

Clemmons Presbyterian Church



"To Be A Blessing" by Hannah Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Second Sunday of Lent

March 5, 2023

WELCOME

Leigh Wisner

THE LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION and THE RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

PRELUDE

Contemplation
Austin Beasley

Anthony Giamanco

We Gather Around The Word,

CALL TO WORSHIP

Patricia Greene

One: What is it like to begin again?

**All: It is like flowers in the spring that push through frozen ground.
It is like babies learning to walk, one clumsy step at a time.
It is like Nicodemus in the night, asking Jesus for guidance.
It is like a Sunday morning, starting our week anew.**

One: May we find God in our seeking.

All: May we learn as we go.

One: May we be brave enough to begin again.

All: Let us worship the God of new beginnings.

*HYMN #37

Let All Things Now Living

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

from A Sanctified Art

God of new life, you call us into unknown places, and we bury our heads in the sand. You promise all the stars in the sky, and we doubt it can be true. You speak of new life in the Spirit, and we tell ourselves we've missed our chance. Over and over and over again, you invite us closer to you. Show us the way. Forgive our mistakes. Give us the courage to begin again with you. Amen.

*TIME OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: Since God has opened his heart to us in Jesus Christ,
in Jesus Christ let us open our hearts to each other.
May the peace of God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Please greet other worshippers with the peace of God, introduce yourself and offer personal greetings.

*HYMN #576

Lord Have Mercy

*Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy on us.*

to Hear God's Word,

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (unison)

Cyndy Hartsfield

Holy God, we come to you today with our biggest questions:

Who are we called to be? What do you need from us? Where are you in our midst? How can we follow you more clearly?

As we read your Word today, we ask that you would weave answers into the text. Speak to us through these ancient stories that we might find what we are seeking in you. With gratitude and open hearts we pray, amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 12: 1-4

GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:1-17

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

TIME FOR CHILDREN

O Come, Little Children

Leigh Wisner

ANTHEM

Come, Ye Disconsolate
Sanctuary Choir

McGrath

COMMUNION MEDITATION

“To Be Born Again”

Leigh Wisner

to Respond to the Word,

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

Patricia Greene

We believe in a God who meets us in the shadows, who welcomes our questions, who invites us to begin again. We believe that Jesus showed us a new way, a deeper faith, a more compassionate existence. We believe that all of our beginnings should return us to this foundation, and that no matter how many times we lose our way, God always welcomes us home. Amen.

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Quiet Thoughts

R. Kevin Boesiger

*DOXOLOGY #698

Take, O Take Me As I Am

*Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Ushers will invite you to the table by rows where an elder will give you bread.

Please eat your bread and move to the second elder who will give you an individual cup.

Drink the cup and return to your seat using the outside aisles.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION and THE LORD'S PRAYER (...debts/debtors...)

and to be Sent with the Word.

*HYMN #483

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here

*BENEDICTION

*THE CHIMES

*Three chimes, for the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
signal the end of our worship and call us forth into a new week of service.*

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune on "Royal Oak"

Craig A. Penfield

*Please stand as you are able.

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