# LISTENING



below the noise

**SEASON OF LENT** 

Advent Lutheran Church 8840 University City Blvd Charlotte, NC 28213 (704) 549-1555

www.adventlu.org

April 3, 2022

#### **GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

#### **Pastoral Welcome**

## **Call to Worship** – *Listening Below the Noise*

L: What if God calls us . . .

Not to a task, but to a conversation?

What if God calls us . . .

Not to a destination, but to a relationship?

What if God calls us . . .

Not to an achievement, but to a table?

What if we answered: "Here I am,"

And pulled up a chair,

Ready for whatever happens next?

#### Prelude

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesu"

**Annette Nolan** 

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

- L: We gather in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- L: Allow yourself to settle for a moment.

To embrace the silence.

To discover the stillness that lives within your soul.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

I invite you to listen to the voice of God who speaks to you:

"Return to me with your whole heart, for I am gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love to the thousandth generation, ready to forgive all your sins by washing them away with my tears of joy."

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

- L: God, source of life and steadfast love,
- C: We turn toward you and open our hearts.

Forgive our pride and forgive our insecurities.

Forgive our self-absorption and forgive our self-destruction.

Forgive our doubts and forgive our confidence.

Forgive our longing for attention and forgive our desire to hide.

Forgive each step we take away from you.

L: Allow yourself to settle for a moment.

To embrace the silence.

To discover the stillness that lives within your soul.

## (Silence for reflection and self-examination)

- L: I invite you to listen to the voice of God who speaks to you:

  "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you and forgiven you all your sins. I have called you by name and you are mine."
- C: Amen.

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

# Greeting

- L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

# **Prayer of Illumination** (written by Loren McGrail)

- L: Let us pray. Anointing and blessing God help us to recognize you in all your glory and humble disguises including the poor of the world who are your body. When we meet you may we fall to our knees, offer you all that we have, meet your lavish grace with extravagant love.
- C: Amen.

The First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

**Gospel Acclamation** 

"We Are Turning, Lord, to Hear You"

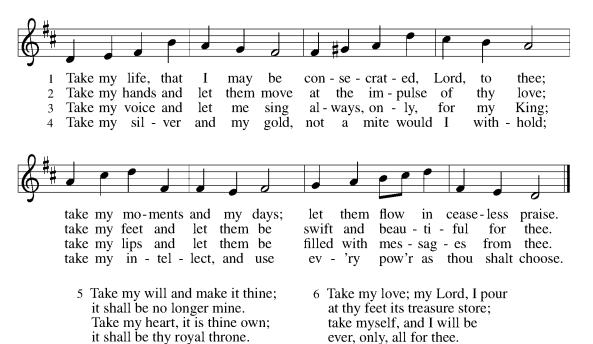
Laura Torrence



The Gospel

John 12:1-8

The Message



## **Affirmation of Faith**

C:

L: Let us affirm our faith.

We believe in Jesus Christ. Son of the One God, Maker and sustainer of earth, sea, and sky. Born of Mary's womb, Faithful to the God of Abraham and Sarah, Jesus healed the sick, Served the poor, And proclaimed the reign of God in the world. Condemned by the religious And crucified by the state, He died, But transformed even death And rose to life everlasting. He blessed the disciples with his Holy Spirit And sent them forth, East and west, north and south. We commit ourselves to Jesus, To one another and to his mission in the world

In the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **Prayers of the People of God**

L: Let us pray. Loving God, how lavishly you pour out the costly gift of your grace upon us. Fill our homes and our lives with the fragrance of your love, so that we may show your glory and serve your people.

A brief silence.

- L: We pray for those leaders of the world who are tempted by the lure of power, without considering the cost to others. We pray for those at the root of conflict, division, and violence whose desire to have things their way prevents them listening to your voice of peace. We pray for the country and the people of Ukraine as they stand against the Russian invasion of their country.
- L: Lord, in your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.
- L: We pray for those in the world who through the greed and unequal distribution of the world's wealth are hungry and thirsty. We pray for those who are denied education and health care. We pray for those who are denied freedom of speech and suffer persecution for sharing the good news of Christ.
- L: Lord, in your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.
- L: We pray for those whom we know, for whom illness, frailness or bereavement have left them isolated and cut off from the joy, support and encouragement of human encounter.
- L: We especially pray for:
  - Marie Childress
  - Charliese Eichler
  - Fritz Haggerson
  - Donnell Horton
  - Karen Keys
  - John Kivett
  - Waylon Kuklentz
  - Ray Matthews
  - Kevin McCoy
  - Andrew Milholland
  - Dave Miller
  - Leo Peeler
  - Chip Priser
  - Jesse Priser
  - Joyce Quigley

- Chris Rasmussen
- Joyce Reed
- Brenda Reid
- Shannon Roberson
- L.D. Shocklev
- Reponda Smith
- Kelly Taylor
- Jackie Torrence
- Renda Torrence
- David Townsend
- Laura Tucker
- Debbie Vick
- Herbert Watson
- Renate Wilson

L: And for the deepest hopes of our hearts, we pray now.

Time for the community to pray.

- L: We pray for our guests at Room in the Inn this past Monday: Demarkas, Micchicco, Jonathan, Jerome, Daesean, Tahira, Robert, Thomas, Lakeya, Maurice, Albert, Cornelius, and Myracle.
- L: We remember and celebrate the lives of those who have died, especially:
  - Martha Young, friend of Mona Ingolia died March 19th.
  - Don Ritchies, long-time friend of Mona Ingolia died March 21st.
  - Dr. Genora Lassiter, aunt of Brook Summerour died March 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - Val Aldred, friend of Dick and Marylou Kuklentz, Dee Dunlap, Ruth Refsnider, Janet Rasmussen, Diane Large – died March 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - James Christ, uncle of Peter and John Christ died March 31st.
  - Jackson Grace, sone of Dwyane Grace died March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- L: By your Holy Spirit, comfort their families, and all who grieve, give peace to those who mourn, strengthen all through the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ.
- L: Thanksgiving at the birth of Aubrey Mae Pixler, born March 19th, granddaughter of Chris and Janet Rasmussen
- L: Lord, in your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.
- L: Lord Jesus, we journey with you during this Lenten season with the certain hope that by your death and resurrection you will recreate our world, so that all people will live in peace and experience justice. We pray all of these things in your name.
- C: Amen

	SHARING THE MEAL	
Offertory	"Open Our Eyes"	Morning Chimes

## **Word of Institution**

# The Lord's Prayer (sung)

C: 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 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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

# **Post-Communion Blessing**

- L: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.
- C: Amen.

#### SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

## Benediction

- L: Look at your hands. See the touch and the tenderness.
- C: God's own for the world.
- L: Look at your feet. See the path and the direction.
- C: God's own for the world.
- L: Look at your heart. See the fire and the love.
- C: God's own for the world.
- L: Look at the cross. See God's Son and Savior.
- C: God's own for the world.
- L: This is God's world,
- C: And we will serve God in it.
- L: May God bless you. May God keep you with great care and lead your lives with great love.
- C: May Christ's warm welcome shine in our lives and his peace fill our hearts and our homes. Amen.

**Sending Song** 

#### **Verse**

I'm forgiven Because You were forsaken I'm accepted You were condemned I'm alive and well Your Spirit is within me Because You died And rose again

I'm forgiven Because You were forsaken I'm accepted You were condemned I'm alive and well Your Spirit is within me Because You died And rose again

## **Chorus**

Amazing love How can it be That You my King Would die for me Amazing love I know it's true

Amazing love How can it be That You my King Would die for me Amazing love I know it's true It's my joy to honor You In all I do I honor You

You are my King You are my King Jesus You are my King Jesus You are my King

## Chorus

Amazing love
How can it be
That You my King
Would die for me
Amazing love
I know it's true
It's my joy to honor You
In all I do I honor You
In all I do I honor You

# **Dismissal**

- L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.