

CELEBRATING THE SABBATH
Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 21, 2021 at 10 o'clock



King once told me that laws could regulate people's behavior but not necessarily their hearts. When people's thinking changes, it affects how they view other issues of injustice. Once they have a change of heart, they may not accept other unjust conditions.

--Bernard Lafayette, *In Peace and In Freedom*, 2016

PRELUDES

Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed

arr. Jason W. Krug

The Whitechapel Handbell Choir, Jessica Berube, director

Meditation on a Welsh Hymn Tune (ABERYSWITH)

Carl Simone

SHARING OUR WELCOME VIRTUALLY

WE COME TO WORSHIP

The God of love and justice, invites us to gather where we are to worship:

we offer thanks and praise and declare God's goodness and mercy.

Meet us as we are. Breathe your Word into our souls;

engrave your covenant of love upon our hearts, O God.

Teach us faithfulness and compassion

so that our lives may reflect

God's love and justice to all the world.

HYMN #575

Come and Find the Quiet Center

[Click here to see hymn](#)

Join as you are able!

**Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.**

**Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us, know our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.**

Words and arr. © 1992, Hope Publishing Company.

Used with permission from OneLicense.net, License #A-726915.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name.

--Gregorian Sacramentary (6th century)

A MOMENT FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Lauren Dube

ANTHEM *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross* arr. Jason R. Krug
The Whitechapel Handbell Choir, Jessica Berube, Director

SCRIPTURE LESSON [Jeremiah 31:31-34](#) Glen MacLeod

SERMON *Written on Our Hearts* Erica Avena

A TIME OF 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. Amen.

A WORD FROM OUR MISSION PARTNERS Bike Collection

RESPONDING WITH OUR GIFTS

Offertory *Wo Soll Ich Fliehen Hin, BWV 646* J. S. Bach
O Whither Shall I Flee?

To Give an Online Offering Now: <http://www.whfirstchurch.org/donate/give>
Or Give by Text: Text *GIVE* to (860) 222-7870. Click [here](#) to watch a demo video.

Doxology, Words: Hymnal, No. 47; Tune: Hymnal, No. 46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

HYMN #561 *It Is Well with My Soul* [Click here to see hymn](#)
Join as you are able!

**When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou has taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.**

Refrain: It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

**May God haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
even so, it is well with my soul. (Refrain)**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Tocatta in D Minor (Dorian), BWV 538* J. S. Bach