

The Worship of God during Lent

March 29, 2020

Invocation *O Holy God, by whose love all things were made, stir in us this day the knowledge of your presence. Jesus Christ, who knows the pain of absence, and who bridges distances to be near us, waken us to your love this morning. Holy Spirit, wind of God, bring to our ears the sounds of our neighbors praying across the miles. In the name of God, who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit we pray, One God, Mother of us all. Amen.*

Announcements What work in the world has God given PRBC this week? How can I contribute?

Gathering Hymn, 221 “When Morning Guilds the Skies”

Silent Prayers of Confession—**Lord, have mercy.**

Praying with the Psalmist (Psalm 130)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. Lord, hear my voice!

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope.

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope.

But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope.

My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope.

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him there is great power to redeem.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope.

It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope.

Passing the Peace *In your mind’s eye, move around the sanctuary passing the peace of Christ to your neighbors.

Offertory Hymn, 605 “Because I Have Been Given Much”
Listen online @ <https://youtu.be/KFtT5igiLn8>

Offering of Gifts *Consider one concrete act in the coming week by which you can return to the Lord a portion of that which you’ve been given.

Prayers for the Life of the World—**Lord, hear my prayer.**

Song of Preparation

I am nothing, I have nothing.

I desire nothing but the love of Jesus.

I am nothing, I have nothing.

I desire nothing but the love of Jesus alone.

(Recording on PRBC’s Facebook page)

Gospel Reading—John 11:1-45

Lenten Sermon Series on “Belonging” “Belonging in Death”

When terrible things happen, our fragile understandings of Jesus’ love and power are laid bare: we think that Jesus’ love means always being well-fed, well-loved, and at ease. We think God’s power will keep us from harm and danger in the world. Mary and Martha sent a messenger to remind Jesus of his love for Lazarus, yet he delayed coming. At the grave, they both reminded him of God’s power, yet his imagination for God’s power was greater. Jesus showed his love and power, not as they expected, but deeply and surely. Through his own tears, Jesus’ love for Lazarus was revealed. In raising Lazarus from the dead, God’s power went to work in Lazarus’ body in a new and glorious way. Today, when we must delay coming together, may our tears, grief and even our absence bear witness to our love for one another. May our patience, gentleness, and faith testify to the power of God at work in our minds and bodies. Let us wait on the Lord together. Amen.

Silence

Parting Hymn, 455 “I Must Tell Jesus”

Benediction

WELCOME

Greetings to you from across the miles! We continue to comply with guidance from local and state officials regarding our plans for in-person services. We are exploring possibilities to observe social distancing and use our parking lot or the grave yard road to conduct services for Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. However, we believe that our prayers and worship on this day put us closer together in spirit, even as we are unable to gather in body.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ⇒ Services this Sunday will be held across the miles rather than in-person. We encourage you to worship together as distant participants during the 11:00 am worship hour.
- ⇒ Last week we distributed an updated church directory. Please take an opportunity to pray for, call, write, or otherwise reach out to one another.
- ⇒ We will need a few under-60 volunteers to run our Help Center food distribution on April 3. Please call Billy Sanders for details.
- ⇒ For those wishing to correspond with the church during this period or send an offering or benevolence fund check, the church's mailing address is PO Box 45, Port Royal, KY 40058.

Cover: "Raising of Lazarus," by Vincent van Gogh (d. 1890).

Lenten Readings

- March 1 – Matthew 4:1-11 – Belonging in the Wilderness
- March 8 – John 3:1-17 – Belonging in the Dark
- March 15 – John 4:5-42 – Belonging at the Well
- March 22 – John 9:1-41 – Belonging at the Pool
- March 29 – John 11:1-45 – Belonging in Death

Co-pastors: Reverends Amber and John Inscore Essick
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Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Carl Rucker 532-6092
Musicians: Tanya Berry, Velma Jo Brown, and Carden Willis

SUNDAY SCHOOL
MORNING WORSHIP

10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.



PORT ROYAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Port Royal, KY