

St. James United Church of Christ

March 19, 2017

10:30 a.m.



"Sometimes I feel like relationships consist of telling your same life stories to different people until someone finally appreciates them."

- Kate Rockland, Falling Is Like This

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

135 Myrtle Avenue, Havertown, PA 19083

610-446-3036

www.stjamesucc.org

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

**Please stand in body or in spirit.*

*Congregation reads aloud all words in **bold** print.*

The Communion Table for Lent contains "kintsugi" plates. These are plates that have been broken and then rejoined with gold. This Japanese art form highlights the cracks and repairs as simply an event in the life of an object rather than allowing its service to end at a time of its damage and breakage. "The brokenness need not be hidden in a box and put away, out of the sight of others. But rather, that which is broken should attract our attention and respect and be repaired with great care. The fault lines are moments in our history, not an ignoring or blotting out of our history, but rather a recognition of all that was. The shape of us is impossible to see, until it is fractured." - Pastor Lynn

WE GATHER

QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

"Who in your life is a truth-teller and what can you learn from them?"

PRELUDE

"Woman at the Well"

A.V. Fedak

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND DISTRIBUTION OF BEACH GLASS**

Those who collect beach glass often become "archeologists."

Each precious piece has a story.

Often the glass is very old, and one must take time to care to find the truth behind it.

Today and in the days ahead, let us acknowledge the power of truth-telling: of claiming and telling one's own story as a path to healing.

Today we'll hear one woman's story, the Samaritan Woman, and learn how she came to understand her own worth relying on no one but her own well of living water inside, given by God.

***SONG** "The River" Jordan Feliz Screen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all stories, we bring our lives to you,
the Author of all life.

We confess the ways in which we have accepted another
narrative – one that tells us we will never be good enough.

**Forgive us, Lord, for the falsehoods we accept in exchange for
your truth.**

We wait with bated breath to hear your narrative for our lives.

Tell us the story of your love again. Amen.

SONG

"Sanctuary" Screen

Lord, pre-pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and
ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks-giv - ing, I'll be a
liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you.

WORDS: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs
MUSIC: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs
© 1982 Whole Armor/Full Armor Music, admin. by The Kruger Organization

SANCTUARY
Irregular

PRAYERS AROUND THE CROSS

*You are invited to take a piece of beach glass for everyone for whom
you would like to pray who is experiencing brokenness and in need of
wholeness. Place the beach glass on the cross, and then spend some
time in silent prayer for that person(s).*

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE

John 4:4-24 (CEB: Common English Bible)

Screen

Reader: Kathy Pioggia, Even numbered verses

Congregation: Odd numbered verses

SONG

"Voice of Truth" Casting Crowns God Rod Team

MILESTONE: BIBLES

Pastor Aimee

(The children are now dismissed for Sunday School.)

MESSAGE

Holy Vessels: "Stories"

WE RESPOND

*SANDBOX: THE "WHO" OF BROKENNESS

*You are invited to pick a wooden disk out of the sand, with an
image on it. Memorize the image, push it back in the sand, and
then return to your seat to ask God what you should do regarding
this "who." Continue to listen till God makes clear what you are
to do.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"It Is a Thing Most Wonderful" English Trad'l/K.L. Scott, Arr.

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow" Screen

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

**May all that we do and all that we are
allow others to hear you – the Voice of Truth.
May your reassuring voice help us as helpers
and those we seek to help to not be afraid.
These gifts we give are for your glory.
Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION

"Sacred the Body"

Verses 1-3 Choir and Congregation

Capo 3: (G) B^b (Dsus) F^{sus} (D) F (Em) Gm (Bsus) D^{sus} (Bm) Dm

1 Sa - cred the bod - y God has cre - at - ed,
 2 Bod - ies are var - ied, made in all siz - es,
 3 Love re - spects per - sons, bod - ies and bound - aries.
 4 Ho - ly of ho - lies, God ev - er lov - ing,

(C) E^b (D7) F7 (G) B^b (Am7) Cm7 (Dsus) F^{sus} (D) F

tem - ple of Spir - it that dwells deep in - side.
 pale, full of col - or; both frag - ile and strong.
 Love does not bat - ter, ne - glect, or a - buse.
 make us your tem - ples; in - dwell all we do.

(G) B^b (Dsus) F^{sus} (D) F (Em) Gm (Bsus) D^{sus} (Bm) Dm

Cher - ish each per - son; nur - ture re - la - tion.
 Ho - ly the dif - ference, gift of the Mak - er,
 Love touch - es gent - ly, nev - er co - erc - ing.
 May we be care - ful, ten - der and car - ing,

(C) E^b (G) B^b (Em) Gm (Am7) Cm7 (D) F (G) B^b (G) B^b

Treat flesh as ho - ly, that love may a - bide.
 so let us hon - or each sto - ry and song.
 Love leaves the oth - er with pow - er to choose.
 so may our bod - ies give hon - or to you.

*BENEDICTION

J. E. Rankin

Facing the center aisle, the congregation will sing to one another our closing song.

"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

Verse 3 and Chorus

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's

coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en -
 wings pro - tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro -
 per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a -
 ban - ner float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be -

fold you:
 vide you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 round you:
 fore you:

After writing the first stanza of his "Christian Good-bye," the author sent it to two composers, one celebrated and one unknown, to see how each would set it. This is the second person's tune, which the author found more effective and used for the hymn's first publication.

TEXT: Jeremiah Eames Rankin, 1880, alt.
 MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880

GOD BE WITH YOU
 9.8.8.9
 (alternate tune: RANDOLPH, 541)

POSTLUDE

"Living Waters"

K. Getty/E. Cash

God Rod Team (Ella Brackbill, Naseer Christmas, Emma Gonsalves, Maria McGovern, Carlyne McGurk, and Chris Wilson) choreographed and directed by Maria McGovern

Media Arts done by Ed Hart.
Acolyte is Richard Schatz.

The Rev. Lynn P. Lampman, Pastor
Pastor's Phone: 610-733-1502
Maggie Realley, Director of Music
Pastor Aimee Brackbill, Director of Children's Ministries
Allison Fineberg and Maria McGovern, Nursery
Ailene Dunlap, Secretary
Church Office 610-446-3036
secretary@stjamesucc.org

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DORCAS YARN MINISTRY meets on Monday, March 20. Come join us for needle craft and prayer. Beginners are encouraged to attend. We supply all materials and instructions.

"THE LIFE OF JESUS: R (READING) AND R (REFLECTING) IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE" Weekly Post on Facebook by Pastor and Group Members and Group Meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. This week's Facebook post: Luke 15:1-32, Parable of the Lost Sheep, Coin and Prodigal Son

"FOR THE GRIEVING: WHAT TO SAY AND DO" a short video by Pastor Lynn, is now accessible on our website and on YouTube.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING offering will be held next Sunday, March 26. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of your gift to this annual UCC special offering.

HEIFER FARM MISSION TRIP: All registration fees are due April 2. Please make checks payable to St. James UCC. Please remember that all funds are non-refundable.