

**FOREST PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**The Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Jones, Interim Pastor**

**Cell 608-205-7428.**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent. March 22, 2020, 9:30AM.**

Eternal God, the refuge and help of all your children, we praise you for all you have given us, for all you have done for us, for all that you are to us. In our weakness, you are strength, in our darkness, you are light, in our sorrow, you are comfort and peace. We cannot number your blessings, we cannot declare your love: For all your blessings we bless you. May we live as in your presence, and love the things that you love, and serve you in our daily lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

~ written by St. Boniface (ca. 672-754)

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Rev. Jones**

**GATHERING MUSIC: Sheri Masiakowski, Music Minister**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**PSALM 46**

One: God is with us. The Lord dwells in our midst. Listen and hear the Lord speak.

**All: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in our troubled times.**

One: God is our help and our support. The Holy Spirit moves among us to lead us all the days of our lives.

**All: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, the mountains shake and tremble with its tumult.**

One: We come to worship, when we may feel afraid because we trust the Lord to be with us in all situations.

**All: With joyful hearts we sing and rejoice for the Lord is our hope and our salvation.**

**\*\* OPENING HYMN #275 "A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD" EIN' FESTE BURG**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**A TIME FOR US TO CONFESS TOGETHER**

**1 SAMUEL 17**

**God of the Wilderness, be with us in this holy place. We know the weakness of our discipleship. Walk with us as we wander, sharing our fears, our worries, our hopes with you. We seek quick fixes for our problems, rather than seeking your vision and future for our lives.**

**A TIME FOR SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION**

God of All, forgive us: for our lack of trust; our anxious living; and our fear of this present crisis. **Forgive us and strengthen us for living in this time and place. Keep us faithful as we live each day offering our best to You, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**THE PEACE**

One: In uncertain times, we trust in the power of God to unite us. The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*I encourage you to trust in the Lord. Call, text, or email God's peace to someone.*

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Matthew 4**

**Scripture**

**Psalm 46**

**God's Defense**

To the leader. Of the Korahites. According to Alamo. A Song. God is our refuge and strength, a very present[a] help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. **Selah**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

**Selah**

Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth." The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. **Selah**

**LITURGIST: "THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD. THANKS BE TO GOD."**

**SERMON**

**"GOD OUR STRENGTH"**

**SPECIAL MUSIC: "IN EVERY AGE – PSALM 90" JANET SULLIVAN WHITAKER**

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**PSALM 9**

**LITURGIST:** *“LET US DEDICATE THESE GIFTS TO FURTHER CHRIST’S WORK AMONG US.”*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**\* HYMN #41**

**“O WORSHIP THE KING, ALL GLORIOUS ABOVE!”**

**LYONS**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**