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.

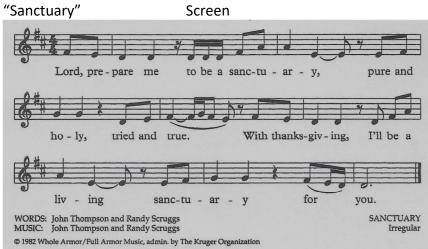
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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



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) Reader: Kathy Pioggia, Even numbered verses Congregation: Odd numbered verses

Screen

Screen

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)	(D sus) Fsus	(D) (Em) F Gm	(Bsus) Dsus	(Bm) Dm
	• 0.	0.	0.	0.
1 Sa - cred 2 Bod - ies 3 Love re-s 4 Ho - ly	are var -	y God ha ied, made ir sons, bod - ie lies, God ev	n all siz - s and bound -	ed, es, aries. ing,
(C) (C)	(D7) (G) F7 B ^b		(Dsus) Fsus	(D) F
	0.			5.
tem - ple of pale, full of Love does not make us you		; both frag - il ; ne - glect, o	1	
(G) 8 ⁶		D) (Em) F Gm	(Bsus) Dsus	(Bm) Dm
	p.	. P		0.
Cher - ish eau Ho - ly th Love touch - ea May we bu	e dif - fer s gent -	on; nur - ture ence, gift of ly, nev - er ful, ten - der	the Mak - co-erc -	tion. er, ing. ing,
(C)	(G) (Em B∳ Gm		(D) (G) F B ^b	4 (G) B ^b
6	0. 0		• 0.	7.
Treat flesh as so let u Love leaves th	s hon - or	that love may each sto - ry with pow - er	and song.	
so may ou	ur bod - ies		to	you.

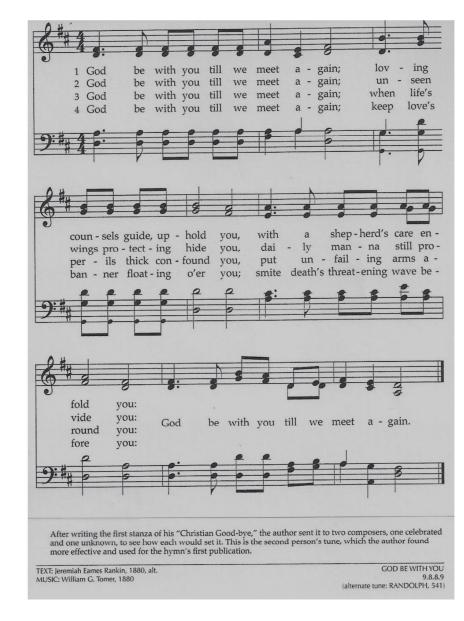
*BENEDICTION

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



POSTLUDE

"Living Waters"

K. Getty/E. Cash

رکلی

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

+ + +

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

<u>"FOR THE GRIEVING: WHAT TO SAY AND DO"</u> 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.