

MARCH 8, 2020

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

10:45 AM

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and continues until Good Friday leading up to Easter. The season represents the 40 days Jesus spent fasting and praying in the wilderness before his crucifixion. We extinguish one candle each Sunday to demonstrate our human frailty and how we put out the light of the Gospel in our daily lives.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

GREETING

Jason W. Crosby

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

During passing of the peace, simply smile and say the words, without hugs or handshakes.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

ENTRANCE INTO WORSHIP

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

PRELUDE

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE, arr. Louie Bailey

INVOCATION

Adrienne Eisenmenger

*HYMN OF PRAISE 72

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

DEDICATION OF TIFFANY YOE SHEE

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAMILY

Ta Lay Shee and Mu Ku Ku

Hser Ku Shee, Deborah Shee, And Zipporah Shee

COVENANT OF DEDICATION

Minister, Parents and Congregation

Minister: By God's love we are given children through the miracle of birth.

Congregation: We give God thanks.

Minister: May we greet each new son and daughter with joy, and surround them all with faith so they may know Christ and want to be his followers.

Congregation: Never let us neglect children, but help us to delight in them, showing them the welcome God has shown us all.

Minister: Ta Lay Shee and Mu Ku Ku, presenting Tiffany Yoe Shee to the Lord, do you promise in dependence upon God's grace and with the help of the church to teach your daughter the gifts and claims of the Christian faith, and by prayer, word and example to bring her up in the nurture, discipline and instruction of the Lord?

Parents: We do.

Minister: Brothers and sisters of this community of faith, I commend to you this family. Your love, care and example are as necessary to this covenant as their faithfulness in keeping their promise. As they seek to raise their daughter in the way of Jesus, will you do all in your power to make this church a true spiritual home for them, lending them the support of your prayers, your presence, your care and your love?

Congregation: With God's help we will so seek to follow Christ ourselves that Ta Lay Shee and Mu Ku Ku shall be strengthened and confirmed in their resolve, and that their daughter, surrounded by steadfast love, may be nurtured in the faith and led to walk in the way of Jesus.

WORDS OF BLESSING

THE PRESENTATION OF BIBLE, CERTIFICATE AND BLANKET

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of grace, Perfect Parent of us all, we pray for these parents and for all parents. Help Ta Lay Shee and Mu Ku Ku to love Tiffany Yoe Shee with Your love and be faithful to the promise they have made today. Bless Tiffany Yoe Shee. Guard her safely through injury and illness. Hold her in Your arms of love and grace. Guide her with Your Spirit. And keep us with this child and all children ready to listen and to love, even as in Jesus Christ You have loved us. We pray in the name of Jesus, Your Son, our Savior. Amen.

*GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

The word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

LENTEN LITANY

As Christ did, we are called into the wilderness during these forty days.

Help us to confront our mortality and the darkness within us and around us.

Unlike Christ, we confess unto You that we often choose that which is not You to comfort us.

Forgive us, O Lord, for being led into temptation, for turning away from the path before us lit by Your light.

Yet, the light of Christ's love and grace constantly abide with us as we go.

**We give You thanks, O Lord, that when we confess our failures unto you, you do not let us go
and our pardon is assured.**

CHORAL OFFERING

For God So Loved

Joseph M. Martin

Chancel Choir; June Bailey, conductor; Louie Bailey, piano

based on an American folk song

For God so loved, so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whosoever trusts in him shall live forevermore.

John 3:16

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jason W. Crosby

*HYMN OF LENT

Nicodemus Sought Out Jesus

NETTLETON

Nicodemus sought out Jesus at a lonely, quiet hour.

He said, "Teacher, God is with you! For in you we see God's power."

Jesus turned and gave an answer filled with challenge and with love:

"You can never see God's kingdom till you're born from heav'n above."

"Born again!" said Nicodemus. "Is that something one can do?"

Jesus said, "Don't be surprised now that you must be born anew.

And it's not by your own doing; wind and Spirit will blow free!

They are not for your controlling; trust in God for what will be."

God, your Spirit still surprises like an ever-changing wind,

Bringing life and love and justice where despair and death have been.

May we see your Spirit working as a gift from heav'n above.

Blest, may we then be a blessing to this world that you so love.

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DISCIPLINE OF SILENCE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Brittani M. Bair

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 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. Amen.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

You are invited to make an offering of your gifts as well as a silent offering of yourself.

CHORAL OFFERING

Karen Ensemble

*LENTEN DOXOLOGY

Praise God, Creator

CRUSADER'S HYMN

Praise God, Creator, praise Christ, Redeemer, praise to the Spirit, ever near.
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be thine. Amen.

Gesangbuch, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1873, adapted by Louie Bailey, 2020

*INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND COMMUNITY

We gladly welcome all who desire to unite with the community of faith at Crescent Hill Baptist Church to come forward during the Hymn of Response and share that decision with the minister.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 229

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

*BENEDICTION

Andrea V. Woolley

*SILENCE

*POSTLUDE

Morning Reflections

Louie Bailey

* Worshipers are invited to rise, in body or spirit.

- CDs of today's service may be ordered through the church office.
- Texts are reprinted by permission of CCLI License 1801331 and One License A718444.
- We invite those who wish to be baptized or join the church to share that decision with the church near the conclusion of worship. However, if you would prefer to explore baptism or church membership privately, the ministers would be glad to discuss those decisions with you following worship.
- Cover: The CROSSLET Cross – This cross is made up of four Tau Crosses with their bases creating the center of the cross. The four cross beams on each Tau Cross represent the four corners of the world. It is a symbol of hope and anticipation for salvation that has been promised but has not yet been fully realized.