

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)

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

February 25, 2024



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

John Bair, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

*Blessed are you, friend, sitting among the shards of what could have been.
It is broken now, that dream you loved, and it has spilled out all over the ground.
...Blessed are you when mourning is the holy work of the moment.*

~ 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** **GTG #695**
by Eddie Espinosa

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Psalm 51, from PSALMS OF WONDER by Carey Wallace*)

Have mercy on me, Lord, because your love never fails.

Wash away my crimes and wipe away my mistakes.

You always want truth even when it's hidden.

Give me your wisdom. Create a pure heart in me.

Make my spirit strong and true. Don't throw me away.

Give me joy! Come to my rescue!

Then I will teach your ways to others,

and when they hear, they will come back to God.

Open up my lips and I will give you praise.

You don't want the sacrifices we bring to your table.

But if our hearts are broken, and our spirits too,

you will not look down on us.

We can always bring them to you.

Have mercy on us, Lord, because your love never fails.

Come, let us worship God.

***HYMN** **TAKE UP YOUR CROSS, THE SAVIOR SAID** **GTG #718**
by Charles William Everest **BOURBON**

CHILDREN OF GOD

JEREMIAH THE BOY PROPHET

from THE CHILDREN OF GOD STORYBOOK BIBLE

THE BAPTISMAL FONT (*Jeremiah 19:1, 10*)

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

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(based on Psalm 51, from TOGETHER WE PRAY)*

Have mercy, O God, have mercy upon us today. Without you our hearts are empty and our bones ache. Without your presence we fall apart. Rebuild us, Holy God, rebuild all the broken places in this world, in our homes, in our hearts. May your steadfast love wash over the earth. May your Holy Spirit refresh every broken spirit. May your wisdom teach us the power of joy. Rebuild us with mercy, we pray. Amen. *[Silent Confession]*

***RESPONSE**

LAMB OF GOD

GTG #603

Trad. liturgical text

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.**

MINUTE FOR SOWING

NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH

~ LISTENING TO THE WORD ~

SACRED ENCOUNTERS

JOHN BAIR

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE

JEREMIAH 19

SELECT VERSES

SPECIAL MUSIC

THOU SHALT BREAK THEM

Handel

from MESSIAH *(Psalm 2:9)*

GOSPEL LESSON

MARK 8:31-38

NRSV

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

SERMON

A BROKEN POTTER'S VESSEL

