



"A Community Of Many Faithing Communities Where All Belong!"

Living Waters Contemplative Life Center | Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless  
Tippecanoe just.good.food Garden | Food Justice Site PCUSA  
Arts and Science Literacy Camps for Children

# Welcome To Worship

February 21, 2021

9:30 a.m.

*Creating Possibility: Learning to Live "As If!"*

*I can move from a "What if" ...this or that happens approach to life  
to an "Even though" ...this or that happens approach to life  
I can because I Believe!*



*Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.*

## TODAY'S WORSHIP

*1st Sunday in Lent*

Preparing To Worship...



~ ~ ~

***Creating Possibility: Learning to Live “As If”!***  
*I can move from a “What if” ...this or that happens” approach to life  
to an “Even though” ...this or that happens approach to life.  
I can live “As If” because I Believe!*

✧ **Welcome and Community News**

✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

***Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!  
Surely God is in this place,  
Holy Ground!***

✧ **Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:**

*How Are You As You Arrive...how is it with your spirit?*

✧ **Gathering as God's People:**

Pastor: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is God’s deepest desire, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” “Live as if there were no tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.” (Paul and Mahatma Gandhi)

**All: Sing like no one is listening. Love like you’ve never been hurt. Dance like nobody’s watching, and live like heaven is on earth. (Twain) Live like you “Believe.” Live “Even Though.” Live “As If” the new realm is here and now. Good News! It is!**

## ✧Gathering Poem and Special Music Video: I Believe

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LmtIZHEHPd4>

## ✧Opening Ourselves to God's Grace

### ✧Sharing Our Inner Most Lives with God

As a Christian, I am called to live “as if” the divine energies of love and compassion inhabit each moment of each day. The Child of Humanity implores me to live in the Realm of God. A divinely, rightly ordered kingdom oriented around truth, loving kindness, right relationships, justice...

Imagine! Easter every day!

What would my personal life look like if love truly reigned, **PAUSE** and what would my relationships look like if I took time to orient around loving kindness, **PAUSE** and what would my relationship with Earth look like if I realized my kinship with all creatures and nature, **PAUSE** and what would the social systems in which I live look like if they were oriented around justice?

What possibilities would I create if I live “as if” each day!

I am scared to let go of comforts and riches and habits and routines and prejudices and cliques and things that make life seem easier for me...even if they are false, short-lived, divisive, and even hollow. These things are familiar...like overstuffed chairs and bright lights. It is so hard to start doing things in new ways...to hang onto rainbows...to step into the darkness of the unknown even knowing You are there ahead of me, O Holy One. It's hard to live “as if” ...when others sneer or would call me foolish or push back against me.

This Lent, I long to live the Divine Love reflected in the Gospels. I open and pray for the courage to give myself to a new reality... walking the talk with Jesus to my own Jerusalem and beyond! Lord, I ask it! Amen!

✧ *You may wish to name with God the things which you are holding onto...even though they do not move you along in your life or in your faith; or you may share a time you felt prepared to think and act differently even though others sneered; or you may simply invite Jesus to come sit beside you shining his healing light all around and through you.*



### ✧Our Assurance of God's Love With Us:

*“I'm Gonna' Keep My Heart Wide Open Till My Faith Brings Me Back to Solid Ground”*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5LJ11HGuzo>

## ✧Bible Wisdom Teachings

### The Gospel of Thomas Saying #24

His followers said: “Show us the place where you are, because it is necessary that we seek it.”  
He said to them, “Whoever has ears to hear, hear! There is light within a person of light, and that one lights up the entire world. If that one does not shine, there is darkness.”

### The Gospel of Thomas Saying #34

Jesus said: “If a blind person leads a blind person, both will fall into a pit.”

Genesis 9:8-17

1 Peter 3:19-21a, 22- 23

## ✧Prompting

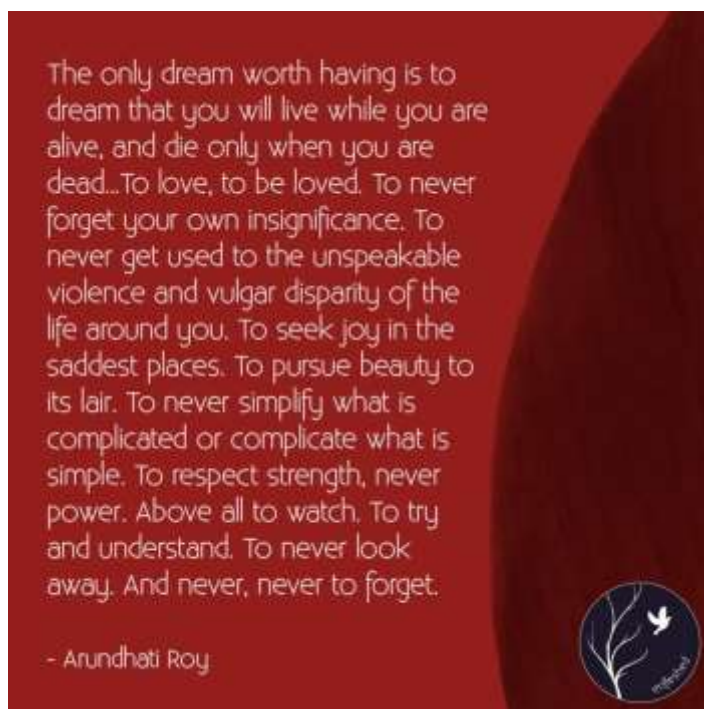
*Creating Possibility: Learning to Live “As If”!*

*“Courageous Covenants of Love”*

*Rev. Karen S. Hagen*

## ✧Special Music Video: “A Safe Place to Land”

*Sara Bareilles - A Safe Place to Land (Live at the Village) ft. John Legend - Bing video*



## ✧Sharing Our Wisdom

✧ **Affirming Our Faith with Intention...*Our Prayer*** (Poem by John O'Donohue, adapted)

**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 Humanity. Let this settle into my bones, and allow my soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love...to live "as if" along the Way!**

✧ **Community Prayers: Sharing Prayer Pictures: "Feeling Good"**  
**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

✧ **Honoring the Sustaining Financial Gifts of Our Faithing Community...**

*A special music video lifting up all you make possible in our greater community!*

✧ **Benediction...*Becoming a Living Blessing***

*What of this shared wisdom goes with you as helpful and life-giving?*

✧ **Our Response ...*Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your word lives on in us.***

*Hear this service presented on TippeTalk podcast, link on our website & Facebook.*