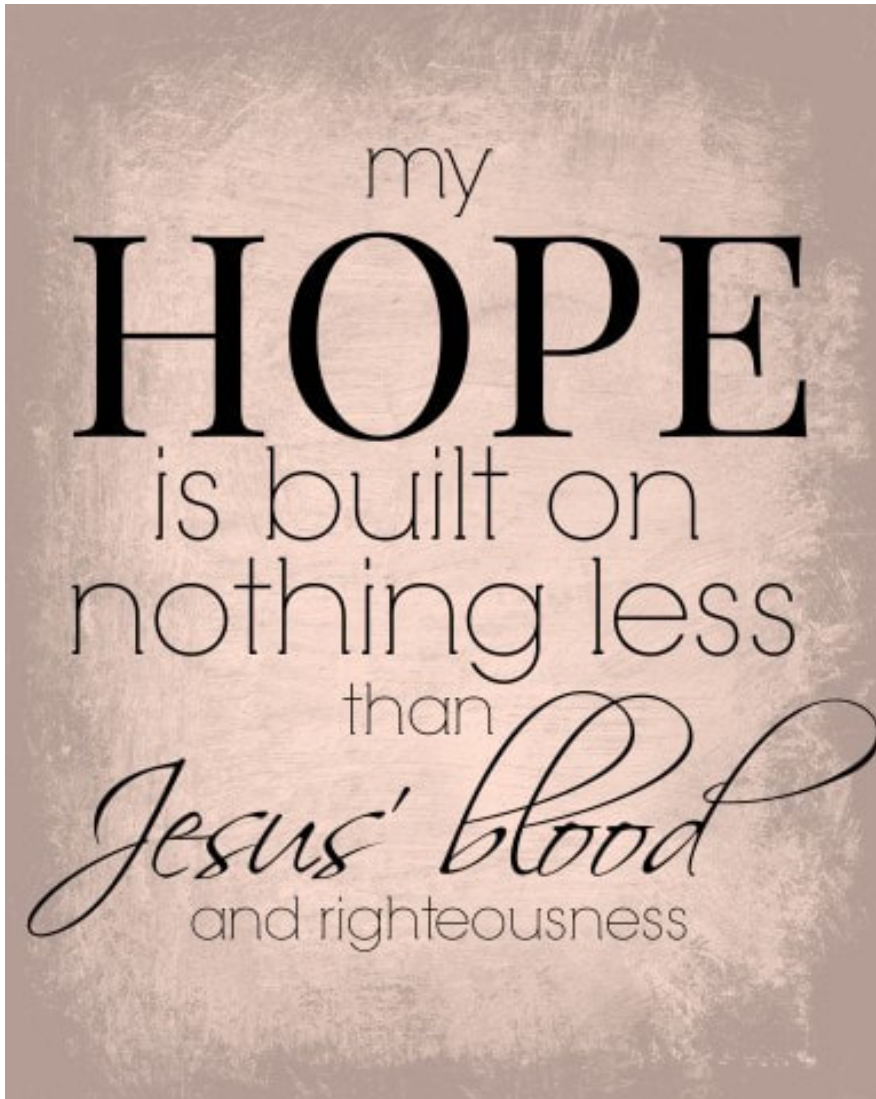


**First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City (PCUSA)**

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**Lenten Evening Prayer and Song**

**March 10, 2021**

**7:00 PM**

**The Reverend Adam C. Bowling - Pastor**

**[Adam.Bowling@fupcdc.org](mailto:Adam.Bowling@fupcdc.org)**

**828.448.8914**

As we gather. . . “Grace comes from outside, as a gift and not an achievement.”  
- Philip Yancy

## WELCOME

### + CALL TO WORSHIP

In this place, the community of faith  
is reminded of the promise:

**God's love endures forever!**

In spite of our impatient grumbling,  
despite our attraction to the shadows:

**Christ's light shines in us!**

When we think our hands our empty,  
when we have no music in our souls:

**the Spirit fills us with glad songs,  
and creates us for good works!**

### + OPENING HYMN

*My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

353

1 My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

#### **Refrain:**

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;  
all other ground is sinking sand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness seems to hide his face,  
I rest on his unchanging grace;  
in every high and stormy gale,  
my anchor holds within the veil. **(Refrain)**

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood  
support me in the whelming flood;  
when all around my soul gives way,  
he then is all my hope and stay. **(Refrain)**

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in him be found,  
dressed in his righteousness alone,  
faultless to stand before the throne. **(Refrain)**

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Edna Addo

By nature, we are impatient, irritated, grumbling, disobedient children, always demanding our way. But God, who is good and kind and gentle, comes to transform us, by grace, into the people we are meant to be. Let us open ourselves to the One who overflows with love for us, as we confess our sins to God. . .

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Edna Addo

The Light of the world has come, Ceaseless Creator, but we admit we love the shadows all around us. For there, we can boast of our achievements, rather than point to your grace; there, we can grumble of our unhappiness with you, instead of singing your praises; there, we can give into our natural anger, and not be touched by your call to be agents of peace and hope.

Forgive us, Eternal Love:

lead us from the shadows of sin  
into the light of your joy;  
raise us up, as your children,  
so we may go out in service to others;  
shower us with the grace, the hope, the peace  
you have brought to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Hear us now, as we continue to confess in the silence of our hearts. . .

*(A time of Silent Confession)*

## **KYRIE**

*Lord, Have Mercy*

551

Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Let the community of faith say:

**God's love endures forever!**

Let those gathered in grace say:

**God's love endures forever!**

Let those gathered from all parts of the world say:

**God's love endures forever!**

This is the good news for us:

**God's love endures forever.**

Friends, know that we are forgiven,  
and be at peace.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Becca Washburg

God of life, open us now to receive your dream for our lives and your Truth for our world, so we can follow your path and show others the way. United in Christ we pray.

**Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 NRSV

Becca Washburg

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures forever.

<sup>2</sup> Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,  
those he redeemed from trouble

<sup>3</sup> and gathered in from the lands,  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.

<sup>17</sup> Some were sick through their sinful ways,  
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;

<sup>18</sup> they loathed any kind of food,  
and they drew near to the gates of death.

<sup>19</sup> Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress;

<sup>20</sup> he sent out his word and healed them,  
and delivered them from destruction.

<sup>21</sup> Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.

<sup>22</sup> And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,  
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

You were dead through the trespasses and sins<sup>2</sup> in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient.<sup>3</sup> All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.<sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us<sup>5</sup> even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,<sup>7</sup> so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup> not the result of works, so that no one may boast.<sup>10</sup> For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God!

## SPECIAL MUSIC

### *No Matter What*

Bryan Fowler, Jonathan Smith, Ryan Stevenson (CCLI#: 7105904)  
Martin Andrews, Soloist

#### **Verse 1**

A lot of us grew up believing  
At any moment we can lose it all  
And at the drop of a hat  
God might turn His back and move on

#### **Verse 2**

A lot of us feel like we blew it  
Thinkin' that we're just too far gone  
But I want you to know  
There's still a hope for you now

#### **Chorus 1**

No matter what you've done  
You can't erase His love  
Nothing can change it  
You're not separated  
No matter what

### Verse 3

There's never been a better time to get honest  
There's never been a better time to get clean  
So come as you are  
Run to the cross and be free (oh be free)

### Chorus 2

No matter what you've done  
You can't erase His love  
Nothing can change it  
You're not separated  
No matter where you run  
He's always holding on  
You're still a daughter  
You're still a son  
No matter what

### Bridge

I don't know what you've been taught  
Don't know what you've been told  
All I know is my God will never let go of you no  
I don't know what you've seen  
Don't know what you've been through  
All I know is my God will never let go of you  
He'll never let go

### Interlude

He'll never never never let you go

## + AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Affirmation of Faith by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

**We believe in a God who knows holy rage—  
A God who stands with the underdog,  
Who passionately protects the suffering,  
And who overturns systems of corruption.**

**We believe in a God who leads by example—  
Feeding the hungry,  
Welcoming the children,  
Offering water to the Samaritan,  
Eating with the tax collector,  
Healing the sick,  
Preaching from the mountaintop,  
And offering second chances.**

We believe in a God who knew that we would lose our way,  
And still said, “This is my body broken for you.”

We believe in a God who knew our capacity for mistakes,  
And still said, “I'm going to prepare a place for you.”

And because of this love,  
We believe that God shows us the way,  
Again and again and again.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.

## + SENDING HYMN

### *Spirit of the Living God*

288

Becca and Chris Anderson, Musicians

Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.  
Melt me; mold me;  
fill me; use me.  
Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.

Santo Espíritu de Dios,  
ven sobre mí.  
Santo Espíritu de Dios,  
ven sobre mí.  
Tómame, cámbiame,  
lléname, úsame.  
Santo Espíritu de Dios,  
ven sobre mí

## + CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Adapted from a Charge and Benediction by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

As you leave this space,  
May your mouth speak of God's goodness.  
May your arms hold those in need.  
May your feet walk toward justice.  
May your heart trust its worth.  
May your soul dance in God's grace.  
And may this be your rhythm—  
Again and again and again,  
Until God's promised day.  
In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Go with courage, go with heart, go in peace.  
Amen.

+ **POSTLUDE**

*Lord, I Know I Been Changed*

TRADITIONAL AMERICAN SPIRITUAL, Arr. Larry Shackley  
Justin Streletz, Pianist

+ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*