



"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

March 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 live "As If" because I Believe!*



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

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Preparing To Worship...



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Creating Possibility: Learning to Live "As If"!
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to an "Even though" ...this or that happens approach to life.
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- ✧ Welcome and Community News
- ✧ Reading 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: "Where Are You Going To?" Diana Ross
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gsA-Xc6gWDE>

✧ Opening Ourselves to God's Grace

✧ Sharing Our Inner Most Lives with God

God you say you will write your law within me and write your ways on my heart. But before You can write anything new on my heart, Lord, You will have to do a lot of erasing...because scribbled there...You will find all the old "hurtful" scripts and roles my heart learned as a child...playing over and over again.

I am not able to escape my compulsion to follow these old rules, nor the guilts that bedevil me when I do. Oh, Lord! I long to be free of these old influences and voices. To sit atop a new elephant! Please do erase the old ways...but gently...so as not to remove even one more layer of my heart.

Oh, Lord! When I am honest with myself, I know it will be very hard for me to be freed to a new way of living. I need you with me Lord...for I may not be able to respond to life the way I long to respond. Help me through...place Your confident hope in me...within me. Bring to me the skills that go with this new intentional way of being...and the calm and resiliency to use them in the moment.

With an opening heart, help me recognize and accept the things I cannot change and have the courage to change what is mine to change...me! Let me "hate my life" enough to risk losing it and so save myself...troubled soul and all! Take me by the hand so I will find it within me to live as if...even though. Lord, I ask it.

✧ You may wish to name with God one of the "old messages" that keep replaying in your heart--ones you wish would be erased; or you may share how it feels to be unable to live confidently; or you may simply invite Jesus to come sit beside you shining 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

Psalm 51:1-3, 6-12

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R8N-zihq9JM>

Jeremiah 31:31-34

John 12:23-33

The Gospel of Thomas Saying #43

His followers said to him: Who are you to say these things to us?"

"You do not realize who I am from what I say to you? Rather, you have become like the Judeans: they love the tree, but hate its fruit...and love its fruit, but hate the tree."

✧Prompting

[Creating Possibility: Learning to Live "As If"!](#)

"What's In Your Secret Heart!"

Rev. Karen S. Hagen



✧Special Music Video: "Fortitude"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3joxpN8bN_A

✧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: 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 Tippe Talk podcast, link on our website & Facebook.