

Sow Good News

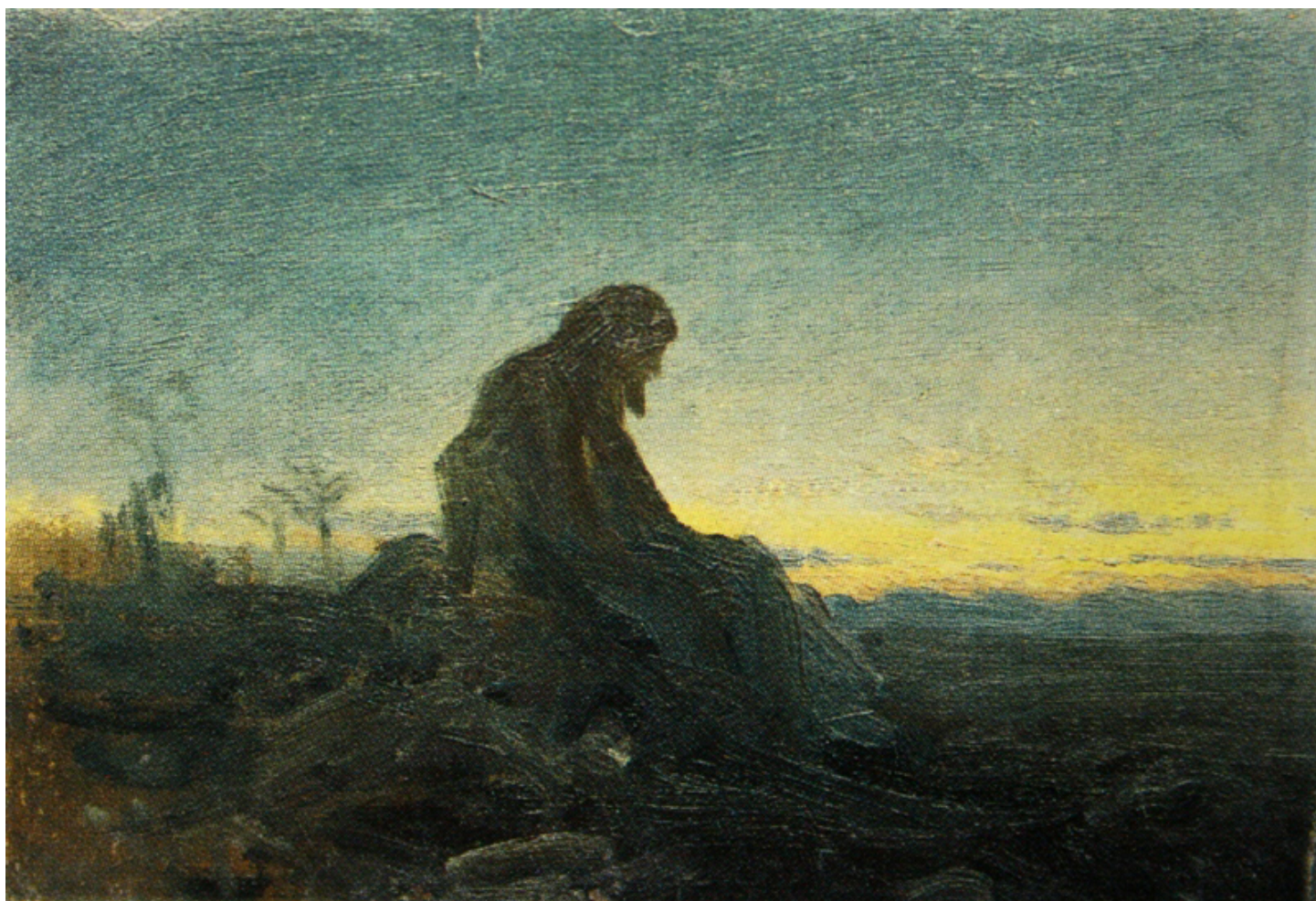
"Faith comes by listening." (Romans 10:17)



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN
THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 4, 2024



C.J. Briggs, Music Director
Julie Lehmann, Church Secretary

Nancy Jermann, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

Jesus had a great liking for the marvelously tonic solitude of places where a vast horizon stretches out, where the soul can feel withdrawn from the noises, the agitation, and the competition below. ~ Yves Congar

~ GATHERING ~

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Isaiah 40:28)*

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

*GATHERING

LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING

GTG #456

Kenyan (NENO LAKE MUNGU)

Refrain x2

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Psalm 147)*

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

Hallelujah! Praise the holy name of God,

who brings refugees home and food to the hungry,
who heals broken hearts and tends the wounded,
who blows the spirit to every troubled place.

Hallelujah! Praise the holy name of God,

who numbers the stars and stirs the oceans,
who cares for each bird and feeds wild animals,
who bathes the earth with justice and grace.

Hallelujah! Praise the holy name of God.

*HYMN

JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL

GTG #440

by Charles Wesley

ABERYSTWYTH

CHILDREN OF GOD

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, it's tempting to give up and give in, to hide from the injustices of the world, to protect ourselves and our own, to turn off the evening news full of bad news. Forgive our sins of escape, of ignoring, of turning our backs on those in need. Forgive our sins of apathy when you call us to action. Renew us, Holy God, by your grace. Strengthen us to follow Christ's call. Amen. *[Silent Confession]*

***RESPONSE**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

GTG #576

by Swee Hong Lim

SINGAPURA

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*Psalm 103:17*)

Know that we are forgiven and be at peace. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** (*Isaiah 52:7*)

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

~ *LISTENING TO THE WORD* ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE

ISAIAH 40:21-31

NRSV

GOSPEL LESSON

MARK 1:29-39

NRSV

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.

For faith comes by listening.

SERMON

SACRED ENCOUNTERS: PART I

~ *RESPONDING TO THE WORD* ~

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Apostles' Creed*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

RESPONSE

DOXOLOGY

GTG #606

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

HYMN

COME, TO THE TABLE OF GRACE

GTG #507

by Barbara Hamm

COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

~ *GOING FORTH* ~

*HYMN

PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND

GTG #834

by Thomas Dorsey

*BENEDICTION

How are we to proclaim unless we are sent:

How beautiful are the feet of those who bring Good News!

POSTLUDE

February 13: Mardi Gras, 5:30pm @Fairmount Presbyterian

February 14: Ash Wednesday, Noon @IPC

Pieces of today's liturgy are from: *Book of Common Worship* (PCUSA);
Call to Worship, Lectionary Aids, Presbyterian Outlook, Teri Ott.

Cover Image: *Christ in the Wilderness*, by Ivan Nikolaevich Kramskoi

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