

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God**

SERMON: *'Do or do not; there is no try'*

SILENT REFLECTION:

RESPONSE: Prayers and Songs of HOPE & ENCOURAGEMENT:

- Words of Encouragement
- ***'Faithful One'*** (projected)
- ***'Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus'***(projected)
- Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer
- Hymn: ***'O God our help in ages past'*** (projected)

**GOD SENDS US . . .**

\*BENEDICTION:

\*GOING OUT SONG: #358 ***'There is a Redeemer (vs.2) (projected)***

***Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names,  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain,  
Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,  
and leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done***



**NORMAN KENNEDY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*The Presbyterian Church in Canada*

March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Pastor: Ronda Bosch

Ministry Assistant: Sumi Jung

Pianist: Mae Morris



'The Journey Forward'

***Welcome!***

A very warm welcome to Norman Kennedy Presbyterian Church. We, at NKP, are very glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Whether you are here for the first time, visiting with family or friends, or one of our regular attendees, we hope that you will feel at home and at peace among us and that you sense God's Spirit in our time of worship and fellowship.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in LENT

MUSIC for preparation and reflection is for QUIET meditation

ENTRY OF THE BIBLE

### GOD CALLS US ...

WORDS OF GREETING:

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you - **and also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

“The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Jacob”.

**God has made a new covenant with us in Christ Jesus.**

Yet we have turned away, hardened our hearts and spirits.

**Lord, help us to change.**

“I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people”.

**But we have failed to be God’s people. We have chosen our own way.**

Turn again, says the Lord, through the prophets and through God’s own Son.

**Turn us again to you, O Lord, and awaken our spirits to your love and mercy. AMEN.**

\*GATHERING HYMN: **#202 ‘We lay our broken world in sorrow at your feet’** (tune #481) (projected)

OPENING PRAYER: (unison)

**Lord, as we continue in the Lenten journey, grant us a change of heart that we might turn away from sin and follow your Son’s Gospel. We ask you to fill us with a hunger for what is just. By your grace, may our lives become more deeply rooted in prayer, self-sacrifice and a willingness to share, in order that your Reign of justice might more fully flourish in our hearts. We ask you this, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN: A Story or Lesson

*[During this time when we need to be aware of the potential spread of a virus, there will be no Sunday School classes. Parents – please be with your children and vigilant to their activities. Some colouring and worksheet pages are available on the table in the church hall downstairs if you can be with your children there.]*

### GOD DESIRES TO RECONCILE US . . .

WE CONFESS OUR SINS AND LAMENT OUR BROKENNESS:

(unison)

**Compassionate Lord, forgive us when we falter on this Lenten pathway; when the road ahead seems too uncertain and we are afraid. We admit that following Jesus is not an easy task. Jesus requires us to be willing to make the ultimate commitment of our whole lives and we hesitate and hold back. Draw us back to you, Lord. Give us confidence and courage to face the future with hope. Let us place our trust in you that the message of peace and mercy you have given to us through Jesus Christ may be offered to others through our own witness to your healing mercy. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. AMEN.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Even though the future is clouded; God is with us, guiding, healing, comforting, restoring. Rejoice! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and healed. AMEN

SPECIAL MUSICAL OFFERING OF ASSURANCE: ‘Psalm 23’ (Judy Page)

### GOD TEACHES US . . .

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Joshua 23:1-8; 24:14-27  
(Pew Bible pg.230, 231)

SERMON: *‘Do or do not; there is no try’*

arsenal didn't penetrate the armour of human pride. The Pharaoh would not submit until the plague of death. On that night of the battle royal Lord surely have been a degree of apprehension among even the bravest of the Israelites. It's hard to avoid a sense of the surreal. What their God was asking them to do was totally counter intuitive. The Almighty was instructing them to prepare a family meal when all around them the angel of death was marauding throughout the world of the Egyptians. Yet, it was made clear to Moses that every family was to prepare a roasted lamb and some bitter herbs, all to be accompanied by unleavened bread. Every element on that table was charged with symbolism. The herbs evoked bitter memories of the slavery while the speed with which the unleavened bread was prepared spoke of their quick exit from Egypt. However, above all, it was the blood of that roasted lamb that was the most powerful symbol of all. That blood, sprinkled on the doorposts of every Jewish home was the sign to the angel of death to pass by. Was there fear within those homes? Would roast lamb divert attention from the presence of death heavy in the atmosphere? There's nothing to indicate that these people were any more or less human than we are today. The only deliverance lay in a divinely crafted plan. Though God's ways are so profound that they are always beyond human comprehension there is something basically very simple and totally accessible to anyone willing to take the Almighty liberator at his word. To these people he says, 'trust me, obey me and look to the way of deliverance that I'm providing for you. That lamb was effectively slain so that death would 'pass over' your home and family.' Today, even the media are talking openly of a plague over our land, indeed, over our world. Without taking away anything of the uniqueness of those events recorded in Exodus there is a sense in which we are getting to re-enact that momentous night in Egypt. On a virtually unprecedented scale we are now watching all the 'gods' of our age being challenged – and they, like the earlier Egyptian deities and proving powerless. Need we despair if forced into 'lock down' and 'self isolation'? Or, like the ancient Israelites find that our homes become places of refuge, knowing that ultimately "we make the Most High our dwelling place...where no harm will befall us and no disaster come near our home. (See Psalm 91:9). Christ our Passover lamb has been slain and not even death strikes fear. (I Corinthians 5:7)



**Our Welcome & Friendship** continues following the worship service – coffee is on & cookies are served in the fellowship hall of the church basement. Stay for a time to visit and to learn more about our community of faith and work & witness beyond these doors. On the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every second

month we have a 'Fellowship Lunch' hosted by members of the congregation. If you have difficulty managing stairs and would like to use our elevator lift, please do not hesitate to ask for assistance. We will be happy to help you. Please also speak with Pastor Ronda if you have other questions or wish her support in prayer or visitation.

### **Serving in Worship & Work TODAY: YOU ARE!**

\*We are introducing **self-serve** – please pick up a bulletin from the box, take an extra one if you know you will see a member who is not here.

\*The Offering Plate is on the table at the back, please leave your envelope there.

*Offering Counters: Arend & Parry*

**CANCELED**

- The **CEREMONY and the RECEPTION** to celebrate the exchange of vows between Jinsil Park & Jeonghyeon Lee. This is now a private event later this afternoon.
- Crokinole Tournament, scheduled for March 26. This will get re-scheduled in April or May
- All Preparation and Practice times of individuals and groups for special music presentations
- Drum and guitar lessons

- Rental Groups will abide by the guidelines that our church is using – or will have cancelled by their h  
**Locks** for the church have been changed by the  
 elders or others who need a key please contact Sumi at the office so Sumi can keep a list of who has



**MEANWHILE** we can and will still pray -  
 When an urgent need arises, and you want your church family to pray immediately please contact **Mae Morris @ 306-761-0217.**



in addition of **NEWS KNOWLEDGE PRAISE** by your members please consider contributions and send them into the church. We'd love to have any news items, photos, praise God, anything that would add to our knowledge and Christian growth.



The period from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday.  
 April 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>

April 5<sup>th</sup> 2020– 11 a.m. Palm Sunday

April 9<sup>th</sup> 2020 – 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship of Remembrance, of Foot Washing\* & of Darkness

*\*[come prepared to take off socks & shoes!]*

April 10, 2020 – 11 a.m. Good Friday Worship / 12:30 – 5:30 p.m. Prayer Vigil

April 12, 2020– 11 a.m. EASTER CELEBRATION WORSHIP



**EASTER FLOWERS...** Over the next few weeks please make contributions to the Flower Fund, so that flowers can be purchased and displayed on Easter Sunday. Be sure to indicate if your donation is in memory ...

**SPECIAL EVENTS/ FUN ACTIVITIES:**

- **Easter Baskets Contest & Auction:**

Something fun to plan for and prepare during this time. We recommend you find a partner or two, think 'new life' and be creative. On Easter Sunday, stay after worship for Hot Cross buns and bring \$ to bid on a basket to take home! Encourage your whole family to participate. And to be at Easter Worship of course!

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER...



1) Everyone and everything concerned regarding the Covid 19 – gov'ts and health authorities to be wise in their decision making; 2) All members & adherents of our congregation to be well and safe; 3) Jinsil & Clara to be blessed in their marriage and in hearing God's call and provision for them in ministry; 3) Pray for us to hear God in this crisis – to know that He is Good and Sovereign and will bring about His purposes for us and for the world.



**WITH the world on edge, fear and uncertainty rising, we definitely need perspective – here is a teaching from another time when God led people through a fearful time...** (written by Desi Maxwell)

*Surely it was a night to remember? Throughout the land infant mortality peaked and there was the first of what we might call 'fast food' meals. Such was the impact that even the calendar was recalibrated and to this very day the event is celebrated in the first month of the year. So unique in fact it was recorded in the Bible. We are, of course, referring to the climatic night when the Plague of Death 'passed over' Egypt, and the people of Israel celebrated their God's deliverance by eating a family 'passover' meal within the safety of their own homes. The events of that night are vividly recalled in Exodus 12. The night marked the climax of the showdown between the Pharaoh of Egypt, who fancied himself as a deity and the God of Israel, who is Lord of Lords. Plague after plague dented Egyptian arrogance but didn't break it. Heaven's*