



# Corbin Presbyterian Church

March 7, 2021  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

*In Lent, we're reminded that, again and again, suffering and brokenness find us. We doubt again, we lament again, we mess up again. Again and again, the story of Jesus on the cross repeats—every time lives are taken unjustly, every time the powerful choose corruption and violence, every time individuals forget how to love. With exacerbation we exclaim, "Again?! How long, O God?" And yet, in the midst of the motion blur chaos of our lives, God offers a sacred refrain: "I choose you, I love you, I will lead you to repair." Again and again, God breaks the cycle and offers us a new way forward.*

*This theme provides a clear invitation in a time when much is unclear. Even if worshipping apart, we come to God again and again with our prayers, our dreams, our hopes, and our doubts. Even if from a distance, we will continue to be community to one another—especially when it's hard—by choosing each other over and over again. We will continue to love God with the same persistence God chooses and claims us through Jesus Christ. The sub-theme, "A" Lenten Refrain," speaks to the ways God can make music of our lives. "Refrain" also reminds us that Lent is a season of abstaining from certain practices in order to take on new rhythms and habits.*

*In this season, we need rituals—both old and new—to remember and be transformed. Embodied practice builds muscle memory. We need the days of Lent because this season shapes us into more faithful disciples. This Lent, again and again, we bring all of who we are to God and trust that God will meet us, time and again along the way until "an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last!" (hymn: Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days)*

## Order of Worship for the Lord's Day Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Chorale

Bela Barton  
1881-1945

### Preparing for Worship

This week's them is *Again & Again, We are Shown the Way*. According to John, Jesus begins his ministry by showing more than telling. In the temple, Jesus disrupts and overturns the systems of corruption and profiteering taking place, but ultimately points us to the promise of restoration. Paul reminds the Corinthians (and us) that God's wisdom is more expansive than we can imagine. We are shown the way, even if God's way feels foolish, counter-cultural, disruptive or uncomfortable. As we prepare to worship, let us pray:

*Again and again—we are invited in.*

*Again and again—God meets us.*

*We are here. God is here.*

*This space is holy ground.*

Welcome & Announcements

## Call to Worship

The message of the cross sounds foolish to the world;

**But to us it is the power of God!**

We proclaim the scandal of Christ crucified.

**The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,**

And the weakness of God is stronger than our strength.

**Let us worship God.**

## Prayer of the Day

### Hymn #213

### *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

RATHBUN

*In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time;  
all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.*

*When the woes of life o'er-take me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.*

*When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way,  
from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.*

*Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified;  
peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.*

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

**God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. You gave us your law to guide us, but we seek the wisdom of the world. You made us a temple of living stones, but we dishonor the body of Christ. Forgive us, God of grace. Instruct us in our foolishness and strengthen us in our weakness so that we may be holy and whole; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Assurance of Forgiveness

## *Hearing the Word*

### Prayer for Illumination

### Scripture John 2:13-33

<sup>13</sup> The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup> Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup> He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup> The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" <sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." <sup>20</sup> The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup> But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup> After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

### Scripture 1 Corinthians 1:19-25

<sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

## Responding to the Word

### Prayers of the People

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

### Offering & Dedication

*Offering plates will not be passed in the sanctuary this morning. There are offering envelopes and a plate on the table just outside the sanctuary doors where you may place your offering before you leave. All worshippers, here or at home, may send offerings to Corbin Presbyterian Church, 601 Master St., Corbin, KY. 40701.*

### Prayer of Dedication

**Lord of All Good, v. 3**

TOULON

*Father, whose bounty all creation shows;  
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;  
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows:  
To you with grateful hearts ourselves we give.*

### Invitation to the Lord's Table

*The invitation to the Lord's Supper is extended to all who seek to follow Jesus Christ. This is not a Presbyterian table, but the Lord's Table. Members, friends, and guests are welcome to share in this feast our Lord has prepared!*

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you...

Hear us now as we pray as our Lord taught us to pray, saying,

***Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

### Breaking of the Bread

### Communion of the People

*All who are worshipping in the sanctuary are invited to come to the table by the center aisle, maintaining a safe distance from others, pick up the prepared elements, and return with them to their seats. Once everyone is seated, the pastor will invite all who are in the sanctuary and those worshipping from home to partake of the elements together.*

### Hymn Prayer as We Come to the Table

**Christ, You Often Sat at Dinner**

BEACH SPRING

*Christ, you often sat at dinner with the outcasts and the poor;  
You reached out to every sinner, sharing bread and wine and more—  
You proclaimed that God's great table is a joyful, welcome place;  
No one wears an outcast label or is turned away from grace.*

*Some who heard your gracious teaching murmured at the things they saw,  
For your love was more out-reaching than the limits of their law.  
When they judged the ones you welcomed, when they noted others' sin,  
You responded, "in God's kingdom, all are gladly welcomed in!"*

*Lord, you blessed a meal and shared it, giving meanings that were new:  
"It's my body; take and eat it! It's my blood poured out for you!"  
Risen Christ, they knew your presence in the breaking of the bread;  
In that meal was God's abundance: All remembered! All were fed!*

*Christ, we know that you are able to bring healing through the cross;  
Bring together at your table all for whom you paid the cost.  
Though the feasting in your kingdom may still seem so far away,  
May we share your meal of welcome as we wait that glorious day.*

Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2011, used by permission

### Prayer after Communion

## Following the Word into the World

Hymn#432

*How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord, v. 4*

REPTON

*In what you give us, Lord, to do, together or alone,  
in old routines or ventures new, may we not cease to look to you:  
the cross you hung upon, all you endeavored, done.*

Charge & Benediction

Postlude

*Postlude in F Minor*

Dimitri Kabalevsky  
1909-1937

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*The Sanctuary flowers are provided this week by David and Mary Begley in memory of Carl Begley.*

***We remember in prayer...*** Homebound friends and family members; Sandra Adams; Dwight Barnett; Chuck Barton; Charlene & Tom Blair; Thomas Brown; Belinda Collins (Mary Begley's neighbor); Aiden Craft; Pam & Robb Hall; Carolyn Henderickson; Denise Hinkle; Alberta Irby (Margaret Henderlight's sister-in-law); Jean Jacobs; Mason Jones; Philip & Leigh Martin; Ruth Martin; Sheila Milburne; Diane Rasher (Wayne Neal's sister); Donny Seay; Keats Smith; Shawn Smith (Begleys' friend); Jack Taylor; Ed Tye; Karlyle Keith Young

*With confidence in your love and mercy, O God, we lift our prayers for those in need.  
Heal them in body, mind or circumstance, working in them by your grace,  
wonders beyond all they may dream or hope. Amen.*



***Corbin Presbyterian Church***  
601 Master Street, Corbin, KY 40701

Phone: 606-528-1444 Website: [www.corbinpres.org](http://www.corbinpres.org) Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CorbinPresby/>  
**Zoom link for worship:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83307369561?pwd=NUJocHNlNmNMZEtiOUdGRW0ycEwzdz09>

**The Reverend Lisa R. Eye, Pastor**  
**Clay Howard, Director of Music/Organist**  
**Mary Begley, Administrative Assistant**

**Session**

Rev. Lisa Eye, Moderator      Mary Begley, Clerk

**Class of 2021**  
Tom Fish  
Bob Martin

**Class of 2022**  
Janet Martin  
Doralene Webb

**Class of 2023**  
David Hoskins  
Harold Davis

**Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am – 1pm**  
Rev. Eye may be reached by calling the Church Office or by email: [pastor@corbinpres.org](mailto:pastor@corbinpres.org).



**Thank you to Mary Begley!** The Session has accepted with regret Mary Begley's resignation as Administrative Assistant as she begins a new full-time job with Conifer Health Systems. Mary's last day in the office will be Friday, March 12. However, we are very pleased to share that Mary will still fulfill most of the office financial tasks and continue to serve as the Clerk of Session and an active member of our congregation.

**Eastern Kentucky Flood Information from the Presbytery of Transylvania:**



As many of you are aware, parts of Eastern Kentucky suffered from historic flooding this past week. To give you a sense of the devastation, this picture is of the Presbyterian Church in Booneville.

As the waters recede, damage assessments are starting to take place and the great struggle for life to get back to normal begins. That will take a while. Our Presbytery secured an Initial Grant from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance of \$7500 to begin to support those local recovery efforts. We will be working with local churches to

assess the damage and find ways to support them as they meet the needs of their communities. We have a work group going to assist the Beattyville Church tomorrow and many of our church folks are filling buckets with cleaning supplies and food to distribute in their own communities. There will be lots to do. As soon as we have some sense of how best we can respond, we will be communicating with you further.

If you would like to make a contribution to help with this effort, you can make that donation by sending a check to:

Presbytery of Transylvania  
P.O. Box 23580  
Lexington, KY 40509

or through our website at <https://transyby.org/paypal/>. Please use make sure you designate this as "flood relief".

You may also make a donation to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) who continues to do magnificent work responding to all the disasters we face here and abroad. Their website can be found here- <https://pda.pcusa.org/> PDA is also supported by our yearly One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering.

Should you need any assistance or have other ways you can contribute to the recovery effort, please contact our Mission Chair, Don Stanley at [pastordons@hotmail.com](mailto:pastordons@hotmail.com).

**Emergency Food:** Thank you to all who have contributed to the Emergency Food.

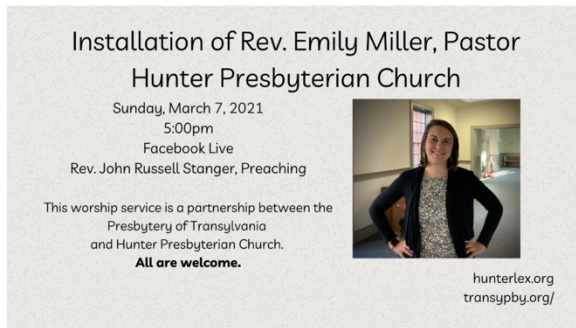
**The Senior Box** pick up will be on March 24, 2021. If you have additional questions or would be interested in helping please contact Sam Tye at (606) 524-1521 or Karen Nies at (606) 344-0229. All safety guidelines will be in place.

**Sanctuary Flowers:** There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board next to the nursery if you are interested in providing flowers for the sanctuary during worship service. There is a sheet for each month.

**The Session will meet on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.**



## **We are invited:**



For more information and to see the service when it goes live, please go to <https://www.facebook.com/HunterPresbyterian>

## **For Reflection:**

The Old Testament reading appointed for the third Sunday of Lent focuses on the gift of God's Law, often called The Ten Commandments, in Exodus 20:1-17 John Calvin (1509-1564) described three uses of the Ten Commandments: First, they show us how to live before God and neighbor, and expose our sins in failing to live as God intends. Second, they instruct our civic or common life, showing us how to live responsibly in the freedom God gives. Third, rather than show us what we must do in order to *receive* God's grace and love, the commandments show us how we should live *because* we are a people who have already received God's grace and love in Jesus Christ.

In 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, Paul describes the way of the cross as "foolish." How would you define this foolishness? God upends many of our value systems and norms, coming to us in unexpected ways, In what ways do we, the like the Corinthians, and perhaps like the disciples in John 2, desire wisdom and proof? Where do we allow the foolishness of the Spirit to show us the way?

In John 2:13-22, Jesus appears angry. Seeing anger in Jesus, others, and even ourselves often makes us very uneasy,. What angers you deep in your bones? Where is God in that anger?

## **Prayer:**

***God of justice, you flipped tables in the temple, and then immediately spoke to people who were eager to listen. We seem to only be able to do one or the other—we can be prophetic or pastoral. We can be angry or gentle. We can speak or listen. Help us to hold both at the same time, Teach us your ways, so that may reflect the fullness of your justice and grace and act as your disciples. Amen.***

## **About the Prayer Display:**

*This Lent, you are invited to come to God in prayer again and again, adding your prayers to those of our larger community, using an ampersand. Used here, the ampersand represents God's holy "and." When we feel helpless and hopeless, God's holy "and" encourages us to lift up our weary eyes to search for more. In a culture overrun by extremes, either/or thinking, and polarizing ideas, this holy & reminds us that we are always more—that there is always more. We are broken & beautiful. Joy & grief can co-exist. Oppression persists & God is guiding us closer to liberation and wholeness. This Lent, let us practice the power of "and"—especially when "again?!" feels like our never-ending cry of lament. Within the ampersand, our prayers are held together and transformed into beauty.*

***Add Your Prayers:*** You are invited to add your prayers to the display. Below are several types of prayer. Consider the type of prayer you need at the moment—or offer a prayer of each kind. You are invited to offer as many prayers as you need throughout this Lenten season. On an ampersand symbol, use the marker to write a word or phrase to represent your prayer to God. If you are worshiping with us by Zoom, you may type a prayer into the chat box and it will be added, or you may call the church office or send it to [churchoffice@corbinpres.org](mailto:churchoffice@corbinpres.org). All of our prayers will be gathered and added.

**PRAYERS OF SUPPLICATION** are earnest petitions to God for healing, peace, wholeness, or hope.

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING** express gratitude and joy.

**PRAYERS OF LAMENT** offer our grief, weariness, and despair to God—openly & honestly.

**PRAYERS OF CONFESSION** name our part in brokenness and sin.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** express our prayers for the needs of others.

**PRAYERS OF ADORATION** display our deep reverence for all that is holy.

***Again and again, God hears our prayers. God hears our cries. God knows us and sees us—fully. Thanks be to God!***