

Sow Good News



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN

THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

Go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words. (Jeremiah 18:2)

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 18, 2024



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

Karen Shallcross, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

Lent is "a time when we all get a minute to tell the truth: Life is so beautiful and life is so hard. For everyone." ~ Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie

~ **GATHERING** ~

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Jeremiah 18:2*)

Come down to the potter's house,
and there I will let you hear my words.

***GATHERING**

CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD
by Eddie Espinosa

GTG #695

***LITANY FOR LENT**

For forty days and nights the rain fell,
and the waters covered the face of the earth

Lead us, O Lord, from death into life.

For forty years the people wandered,
seeking the land of God's promise.

Lead us, O Lord, from death into life.

Moses spent forty days on the mountain,
learning the commandments of God.

Lead us, O Lord, from death into life.

Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness
to hear the voice of God in the silence.

Lead us, O Lord, from death into life.

Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh:

Repent, or in forty days you will perish
Lead us, O Lord, from death into life.

Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days
and was tested by the Accuser.

Lead us, O Lord, from death into life.

***HYMN**

LORD, WHO THROUGHOUT THESE FORTY DAYS
by Claudia F. I. Hernaman

GTG #166

ST. FLAVIAN

CHILDREN OF GOD

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

All: May God be with you there. Kids: May God be with you here.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Jeremiah 18:11*)

Gracious God, as we wander through this wilderness with Jesus, examining all the worldly comforts we turn to during times of stress and struggle, we confess the neglect of our faith. We confess all that we place above you, making idols of money, earthly power, and even food. Empty us this Lent, Holy God. Guide us in our spiritual practices so we can leave this wilderness season more aware of your presence and the ways our faith can sustain us. Amen. [*Silent Confession*]

***RESPONSE**

LAMB OF GOD
Trad. liturgical text

GTG #603
AGNUS DEI (Vasile)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*Jeremiah 18:6*)

Thus, says the Lord: Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so you are in my hand. **In the potter's hands we are reformed. Thanks be to God.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

~ LISTENING TO THE WORD ~

SACRED ENCOUNTERS

KAREN SHALLCROSS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE

JEREMIAH 18:1-6

NRSV

Come down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words.
For faith comes by listening.

HYMN

GOD THE SCULPTOR OF THE MOUNTAINS

GTG #5

by John Thornburg

JENNINGS-HOUSTON

GOSPEL LESSON

MARK 1:9-15

NRSV

Come down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words.
For faith comes by listening.

SERMON

DOWN TO THE POTTER'S HOUSE

