



Lent ~ A New Beginning

St. John United Church of Christ - Bellevue KY

Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021

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

John 12.32

Welcome and Lighting Candles

Keith M. Haithcock

Centering Song

Melissa Stephens, vocalist; Steve Milloy, piano

"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

Keith M. Haithcock

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 *One Great Hour of Sharing*

Mission Offering Video

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

Melissa Stephens, vocalist

"I Surrender All" -*Winfield S. Weeden, arr. Travis Cottrell*

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

Keith M. Haithcock

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.

Mark 1.9-15

Richard Robbins

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹² And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

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

"TEMPTATION – DRAW CLOSE TO GOD"

Keith M. Haithcock

Song of Response

“Guide My Feet”

Melissa Stephens, vocalist

Guide my feet while I run this race, guide my feet while I run this race,
guide my feet while I run this race, For I don't want to run this race in vain.

Hold my hand while I run this race, Hold my hand while I run this race,
hold my hand while I run this race, For I don't want to run this race in vain.

Praying Together & The Lord's Prayer

Keith M. Haithcock

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”

Melissa Stephens, 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 the call God is offering to me,
how to use my energy and my best gifts;
to do the work of Christ to say God, please use my life
to spread your healing love and to live your truth. (*Chorus*)

Send Out

Keith M. Haithcock

Going Forth

Steve Milloy, piano

"This is My Song" -*Jean Sibelius, arr. Mark Hayes*

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

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