



Fourth Sunday of Lent

Order for Worship | March 22, 2020 | God is still speaking

Congregational responses are in bold, • means “please rise in body or spirit.”



PRELUDE

St. Anne
Croft

Jeremy Hill

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

In seasons of joy and seasons of change,

God is with us

As we learn new rhythms and adjust to new settings,

God is with us

As we pray for our future and worry for our loved ones,

God is with us

As we go to work or stay at home,

God is with us

As we enjoy health or monitor illness,

God is with us

As we ache with loneliness or ache for alone time,

God is with us

Wherever we go or don't go, whatever we do or don't do,

however we are doing, and whatever is in our hearts today,

God is with us. So come, let us worship our God.

PASSING THE PEACE

WE SOUND THE BELL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

CELEBRATION OF GRATITUDE

“If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough.”

-Meister Eckhart

As we name the abundant blessings of our lives (anniversaries, birthdays, clean-and-sober milestones, and many more!), we offer a gratitude gift in any amount, so that the blessings we have received from God may be multiplied and shared with all who long to experience God's extravagant welcome in this church and beyond.

A MESSAGE FOR ALL CHILDREN OF GOD

*Go now in peace! Go now in peace!
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere you may go!*

SHARING OUR SACRED STORY

Reader: Friends, hear what the Spirit is saying to the church today.

MATTHEW 6:25-34

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

PSALM 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.
The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.
“Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.”
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Reader: This is the story of life for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

The Rev. Emily C. Goodnow

• **HYMN**

My Life Flows on in Endless Song
See page 5

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF LOVE AND PROMISE

• **WORDS OF THANKSGIVING**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that Love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving and Holy God, we ask that You would pour our Your blessing on this offering today. Guide us and shape us as servants of love, and use these gifts to make our church and our world even more:

We call out words like “joyful, kind, just” to bless our church and world

• **HYMN**

What a Covenant
See page 6

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Tallis’ Third Tune
Tallis

Jeremy Hill

SERVICE CREDITS

Service written by the Rev. Emily C. Goodnow

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today, Sunday March 22

Livestreamed Worship, 10 am

Council Meeting Online, 11:30 am

Tuesday, March 24

Prayer Group Online, 1:30 pm

Zoom Happy Hour, 4 pm: Come with your happiest stories! For one hour, we will speak only of good things

Wednesday, March 25

Storytime with Pastor Emily, 10 am: For our youngest Disciples! Pastor Emily reads a story book and offers a short prayer

Evening Prayer, 7 pm: End the day in prayer with your church family

Thursday, March 26

Tea with Rev. Emily, 11 am: Check in, catch up, share a cup of tea

Zoom Grumpy Hour, 5 pm: Let it out. We'll spill our fears, share our anxieties, & vent our frustrations.

Friday, March 27

Zoom Communion, 5 pm: Using whatever you have* in your home, Rev. Emily will lead us in communion together. *Seriously, whatever you have. Bread and juice/wine, or chips and salsa. What's holy is that we're gathered together and in remembrance of Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- All in-person church events/programs have been moved to virtual programs or cancelled until further notice. Jeanette's Closet, Knitting group, Cub Scouts, Weight Watchers, New Moms' Group, and Lenten Lunch are all cancelled for now.
- We are organizing volunteers to help those most at-risk in our community; you can sign up here.
- If we can be of support to you or your loved ones in this time, please reach out.
- Our staff is mainly working remotely during this time. Email and cell phones are the best way to be in touch:

Office Manager Molly Wunderli: office@bridgtonucc.org

CE Director Sandy Wissmann: swissmann@bridgtonucc.org

Associate Pastor Lisa Burger: associatepastor@bridgtonucc.org | 890-4318

Senior Pastor Rev. Emily Goodnow: seniorpastor@bridgtonucc.org | 200-8891

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

(How Can I Keep from Singing)

Ps. 46:1-7; 1 Cor. 3:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:17

Anon. in Bright Jewels for the Sunday School,
ed. Robert Lowry, 1869; alt.
St. 3, Doris Pienn, c. 1957

1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -
2 What though my joys and com - forts die? My Sav - ior still is
3 When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells
4 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a -

ta - tion, I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that
liv - ing, What though the shad - ows gath - er 'round? A
ring - ing; When friends re - joice both far and near, how
bove it; And day by day this path - way smooths; since

hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult
new song Christ is giv - ing. No storm can shake my
can I keep from sing - ing? In pris - on cell and
first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes

and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It
in - most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling - ing; Since
dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are wing - ing; When
fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing; All

finds an ech - o in my soul— how can I keep from sing - ing?
Love com - mands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?
friends by shame are un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing - ing?
things are mine since I am Christ's— how can I keep from sing - ing?

What a Covenant

Deut. 33:27

Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887; alt.

1 What a *cov - e - nant, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -

last - ing arms. What a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine, lean - ing
 last - ing arms. Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean - ing
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Sav - ior near, lean - ing

Refrain

on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from
 on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

all a - larms; lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

*Or, "fellowship"

In a letter to two grieving friends, A. J. Showalter quoted Deuteronomy 33:27, "... underneath are the everlasting arms." Showalter then wrote this music and the refrain and sent them to E. A. Hoffman to provide the stanzas.

Tune: LEANING 5.5.9.D. with refrain
 Anthony J. Showalter, 1887