

ST. DAVID'S (SHERMAN'S) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 21, 2021

10:00 AM

WELCOME

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Reveal Your presence and Your purposes, suffering God, that we may have the courage to face life and death with joy. May Your word heal our broken spirits and contrite hearts, empowering us to follow Jesus and live as Your servant people. Speak now to our troubled souls through Your living word. AMEN

OPENING HYMN: "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

- 1) Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth; through all its pulses move.
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art,
And make me love Thee as I ought to love.
- 2) I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
No sudden rending of the veil of clay,
No angel visitant, no opening skies;
But take the dimness of my soul away.
- 3) Hast Thou not bid us, love Thee, God and King?
All, all Thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind.
I see Thy cross; there teach my heart to cling:
Oh, let me seek Thee, and, oh, let me find!
- 4) Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.
- 5) Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame;
The baptism of the heav'n-descended Dove,
My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE: Miss Dee

CALL TO CONFESSION

The promises of God which we have ignored draw us back to consider the covenant God offers. The obedience of Jesus can inspire in us a reverent submission to God's will. Let us seek forgiveness and reconciliation.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. We know more of our own transgressions than we have been willing to admit, even to ourselves. We cannot escape from the sin that clings so closely. By our actions and our neglect, we have done what is evil in Your sight. May Your judgement help us to face the truth about ourselves. Then wash away the stain of our iniquity. Create in us clean hearts and renew our spirits. We are ready for a new life Hear our prayers of confession ...

A TIME OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

We are children of our Creator who loves us. We are brothers and sisters of Jesus, who was obedient to God and faithful to the law of love, even in the face of the cross. Through suffering, Christ became the source of eternal salvation for us. The burden of our sin is lifted from us. New life is ours to enjoy.

HOLY SCRIPTURES: Psalm 119:9-16, John 12:20-33

PSALM 119:9-16

ⲁ Beth

⁹ How can a young person stay on the path of purity?

By living according to your word.

¹⁰ I seek you with all my heart;

do not let me stray from your commands.

¹¹ I have hidden your word in my heart

that I might not sin against you.

¹² Praise be to you, LORD;

teach me your decrees.

¹³With my lips I recount
all the laws that come from your mouth.

¹⁴I rejoice in following your statutes
as one rejoices in great riches.

¹⁵I meditate on your precepts
and consider your ways.

¹⁶I delight in your decrees;
I will not neglect your word.

JOHN 12:20-33

Jesus Predicts His Death

²⁰ Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." ²² Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

²³ Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵ Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

²⁷ "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name!"

Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." ²⁹ The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

³⁰ Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. ³¹ Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³ He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

SERMON: "Was That Thunder?"

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 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

BENEDICTION:

God has acted in Christ to save us, that we might live as children of God. Go forth as followers and servants.

CLOSING HYMN: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

1) O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my guide.

2) O let me feel Thee near me!
The world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

3) O let me hear Thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

4) O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be.
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my Friend.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS, March 21, 2021

CHILDRENS SUNDAY SCHOOL! We have joined with St. Jacob's Stone UCC to offer Sunday School via Zoom each Sunday at 1:00 PM. There will be a story lesson, a craft and song time every week. For more information, see Miss Dee at worship or have an adult privately message her via Facebook, message Pastor Sager or email the Church office (office@stdavidsucc.com). To join in on Sunday School, right click on the following link (or enter *Zoom.com* in your browser), Click "join a meeting" and then enter the Meeting ID and password as printed here:

ZOOM LINK TO JOIN CHILDRENS SUNDAY SCHOOL

Meeting ID: 717 212 9122

Password: 547270

PEANUT BUTTER BALLS: \$4.00 per Dozen. Milk Chocolate or Dark Chocolate. *Orders are Due Today, March 21.* Payment is Due at Pick-up. Pick-up is March 28 at Either of the Worship Services. Quantities are Limited (120 Dozen). Click on the link for order form: [PEANUT BUTTER BALL ORDER FORM](#)

SEND A CARD: In our March Digest (Church Newsletter), Gerald Raubenstine was the focus of our "Member Spotlight." Gerald faithfully attended Worship and Sunday School when he was able. Gerald will celebrate his birthday on March 26. Drop him a note or card for his birthday to let him know that we are thinking of him. (*Gerald Raubenstine, Sharon's Personal Care Home, 1441 Baltimore Street, Hanover, PA 17331.*)

BELL PRACTICE: Mondays, 7:00 PM at the church.

MEN's GROUP: The next meeting will be March 29 at 7:00 PM at the church with masks and social distancing. The 9-week curriculum is entitled "The Discipleship Playbook." Meetings can also be accessed via Uber Conference (717-388-0676). You will need a computer or another device with video technology to view the video.

BIBLE STUDY: Bible Study, Tuesdays (Mornings, 9:30 AM; Evenings, 7:30 PM). We are studying the Minor Prophets. All sessions will be in-person in the church Sanctuary with masks and social distancing being practiced. Bible Study will also be available via Uber Conference (717-388-0676) for anyone who does not feel comfortable meeting in person. We look forward to having you join us.

COMBINED LENTEN SERVICE: 7:00 PM, Sunday, March 21: *Pastor Steven Thomas (St. Bartholomews), "Meditation that Connects us with God."* Join in on the service through *Uber Conference* or via *Zoom Conference*. Instructions on how to join via Uber or Zoom can be found on the Announcements page on the church's website, or you may text Pastor Sager to be added to the Uber call list.

FLOWERS FOR EASTER SUNDAY: Flowers to beautify the Sanctuary on Easter, April 4 and celebrate the Glorious Resurrection may now be ordered. *Orders are due by Sunday, March 28* (No late orders, please). The cost is \$11/each. Flower choices are White Lilies, Tulips and Hyacinths. There will be no color preference, because the greenhouses are unable to guarantee color selection due to the high volume of sales during Easter. We will ask for a variety of colors for Tulips and Hyacinths. The Lilies will be white. Please use one (1) order form per flower order. Order forms with payment, may be placed in the offering plate or given to Pam Hartman before or after worship. Download form here: [EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM](#)

CHOIR REHEARSAL: Thursday, March 25 at 7:00 PM. We will not be rehearsing any anthems at this time, but instead will be singing and recording the hymn selections for upcoming worship services. Anyone who would like to help record the hymns is welcome at these rehearsals. Masks and social distancing will be mandatory at these rehearsals.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: Parking Lot Worship Service, 7:00 PM, Thursday, April 1 followed by Drive-thru Communion.

GOOD FRIDAY: Parking Lot Worship Service, 7:00 PM, Friday, April 2.

EASTER DAWN: Sunday, April 4. Bring your breakfast of choice with you and worship as the sun comes up on a glorious Easter dawn. Worship service, 7:00 AM in the parking lot.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please send your prayer requests directly to Pastor Scott either by text (717-880-6082) or e-mail (pastor@stdavidsucc.com or pscott8283@comcast.net) prior to Sunday, so that he can lift them up during worship.

CHURCH REOPENING: Indoor Worship services will resume on Palm Sunday, March 28 at 8:30 AM with masks and social distancing. If you are not comfortable in larger gatherings, you may still attend the 8:30 AM Worship service and remain in your car and listen to the service on FM 95.9 on your car radio. There will also be a parking lot Worship service each Sunday at 10:30 AM. Uber Conference will continue, as well. Updated guidelines for returning to worship are in your March Newsletter. They are also available on the Home page of the Church website: www.stdavidsucc.com

COMMUNITY AID UPDATE: Donations are now being accepted in the parking lot bins of clothing and small household items. Please do not let items sit outside of the bins. Do not put any glass or breakable items, or large items in the bins. Please bring those items to the donation site on Baltimore St. Thank you. When donating at the store, remember to mention St. David's United Church of Christ and our **Code number, #20003** and we will receive \$.06 per pound for clothing donations. Drive-up hours are Monday–Saturday, 9:00 AM–3:00 PM.

HANOVER AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (HACC)

PAL DATE: March 27, April 24

CLOTHING BANK DATE: April 17

HACC CLOTHING BANK: The Clothing Bank has lots of clothing available. This is for the General Public as well as HACC clients. Anyone is welcome to receive two free bags of clothing. Call office for appointment at 717-633-6353.

HACC ITEMS NEEDED:

PAL

Single-serve Fruits
Individual Size Chips,
Pretzels, etc.
Laundry Detergent
Instant White Rice
Scallop Potatoes

Changing Lives Shelter

Deodorant (Men & Women)
Exam Gloves (Med & Lg)
Hand Sanitizer
Bottled Water
Shampoo/Conditioner

Clothing Bank

Family-Size Toiletries
Sheet Sets (All Sizes)
Bath Towels
Men's (L & XL) White T-shirts
Baby Diapers (Sizes 4 & 5)

Ruth's Harvest

Single-serve Entrees (Cereal, Juice Boxes, Snacks or Veggies)

HANOVER NEW HOPE NEEDS: **Pantry Helpers** needed to help stock shelves, assist guests as needed, help with curb-side delivery. Afternoons needed on all days Monday–Friday, 12:00 PM–4:30 PM.

Parking Helpers—willing to move around frequently and do not mind inclement weather. Help needed on Monday and Wednesday. If interested, please call Andrew at (717) 698-3365 (x509).

Pantry Desk Help—signing guests up for food appointments, answer phones, multi-task, schedule appointments.

Administrative—scheduling on the calendar, paperwork for guests, opening/closing the lobby, greeting guests, light filing, informing others about our resources and area referrals. If interested, please call the front desk at (717) 698-3365 (x501).

Front Desk Receptionist—Help needed with restocking the pantry and marketplace. Need 2 people per shift Monday–Friday.

STOLTE SCHOLARSHIP FUND: The Stolte Scholarship Fund provides a grant for \$1000 to an individual pursuing a career in the field of ministry, mission or humanitarian service. Interested applicants must be residents of the greater Hanover area and should be a high school senior, college student or a seminary student. He or she may complete an application and submit a brief summary of their call into the field of service and list their future vocational goals. They should be an active member of a church, display good moral character and exhibit high scholastic ability. Applications forms are available from our church office or from HACC. The deadline for applications is April 30, 2021. For additional information please call the Council office at 717-633-6353.