



Pittsburg Presbyterian Church

April 3, 2022 ~ 10:00 am

Fifth Sunday in Lent

GATHERING

Prelude

The Old Rugged Cross

George Bennard/Arr. Marilyn Hamm
Virginia Darling, piano

Lay Leader: Preset your folder at your seat.
Bring in the Light of Christ during the Prelude.

Welcome

Trevor Elliott

Good Morning, we are glad you are here with us today at Pittsburg Presbyterian Church. We are truly blessed to gather together for worship on this fifth Sunday in Lent.

Mission Statement

Trevor Elliott

Our Mission at Pittsburg Presbyterian Church is to love God, know Christ, care for one another, and to joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!

Please remain seated and join together in singing our Missional Song.

Missional Song

Susan Laushman

Love God, care for one another;
Know Christ, care for one another;
Joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!
Joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!

Please stand for the Opening Sentences.

*Opening Sentences

Trevor Elliott

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: God makes a way out of no way.

People: God sees our tears and turns them into joy.

Leader: God makes the impossible possible

People: and sees the desperate needs of all people.

Leader: Come close, healing Lord,

People: and receive our worship.

Leader: *Our opening hymn today is “Brethren We Have Met to Worship” ...Come, let us worship God.*

***Opening Hymn**

Glory To God #396

Brethren We Have Met to Worship

Music Harm. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

(V 1, 2, 4)

Verse 1

Brethren, we have met to worship
and adore the Lord our God.
Will you pray with all your power
while we try to preach the word?
All is vain unless the Spirit
of the holy One comes down.
Brethren, pray, and holy manna
will be showered all around.

Verse 2

Sisters, will you come and help us?
Moses' sister aided him.
Will you help the trembling mourners
who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior.
Tell them that he will be found.
Sisters, pray, and holy manna
will be showered all around.

Verse 4

Let us love our God supremely;
let us love each other, too.
Let us love and pray for sinners
till our God makes all things new.
Christ will call us home to heaven;
at his table we'll sit down.
Christ will gird himself and serve us
with sweet manna all around.

Please be seated

Announcements

Trevor Elliott

- *Good morning and thank you for worshiping with us today!*
- *As part of COVID precautions, please be respectful of those that wish to social distance.*
- *Please Check-in on Social Media to share the peace of Christ with your friends and loved ones online!*

- (Explain & show the Yellow Cards.) *Please fill out the front and write any information/prayer concerns, etc. on the back and place it in one of the white boxes at the back of the Sanctuary, as you leave.*
- *“Kids Following Jesus” (KFJ) is available online. Please access the KFJ video through “The Sower”, Facebook page, or YouTube channel.*
- (Show the Announcement flyer): *Please refer to the Announcement flyer for important information and take it home with you.*
- Fellowship: *Following worship, please join together for Coffee & Cookies Fellowship in the Parlor, hosted by Suzie Butorac and Carol Raquet.*
 - * **Please mention any last minute announcements.**

Call to Confession

Trevor Elliott

*If we ask God to restore us to the way we have been,
then we have not asked for as much as God intends to give.
God is not content simply to return or restore us to former things.
Instead, God seeks to give the gift of resurrection—a new and abundant life.
With confidence in God’s generosity,
we confess our sins and seek the new life offered in Jesus Christ.*

Prayer of Confession

Trevor Elliott

Leader: Purifying God,

All: we grow comfortable with the way things are
in our lives, in the church, and in the world.
We do not always welcome the new life you offer in Christ,
for you overturn our notions of power and protocol.
Sure of our own righteousness, we are critical of others.
Wanting to control our assets, we hoard the gifts you give us.
Forgive us, we pray, for seeking our gain at the expense of others.
Help us bend our lives toward your own life of self-giving and sacrifice.
Fill us, our homes and churches, the whole world,
with the abundant love of Christ until all are made new.
In Christ’s name, we pray.

Leader: Hear now our individual silent confessions:

Wait a minute and say “Amen”, then proceed into the Assurance of Pardon.

Assurance of Pardon

Trevor Elliott

*Leader: The apostle Paul reminds us that we do not make ourselves righteous. . . .
Our righteousness comes through faith in Christ, who has made us his own.
Hear the good news!
. . . In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
The old life has passed away—and a new life has begun.*

People: Thanks be to God!

[Virginia offers intro to *Gloria*]

Please stand

***Gloria Patri**
Glory to God #581
Meineke

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen. Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

Special Music
"Love Unknown"
from *Passion Music* by Will Todd
Pitt Pres Choir
Soloist: Sara Forsythe, soprano

Old Testament Reading
Elliott

Isaiah 43:16-21 (NIV)

Trevor

Reader: A reading from Isaiah chapter 43, verses 16 through 21.
Listen to the word of God:

16 *This is what the Lord says—*
he who made a way through the sea,
a path through the mighty waters,
17 *who drew out the chariots and horses,*
the army and reinforcements together,
and they lay there, never to rise again,
extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:
18 *“Forget the former things;*
do not dwell on the past.
19 *See, I am doing a new thing!*
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.
20 *The wild animals honor me,*
the jackals and the owls,
because I provide water in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland,
to give drink to my people, my chosen,
21 *the people I formed for myself*
that they may proclaim my praise.

This is the word of God.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.



New Testament Reading *John 12:1-8 (NIV)* Abby Elliott

Reader: A reading from John, chapter 12, verses 1 through 8.

Listen to the word of God:

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴ *But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.*

⁷ *"Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."*

This is the word of God.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

Message "Where are we" Abby Elliott

**Prayer Hymn
Glory to God #819
Be Still My Soul**

Music Arr. © 1933, ren. 1961 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)
(V 1)

Verse 1

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Prayer of Intercession Trevor Elliott

You may say your own words OR the following:

Leader: God our Provider,

*out of your fullness you cause life to spring up in barren landscapes;
you have power to control troubled waters, making a path of safety;
you hear our cries and receive our tears;
you restore us to joy and laughter.
You have done great things for us, O God,
and are continually making all things new.
. . . We thank you, O God:*

All: You are making all things new.

Leader: *We thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ,
whose life and ministry has guided us through this Lenten season
and guides us in every season of life.
In his suffering and death,
he knows full well the troubles and pains we face in this earthly life.
In his resurrection is the hope of our own.
Surrounded by your overflowing love, we are not alone.
. . . We thank you, O God:*

All: You are making all things new.

Leader: *We pray for the needs of the world.
May peace invade places of war
and justice crowd out oppression and cruelty.
Protect soldiers and citizens alike from harm's way
and make all conflict cease.
Bless leaders of communities, states, and nations,
that they may speak the truth and work with others for the common good.
Pour out healing on the earth itself,
depleted and injured by our careless consumption and intentional greed.
Comfort those devastated by natural disasters;
strengthen those supplying shelter, food, and aid.
Amid the chaos of this world, your Spirit intercedes
with sighs too deep for words.
. . . We thank you, O God:*

All: You are making all things new.

Leader: *We pray for the church, the body of Christ in the world,
that we may proclaim your Word boldly.
Lead us, by the power of your Spirit, to witness to your truth,
for we remember and proclaim that death does not have the last word—
in our lives, in the church, or in the world.
. . . We thank you, O God:*

All: You are making all things new!

Leader: *We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, crucified and risen.*

Please join together as Jesus taught us to pray . . .

The Lord's Prayer

People: 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 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.

Invitation to Offering

Trevor Elliott

As we prepare for our offering today, there are various ways that you may give. You may place your offering and Yellow Card in the white box, at the back, as you leave or contact the office for other options.

*As it is written in Deuteronomy:
“Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth,
I therefore command you,
‘Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor’”
Through our tithes and offerings,
we can give generously, as Mary did, and remember the poor.
As we open wide our hands, we attend to Christ himself,
who is present especially among those considered the least and the lost.
Let us offer to God these gifts for ministry in Christ’s name.*

Prayer for Offering

Trevor Elliott

*Let us pray:
Abundant God: You cause water to flow in desert places.
You give wine to flow at a wedding feast,
and food to feed five thousand on a grassy mountainside.
Your generosity astounds and humbles us.
We bow before you in gratitude and awe,
asking you to receive what we have brought in response.
May these gifts be a pleasing and fragrant offering,
for the sake of the world you came to save.
We pray in your holy name. Amen.*

Please stand

*The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Affirmation of Faith

A Humble Creed
(For the season of Lent)
lines 1-12

Trevor Elliott

<https://modernliturgist.org/project/seasonal-creeds/>

Leader: Believer, what do you believe?

People: I believe in God, the creator of heaven and earth,
Who gave man and woman free will
And entrusted this precious world to us.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his Son, our Lord,
Who was born in a manger by Mary,
A woman of humble beginnings.
Refusing to seek power,
And turning away the sword,
He died for us, the Lamb of God.
He descended into the darkest of all places,
But rose again on the third day,
Bringing life and hope to all.

SENDING

***Closing Hymn**

Trevor Elliott

Our closing hymn today is "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit".

***Closing Hymn**

Glory To God #408

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Text © 1962, ren. 1990 Manna Music, Inc. (admin. ClearBox Rights) Music © 1962, ren. 1990
Manna Music, Inc. (admin. ClearBox Rights)

Verse 1

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
there are sweet expressions on each face,
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Refrain

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.

Verse 2

There are blessings you cannot receive
till you know him in his fullness and believe;
you're the one to profit when you say,
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way."

Refrain

***Blessing & Charge**

Abby Elliott

You may prepare your own OR the following:

*May God guide you through the desert places,
may Christ lead you into knowing him more deeply,
and the Holy Spirit fill you with faith overflowing:
that as you share in Christ's suffering,
you will also trust the power of his resurrection.*

Lay Leader: After the blessing, begin to take the light of Christ into the world:

- 1. Light the candle lighter with one of the candles on the communion table.**
- 2. Extinguish both candles on the communion table.**
- 3. Stand with the light, facing the congregation.**
- 4. Walk out with the light through the East aisle, in front of Pastor, to the back of the sanctuary.**
- 5. Extinguish the light and stow the candle lighter.**

Postlude

Reflection

**Mark Hayes/Arr. Marvin Gaspard
Virginia Darling, organ**