***Mid-week Lenten Service***

**4th Wednesday of Lent March 23, 2022**

**Greeting** *1 Peter 1*

 *So prepare your minds for service. With complete self-control put all your hope in the grace*

 *that will be yours when Jesus Christ comes. In the past you did not have the understanding*

 *you have now, so you did the evil things you wanted to do. But now you are children of God,*

 *so you should obey him and not live the way you did before. Be holy in everything you do,*

 *just as God is holy. He is the one who chose you. In the Scriptures God says, “Be holy,*

 *because I am holy.”*

**Hymn** *“Take Time to Be Holy”*

 Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord; abide in him always, and feed on his word.
 Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak, forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.

 Take time to be holy, the world rushes on; spend much time in secret with Jesus alone.
 By looking to Jesus, like him thou shalt be; thy friends in thy conduct his likeness shall see.

 Take time to be holy, let him be thy guide, and run not before him, whatever betide.
 In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord, and, looking to Jesus, still trust in his word.

 Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul, each thought and each motive beneath his control.
 Thus led by his spirit to fountains of love, thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.

**Prayer of Confession**

 **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed,**

 **by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You**

 **with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

 **We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ,**

 **have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways,**

 **to the glory of Your name. Amen.**

**Words of Forgiveness**

**Hymn of Thanks** *“Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know”*

Ask ye what great thing I know, that delights and stirs me so?

What the high reward I win? Whose the name I glory in? Jesus Christ, the crucified.

This is that great thing I know; this delights and stirs me so:
faith in him who died to save, him who triumphed o'er the grave: Jesus Christ, the crucified.

**Psalter** *Psalm 145*

 *I will lift you up high, my God, the true king. I will bless your name forever and always.*

 *I will bless you every day. I will praise your name forever and always.*

 *The Lord is great and so worthy of praise! God’s greatness can’t be grasped.*

 *One generation will praise your works to the next one, proclaiming your mighty acts.*

 *They will talk all about the glorious splendor of your majesty; I will contemplate your wondrous works.*

 *They will speak of the power of your awesome deeds; I will declare your great accomplishments.*

 *They will rave in celebration of your abundant goodness;*

 *they will shout joyfully about your righteousness:*

 *“The Lord is merciful and compassionate, very patient, and full of faithful love.*

 *The Lord is good to everyone and everything; God’s compassion extends to all his handiwork!”*

 *All that you have made gives thanks to you, Lord; all your faithful ones bless you!*

 *They speak of the glory of your kingdom; they talk all about your power,*

 *to inform all human beings about God’s power and the majestic glory of God’s kingdom.*

 *Your kingdom is a kingship that lasts forever; your rule endures for all generations.
 The Lord is trustworthy in all that he says, faithful in all that he does.*

 *The Lord supports all who fall down, straightens up all who are bent low.*

 *All eyes look to you, hoping, and you give them their food right on time,*

 *opening your hand and satisfying the desire of every living thing.*

 *The Lord is righteous in all his ways, faithful in all his deeds.*

 *The Lord is close to everyone who calls out to him, to all who call out to him sincerely.*

 *God shows favor to those who honor him, listening to their cries for help and saving them.*

 *The Lord protects all who love him, but he destroys every wicked person.*

*My mouth will proclaim the Lord’s praise,*

 *and every living thing will bless God’s holy name forever and always.*

**Chorus** *“Blessed Be the Name”*

Blessed be the name, blessed be the name; Blessed be the name of the Lord!

Blessed be the name, blessed be the name; Blessed be the name of the Lord!

**Gospel Lesson** *St. John 17:6-10*

 [Jesus continued to pray] “I have revealed your name to the people you gave me from this world.

 They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. **7**Now they know

 that everything you have given me comes from you. **8**This is because I gave them the words

 that you gave me, and they received them. They truly understood that I came from you,

 and they believed that you sent me.

 **9**“I’m praying for them. I’m not praying for the world but for those you gave me,

 because they are yours. **10**Everything that is mine is yours and everything that is yours is mine;

 I have been glorified in them.

**Reflections**

**Prayer**

**Hymn** *“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”*

 Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand, the shadow of a mighty rock
 within a weary land; a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
 from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.

 Upon that cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see the very dying form of One
 who suffered there for me; and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess:
 the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

 I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place; I ask no other sunshine than
 the sunshine of his face; content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
 my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

**Benediction**

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*We are glad that you are with us tonight.*

*Please be reminded that each Wednesday during this season of Lent*

*we will gather, via Zoom, at 7 PM.*