



# Lent ~ A New Beginning

St. John United Church of Christ - Bellevue KY

**First Sunday in Lent**

February 21, 2021

***"I...will draw all people..."*** -Jesus

John 12.32

## Welcome and Lighting Candles

Melissa Stephens

## Centering Song

Steve Milloy, vocalist

**"We Stand Humbly In God's Grace"**

Peace to you, O people, the Peace of Christ the Lord.

As we gather in God's name, we are of one accord.

Hope is but a glimmer of a dream for a new world:

God is calling us to act, bring justice through the Word.

### Chorus:

*We stand humbly in God's grace as we worship in this place.*

*Joy will be complete when we reach out to those in need.*

*We stand humbly in God's grace as we worship in this place.*

*Here we join our songs of praise with all the human race.*

Let us live the vision of graced community.

May the Truthful One move us to stand for unity.

Sisters, brothers, we are one, with Christ we're hand in hand.

Love our neighbors as ourselves, spread hope throughout the land. (*Chorus*)

## Prayer of Confession

Melissa Stephens

**Holy One, we acknowledge that we often fail to see the ways you reveal yourself to us each day. We have not pursued you or listened for your voice.**

**We are preoccupied with ourselves. We long for a new beginning and to draw closer to you and others. With your grace we turn to come home to you.**

## Assurance of God's Grace

Be assured children of God, that God's grace overflows for you and the whole world!

**Amen.**

## Mission Moment

***Let Love Flow***

Mission Offering Video

## ***One Great Hour of Sharing***

This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries.

*StJohnChurch.net*

### **An Offering of Music and our Gifts**

Steve Milloy, vocalist

"Breath" –*Marie Barnett*

~

**Thank you for your financial support to the mission and ministry of the Church!**

**US mail: 520 Fairfield Ave., Bellevue, KY 41073; Online: [StJohnChurch.net](http://StJohnChurch.net)**

~

### **Prayer of Illumination**

Melissa Stephens

**God of love, grace, peace, and joy, thank you for the ancient words of these sacred writings. As we open our Bibles, hearts, and minds, we ask for your Spirit to bring forth understanding and meaning. Illumine our path as we seek your way. Amen.**

### **Matthew 6.7-15**

Sally Sipperley

“When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

“Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

One: Here ends the reading inspired by God.

May God grant to us wisdom and courage for interpretation.

**All: Amen.**

### **Children’s Couch Church**

Sarah, Anthony, Adeline and Eliza Palm

### **Sermon**

“BREAD”

Rev. Dr. Edward Goode

February 21, 2021 - First Sunday in Lent

St. John United Church of Christ, Bellevue, KY

2

**Song of Response** (Sung twice)      “Give Me a Clean Heart”      Steve Milloy, vocalist  
Give me a clean heart so I may serve you.  
God, fix my heart so that I may be used by you.  
For I’m not worthy of all these blessings.  
Give me a clean heart and I’ll follow you. (*Psalm 51.1-12*)

**Praying Together & The Lord’s Prayer**      Melissa Stephens  
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.

**Closing Song**      “Dream God’s Dream”      Steve Milloy, vocalist  
Chorus:  
Dream God’s dream! Holy Spirit help us dream  
of a world where there is justice and where everyone is free  
to build and grow and love, and to simply have enough.  
The world will change, when we dream God’s dream.  
  
I’m dreaming of a world where the color of one’s skin  
will mean less than what’s within the person’s heart.  
A world where water’s clean and where air is safe to breathe.  
And every child born has enough to eat. (*Chorus*)

**Send Out**      Mellissa Stephens

**Going Forth**      Steve Milloy, piano  
"TERRA PATRIS" –*Franklin L. Sheppard, arr. Mark Hayes*

---

Today’s worship leaders: those listed above and, Edward Goode, editing and production; Linda Schuster, administrative support.

**Copyrights, Notes & Acknowledgments:** All items are used with permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net #A-712481.  
**Centering Song** “We Stand Humbly In God’s Grace” words/music by Joanna Riden Aamodt and Hope Hotchkiss Shea, © 2006, this arrangement: The Praise Song Advisory Team, ©2009 Local Church Ministries, United Church of Christ, from *Sing! Prayer and Praise* (#24); **Prayer of Confession** and **Assurance of God’s Grace** by Keith M. Haithcock; **Prayer of Illumination** by Keith M. Haithcock; **Matthew 6.7-15** from the *New Revised Standard Version of Holy Scripture*, © 1989 by The Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches; **Song of Response** “Give Me a Clean Heart” from *The New Century Hymnal*, ©1995 The Pilgrim Press (#188); **Closing Song** “Dream God’s Dream” words/music by Bryan Sirchio, ©1992 Crosswind Music, from *Sing! Prayer and Praise* (#120).