

Scriptural Meditation

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.” Isaiah 43:18-19

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of Our Church Bell

Welcome and Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ

Prelude *Meditation* by Charles Callahan

Call to Worship

One: God is about to do a new thing! Do you not see it?

All: Where should we look?

One: Now it springs forth. Do you not sense it?

All: Is it the water in the desert? The roads in the wilderness?

One: God is doing a new thing!

**All: Transforming our fears into courage,
Our tears into joy, our worries into generosity.**

One: God is doing something new.

All: God is doing something wonderful.

One: We are God’s people.

All: We rejoice in our God.

Prayer of Invocation

*** Gathering Song** *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* # 465

*** Prayer of Reconciliation**

Let us remain standing and express ourselves to God.

Patient Lord, we find it easy to blame others and other circumstances for the things which happen in our lives. We hear the words “if only” and wonder why things didn’t happen differently for us. Too often we want you to be a “magic” presence which will, with the wave of a wand, cure our ills, give us success and happiness; but we don’t necessarily want to take responsibility for our attitudes and actions. Things happen which we didn’t plan for and events swirl around us over which we have no control. But to place blame and not to find ways in which we can work through the situations is detrimental to everyone, especially ourselves. Forgive us when we are so busy placing blame that we don’t recognize your presence and love for us. Free us from placing our own desires first and foremost. Help us to look at the many ways in which you are working in the world for peace and justice, and enable us to be part of that ministry. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

***A Time for Contemplation** (a private time for you and God)

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

One: Let go of your fears. God has forgiven you and offered to you God’s healing love. Accept this free gift, for it is given for you through Jesus Christ our Lord. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

God’s Word for Little Ears

~Hearing God’s Word~

Prayer for Understanding God’s Word

All: God our helper, by Your Holy Spirit, open our minds, that as the Scriptures are read and Your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into Your truth and taught Your will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 43:16-21 page 672

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *Be Not Afraid* by Craig Courtney

Be not afraid: for I have redeemed you;
Be not afraid: I have called you by name.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o’er you;
When you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed;
You are mine, you are precious in my sight.

My love for you is everlasting, my love for you shall have no end.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; [Text based on Isaiah 43:1-4]

New Testament Epistle Philippians 3:4-14 page 198

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson John 12:1-8 page 106

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Message *Journey Inward/Journey Outward* Pastor Kim Nelson

What New Thing is God Doing?

~Responding to God’s Word~

***Affirmation of Faith**

Let us stand and affirm our faith.

**All: We believe in God above us, Maker and Sustainer of life,
Of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
Born of a woman, a servant of the poor,
Tortured and nailed to a tree.**

A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.

He descended into the earth to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb.

He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present,

**And his kingdom will come on earth.
We believe in God within us,
The Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
Life-Giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
Source of resurrection and eternal life. Amen.**

[An Affirmation of Faith from Iona]

Invitation to Become a Joyful Giver

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings & Friendship Pad

Please take a moment to sign your name and contact information in the pew pad.

Offertory *Reflection on Jesu Meine Freude* (# 830) J. S. Bach

***Doxology** (Tune: *Amazing Grace*)

**All: Praise God the Father, Praise His name
Praise Jesus Christ, Our Lord.
And praise the Spirit with them one
Now and forevermore.**

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Prayers of the People followed by Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Sung Prayer Response *O Lord, Hear My Prayer* (# 471)

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
When I call, answer me,
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me. (Repeat)**

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~Going Forth to Serve God~

Life in Our Church Community

***Song of Sending Forth** *Be Thou My Vision* # 450

***Benediction**

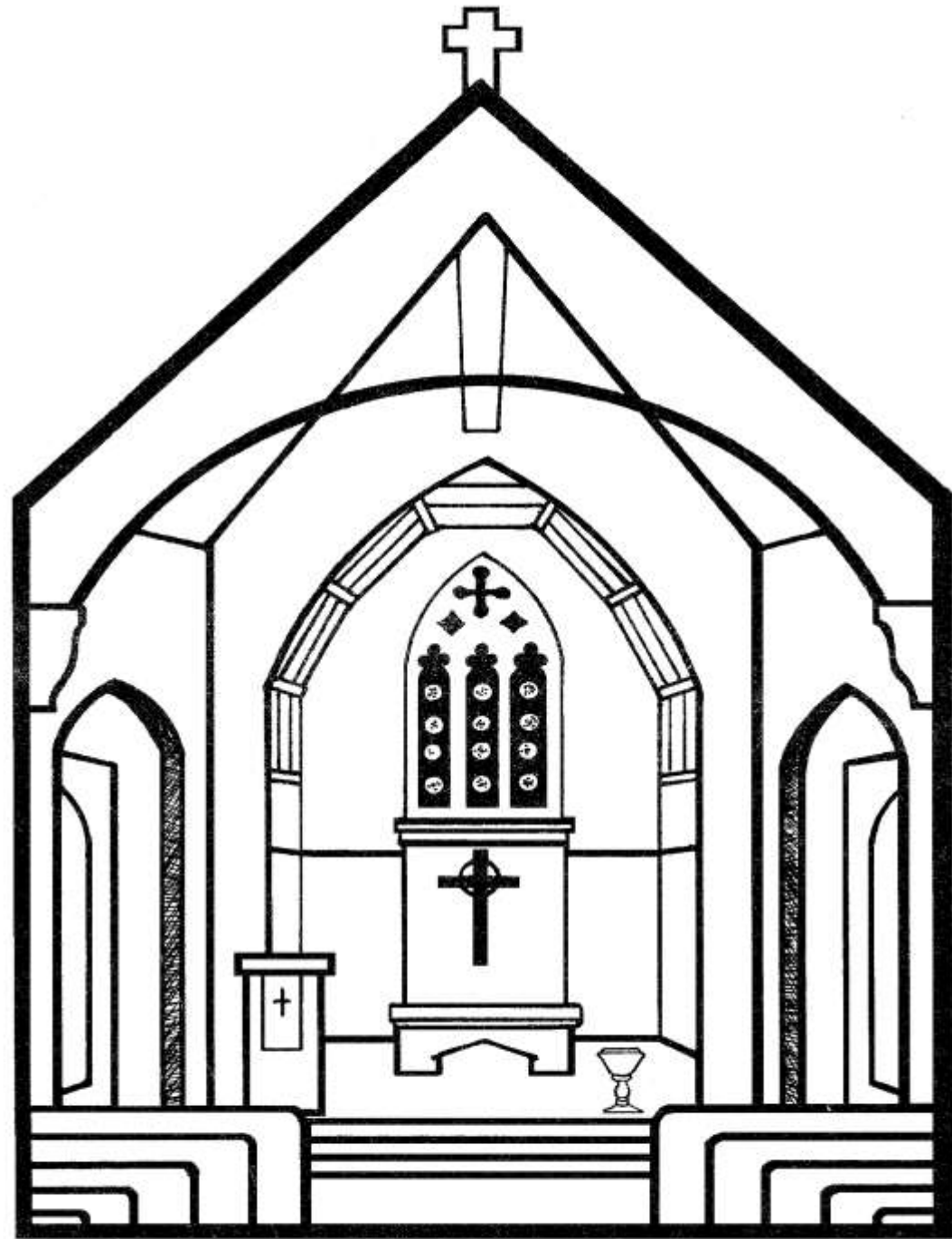
***Postlude** *Postlude on 'Slane'* by Paul Manz

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***Please stand, if you are able.**

Electronic aid for the hearing impaired is available from the usher.

Music printed and recorded for congregational use only under CCLI # 11373529



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