

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022

5th SUNDAY IN LENT

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006

Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor

Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Viv

We come into your presence, O Lord, with so many burdens and concerns on our hearts. Help us to be open to your words of healing and restoration. Bring us closer to you. Enable us to discern your will for us that we may serve you more faithfully by serving others in need. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Spring is about to break forth!

In all the land, new life is happening!

Feel the wonder and power of God's creative energy

Feel the awe and joy of God's love for us.

Let us worship God with a full sense of joy and expectation.

Let us open our hearts, our spirits, our souls, to God's lavish love.

*HYMN #453

"More Love to Thee, O Christ"

1 More love to Thee, oh Christ, more love to Thee!

Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee.

This is my earnest plea

More love, oh Christ, to Thee

More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

**2 Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest
 Now Thee alone I seek, give what is best.
 This all my prayer shall be
 More love, oh Christ to Thee
 More love to Thee, more love to Thee!**

**3 Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise
 This be the parting cry my heart shall raise
 Still all my prayer shall be
 More love, oh Christ to Thee
 More love to Thee, more love to Thee!**

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Patient Lord, we find it easy to blame others and other circumstances for the things which happen in our lives. But to place blame and not to find ways in which we can work through the situations is detrimental to everyone, especially ourselves. Forgive us when we are so busy placing blame that we don't recognize your presence and love for us. Free us from placing our own desires first and foremost. Help us to look at the many ways in which you are working in the world for peace and justice, and enable us to be part of that ministry.

A time for silent confession.

Let go of your fears. God has forgiven you and offered to you healing love. Accept this free gift, for it is given for you through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

John 12: 1-8

Glenn Durocher, Reader

12 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. 2 There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. 3 Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. 4 But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 5 "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" 6 (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) 7 Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. 8 You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

THE CHOIR

"Without His Cross"

Joseph M. Martin

THE MESSAGE**THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS LIKE A GIFT**

*“Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus’ feet,
and wiped them with her hair.” v.3*

DEDICATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Pastor Karen

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE LORD’S SUPPER

All who love the Lord Jesus Christ or wish to know Him better are invited to share in communion.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING COMMUNION

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your spirit to give ourselves for others. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN #172*“My Jesus, I Love Thee”**

1 My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ’tis now.

2 I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary’s tree;
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ’tis now.

**3 In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

***BENEDICTION**

So do not be afraid, but go from here with confidence,
knowing that the God who goes with you is greater and more powerful
than anything else you will face this week. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

***Stand as able.**

CALENDAR

Monday, April 4

**10 AM Zoom Prayer/Discussion Group, Lent in Plain Sight
7 PM Zoom NOW Meeting**

Tuesday, April 5

**9 AM Ethnic Church Pilot Program-Pastor Viv
12 PM West Essex Ministerium at Agudath Israel
4 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal**

Wednesday, April 6

7 PM Zoom Lenten Devotion, Rev. Barbara Stephens-Rich

Thursday, April 7

7 PM Advanced Lay Speaker Class, Pastor Viv, Teacher

Sunday, April 10

7 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 14

10 AM PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP—Zoom and In Person

7 PM HOLY THURSDAY WORSHIP in SANCTUARY

ALTAR FLOWERS are given for the glory of God and in loving memory of my mother, **Rachel Rotter**, by Louise Woodcox.

FISH N CHIP TAKEOUT DINNER ticket sales have begun on the church website, caldwellchurch.org The take out is Saturday, May 14.

ORDER YOUR EASTER FLOWERS NOW! Attached to this emailed bulletin is an order form or visit the church website to order and to pay. caldwellchurch.org.

