

Even when we quarrel and question your grace,
you give us water from a stone.
How can we keep silent?
Even dry bones in the valley of death
stand to sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We give you thanks and praise for Jesus,
our way in the wilderness,
our companion in the desert.
He knows our hunger and thirst;
he gives us the bread of life to eat
and living water to drink.
He leads us beside still water
and prepares this table for us,
even in the presence of our enemies.
The cup of blessing overflows!

On the night he was betrayed,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
This is my body, given for you.

On that same night he took the cup, saying,
This is the new covenant, sealed in my blood.
Do this in remembrance of me.

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

*Rise in the Spirit

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

Now pour out your Holy Spirit
upon this bread, this cup,
this dry and weary land.
By the power of your Spirit,
breathe life into our dust
and hope into our bones.

As we receive this bread and cup,
make us one flesh and one blood,
one in the body of Christ.
Let us live to sing your praise
and show your love to all,
until our wilderness wandering is over,
and we feast with you forever
in the land that you have promised.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, O God,
now and always. **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

ELDERS

***HYMN:** #767 "Together We Serve"

ALL

BENEDICTION

PASTOR

POSTLUDE

WORSHIPPERS AND GUESTS ARE INVITED:

Join us following this worship service for refreshments and fellowship.

A huge "thank you" to all the helping hands that made the Sweetheart Brunch possible: Glen Zehner: Beautiful Decorations; Lisa Heims: Lovely Baskets; and Kitchen Crew: Cecelia Harrison, Barbara Hendrick, Kathy Kreie, Janet Sangekar, Irene Schoenwalder, and Linda Zehner. I very much appreciate all your hard work to make the Brunch a success. Many thanks, June Donohue.

*Rise in the Spirit

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

12 Tom Catalano

A Time for Prayer: Mondays' at 5:00

A Note from Our Treasurer: 2/23/2020

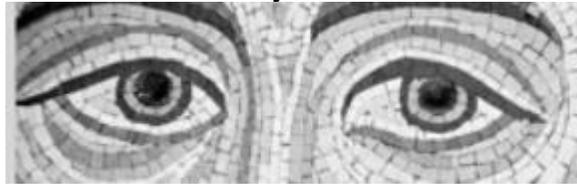
We received \$XXX in pledge & plate, \$XXX Sweetheart Brunch, & \$XX Memorial Fund. *Janet Sangekar*

Nursing Home Visitation:

Join us, **on second Sundays**, at the Delaire Nursing and Convalescent Center at 2:00 PM for a brief worship service with the shut in. All are welcome. *400 W Stimpson Ave, Linden, NJ*

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM



Operation Warm Heart

Monday, March 23 Monday, March 30

Volunteer to greet and serve an evening meal from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

Also, looking for volunteers to spend 2 hours (1 PM to 3 PM on Saturdays: March 7th and 21st)

Let Pastor Ron know what dates you are available. You need not volunteer for all dates.

Note New Location: Zion Lutheran Church 215 Elm Avenue, Rahway. Thank you!

FOOD BANK SUNDAY: On each 4th Sunday we receive donations of non-perishable food items to contribute to the Connecticut Farms Food Pantry.

Cecelia, our new newsletter editor, requests if you have any items that you would like to have included in our monthly newsletter, to please either text them to her at cell # 908-868-6579 or email them to CeceliaH@comcast.net.

To learn more about Townley Presbyterian Church:

- Email us at: townleychurch@yahoo.com Call the office: (908) 686-1028
- Visit our website: Townleychurch.org Like Us on Facebook: Townley Church

Ron Thompson, Pastor

*Rise in the Spirit

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ