Intergenerational Worship Celebration Taking Us Into Lent 2020

Turbulence...Along The Way!



<u>Gathering</u>
"Ring Around The Rosie"
...falling up! Turning Toward What Is Life Giving!

Call to Worship

Pastor:

Turbulence, hard times, come...even when life seems to be living "good". Chaotic changes may come to our door and we sigh, hard times...please come no more! And, it is exactly for times such as these the Universal Christ has come! Holiness puts on a human face in Jesus to show us a way through ...what we can say and do! Still, we know the depth of the "waves" this uninvited turbulence can create in our lives. We usually doubt at first that we will be able to cope. But then we remember and we know deeply at our core, turbulence is "truth" there's no way to ignore. And it is often that very commotion...that truth, held in holiness, which brings wholeness to life and even joy.

Song: "My Life Flows On" Hymnal #821

Bible Wisdom Teachings

Luke 9:28-36

The Gospel of Truth 1:1, 3

"The good news of truth is joy for those who received grace from the God of the Truth; that they might know God through the power of the Word which has come from the Fullness (Oneness) and <u>is</u> the thought and mind of God. And the name "good news" is the revelation of hope, for this is the discovery of those who see God."



Reflection

All times are really turbulent times. And turbulent times bring possibility.

God, when Moses came from being in Your presence, his face shone. I am not so sure what shows on my face. I only wish others could see Your glory in me...I wish I could see Your glory in me! It's not that I want to look wonderful to others, but I want Your sure power to register on my face, in my actions, in the words I speak. I want to be changed for the better and I want it to show! No veil for me Lord, please. Give me courage to take off this mask I wear and cast aside falseness and deceit in the little and big things of life. I want to be able to look at myself in the mirror and see Your love and strength reflected in me. I want to experience the freedom of Moses and Elijah and Jesus and those who are filled with the Spirit. I don't need a mountaintop experience, Lord...a simple hill, bump in my road, would do it! A little turbulence! Move me from my life's low places to a new perspective. I am willing to open my mind and turn my heart toward You. I am willing to listen to You...at least try! The magnitude of your simple goodness to me overwhelms me.

Song:

"Jesus Loves Me"

<u>Poem by John Donahue, Adapted</u>

An Invitation to Lent

Turn toward what has possibility for your life: Watch what drops away as you do!

Remembering Our Baptisms

Sharing The Waters.

<u> Marked With Ashes</u>

Remembering Whose We Are... Marked with the meaning of life vulnerable yet eternal.



<u>Our Prayers The Lord's Prayer</u> <u>Affirming Our Faith With Intention</u>

May today there be peace within. May I trust God that I am exactly where I am meant to be. May I always remember the infinite possibilities that are born of doubt twinned with faith. May I use the gifts of love and life I have received, and pass on the love that has been given to me. May I be confident knowing I am a child of God. Let this settle into my bones, and allow my soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love...risk and reveal the Way!

<u>Singing Our Faith:</u>
Sung Benediction

•For Suffering by John O'Donohue, adapted

May you be blessed in the holy names of those Who, without you knowing it, Help to carry and lighten your pain.

May you know serenity
When you are called
To enter the house of turbulence.

May a window of light always surprise you.

May you be granted the wisdom to avoid false resistance.

When turbulence knocks on the door of your life,

May you glimpse its eventual gifts.

May you be able to receive the fruits of chaos, commotion...turbulence. May memory bless and protect you with the hard-earned light of past travail; to remind you that you have survived before and, though the darkness now is deep, you will soon see approaching light.

May the grace of time heal your wounds. May you know that though the storm might rage, not a hair of your head will be harmed.