**The Inter-Faith Chapel**

**“A House of Prayer for All People”**

**3680 South Leisure World Blvd.**

**Silver Spring, Maryland 20906**



**February 9, 2020**

**Fifth Sunday of Epiphany**

**New Member Sunday**

**10:00 AM Worship Service**

As you enter to worship, please remember to silence your cell phones. 

**SILENT MEDITATION**

*Jesus calls us to show this truth forth, live this truth forth. Be the light of the world, he says. Where there are dark places, be the light especially there. Be the salt of the earth. Bring out the true flavor of what it is to be alive truly. Be truly alive. Be life-givers to others. That is what Jesus tells the disciples to be. That is what Jesus tells his Church, tells us, to be and do. —***Frederick Buechner**

**WORDS OF WELCOME Dr. Woodie Rea**

**LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE**

**We light this candle as a symbol of our ongoing commitment to peace in our world.**

**PRELUDE *I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light* Charles Callahan**

**Kevin M. Clemens, Director of Music**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Leader: We are called to bring a new understanding of God:*

*that God so loves the world.*

**PEOPLE: We are the salt of the earth.**

*Leader: We are called to bring a new hope in God: that God gives us new life.*

**PEOPLE: We are the light of the world.**

*Leader: We are called to follow the commandments and the law.*

**PEOPLE: The Law of God is to love God and to love one another.**

*Leader: Come, let us be the salt of the earth, the light of the world.*

**PEOPLE: Come, let us love one another with the love of God.**

**ALL: Let us join together in our love of God to worship and follow Jesus*.***

**INVOCATION**

**✝ HYMN  *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing***

**✝** You may stand.

M*usic used by permission, CCLI #1683224*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION UNISON**

**Merciful God, you call us to be salt and light and to live as your righteous, holy people. We want to, Lord, but we fall short! We confess that there is good and bad, light and dark within our own hearts. We want to do what is right, but our fears and anxieties lead us to self-protection rather than vulnerability, to hoarding rather than freely sharing, to self-righteousness rather than compassion. Forgive us, O God. Restore us by your mercy that having received the gift of your infinite love, we might turn to our neighbor and give your love away. For the sake of Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**✝ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

 *Leader: Let us stand as we affirm our faith.*

 **ALL: I believe in God as my Creator
and as the Creator of the world which God sets before me as a gift for my joy and use, for me to tend in gratitude and affection.**

**I believe in Jesus.
By his life and ministry he taught me how to love God and all that God created, especially other people.
I take the teaching and example of Jesus as a model for my life.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**God’s abiding presence in this world, to encourage and direct me to live a holy life.
I invite the Holy Spirit to fill me and guide me.**

**I believe in the Church,
the continuing presence of God revealed in Jesus,
the custodian of the experiences of God in the Sacred Scriptures
and in the lives of holy men and women.**

**I believe that all God’s children,
those who lived long ago, those who today are living,
and all those who will ever live, are brothers and sisters,
and that the bond of God’s love connects us across space and time. Amen**

**✝ GLORIA PATRI**

 **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.**

**NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION Dr. Woodie Rea**

 **Kathleen Budway**

**Sponsor: Margaret Ellis**

**DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT:**

*Kathleen, as a member of The Inter-Faith Chapel, will you, with God’s blessing and to the best of your ability, faithfully participate in its ministries through your presence, your prayers, and your contributions of gifts and service?*

**PRAYER OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION UNISON**

**Kathleen, we extend ourselves to you. We welcome you into the family of faith here at The Inter-Faith Chapel and to the fellowship, service, and joys of being a new member of this congregation. We offer to you our support, our encouragement, and our care, as we travel on our faith journey together. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 5:13-20 NT 5**

**Reader: Maggi Lindley**

**MEDITATION  *Voices on the Wind*  Sarah Quartel**

**Generational Joy Dancers**

**MORNING PRAYER**

**LORD’S PRAYER UNISON**

**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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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.**

**HYMN  *A Little Bit of Salt***

**SERMON “You Are Salt and Light” Dr. Ramonia L. Lee**

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY *We Are Marching in the Light of God (Siyahamba)* Robert Farlee**

**Kevin M. Clemens, Director of Music**

**✝ DOXOLOGY (Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen)**

**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 Spirit, Holy Spirit!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**✝ PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**✝ PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***✝* CLOSING HYMN *This Little Light of Mine***

**✝ RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION**

*Leader: May our love be like salt,*
**PEOPLE: that makes life tasty and worthwhile.**

*Leader: May our Christian living be a light,*
**PEOPLE: to those who live in darkness.**

*Leader: May this Christian community,*
**PEOPLE: be as a city of light to be seen from afar**

**as a sign that God lives and works in God’s people.**

*Leader: And may God bless you all for this mission, in the name of:*

*the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

**PEOPLE: Amen.**

*Leader: Now go in peace, and let the light of Christ shine*

*on all those who live around you.*

**PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.**

**✝CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Tune: Ar Hyd Y Nos**

**“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.**

**Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.**

**In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever**.

**Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”**

**POSTLUDE *All Glory Be to God on High*  Michael Burkhardt**

 **Kevin Clemens, Director of Music**

***A PARTING THOUGHT***

*It’s much easier, Jesus, to point fingers and speak with horror about the darkness in our world, than to live ablaze with light, revealing the truth of systems and situations, bringing the colors of those around us into vibrant life, warming the hearts of all we meet with compassion and love,* but, we do not choose what is easy, We ask you to flood us with your light, and make us light-bringers in our world.

*It’s much easier, Jesus, to separate ourselves from those who believe and act differently from us, to judge and exclude them and preach about the bland lifelessness of our world, than to live with salty spiciness, preserving what is good and true and beautiful, revealing the varied and exciting flavors of different cultures and peoples, healing and cleansing what is wounded and stained,* but, we do not choose what is easy, we ask you to fill us with your saltiness, And make us spice-bringers in our world.

*We celebrate your grace and truth, your compassion and self-giving, your justice and righteousness, and we offer ourselves to be those who follow your ways, who become light and salt, bringing life, justice and praise wherever we may find ourselves.* ***In Jesus’ Name***

***Amen.*** *—* **John van de Laar**

 **SERMON NOTES**

**Date: February 9, 2020**

**Scripture Passage: Matthew 3:13-17**

**Sermon: *You ARE Salt and Light***

**Preacher: Dr. Ramonia L. Lee**

**What key words or thoughts are central to this sermon?**

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**Welcome To The Inter-Faith Chapel**

**We are committed to being “*A House of Prayer for All People*.”**

**We are seeking to share the Love of God through caring, outreach, study, and worship. We invite you to share with us in this journey.**

**We are delighted you are here today, and hope you will return soon and often!**

**Believing in God whose love and grace are accessible to all,**

**we strive to make our worship service accessible to all.**

**For V isually I mpaired Large Print Bibles are available**

**For H earing I mpaired Sound Enhancement Headphones**

**For P hysically I mpaired Wheelchair Accessible Seating**

**Automated Doors are available at front and side entrances**

**If you need help with any of these aids, please ask an usher for assistance.**

**ALTAR FLOWERS Dedicated by Diane and Bruce Gibbs in loving memory**

 **of their parents.**

**FLOWER MAKER Anne Matthews**

**USHERS Heidi Bender, Head Usher**

 **Naomi Rogers, Raymond Williams, Sue Williams**

**GREETER Lois Hoston**

 **Delivery of Altar Flowers on Monday, February 10**

 ** Beryl Adams Margaret Ellis**

**Presence on Sunday, February 2**

 **193**

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| --- | --- |
| **February 2 Offering** **$12,357** |  **Weekly 2020 Budget** **$8,462** |
| **Year to Date Offering****$43,368** |  **Year to Date 2020 Budget**  **$42,310** |

***ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES***

**VISITOR / NEW MEMBER REGISTER**  If you are visiting with us today, we extend a special welcome to you and are so pleased you chose to worship with us. Please sign the *Visitor Register* located in the narthex and receive an Inter-Faith Chapel coffee mug as our small gift. Also, if you are looking for a church home and would like to learn more about this dynamic congregation, please let us know by signing the *Member / Affiliate Register*. We are glad you are with us today and hope you will come back soon!

**TAIZE WORSHIP SERVICE** Join us **today at 4:00 pm** for a candlelight Taize worship service. Taize worship, which takes its name from a small community in France, is contemplative in nature. Repetitive sung prayers, silent meditation, scripture readings, and common prayer are all integral aspects of Taize worship. Come join us for a new and meaningful worship experience.

**INTERFAITH WOMEN’S MEETING**  The Inter-Faith Women’s meeting will take place on **Thursday, February 13th** at 1:30 PM in the Inter- Faith Chapel Fellowship Hall. You don’t want to miss this opportunity to learn about the important work that the National Center for Children and Families is doing to help homeless and vulnerable children, youth and families in our area. Dahlia Levin, Director of External Affairs, will be our speaker.

Come to the table in the narthex after the service today and sign-up to attend the meeting on Thursday, February 13th. We will give you an invitation to the meeting that you can share with a friend and a list of some of the needs of those that are ministered to by the National Center for Children and Families.

**VISIT TO NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE** The Inter-Faith Fellowship plans a trip to the museum on **Wednesday, February 19** and invites you to come along. The group will gather at The Chapel at 9:00 am to carpool to the Glenmont Metro station and will travel via Metro to the museum. Please RSVP no later than Thursday, February 13th by calling The Chapel office at 301-598-5312 or by visiting the Announcements section of [www.inter-faithchapel.org](http://www.inter-faithchapel.org).

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE** We will begin our Lenten journey together on **Ash Wednesday, February 26** at **12:00 pm**. Our service will include Holy Communion and the marking of ashes. Please plan to join us for this holy observance and to be with us each Wednesday in Lent for our mid-week service.

**CENTERING PRAYER: A LENTEN PRACTICE** In Psalm 46:10 we hear the invitation to “Be still and know that I am God.” During the Lenten season you are invited to gather as we seek to be present to God and to give ourselves to God in love through the practice of centering prayer. Participants will meet Monday mornings from 10:00 – 11:00 am in the Meditation Chapel, beginning **Monday, March 2** **through** **Monday, April 6**. Please register no later than Monday, February 24th by calling The Chapel office at 301-598-5312.

**LENTEN STUDY** During the season of Lent, we will study the book *Sermon on the Mount* by Carol Geisler. Dr. Rea and Dr. Lee will lead the study which will meet on **Tuesdays** during Lent: **March 3 – March 31** at 10:30 am. To register, call 301-598-5312 or go to [www.inter-faithchapel.org](http://www.inter-faithchapel.org) by February 14. Please let us know if you want a book for $5.99 when you register.

**WORSHIP SERVICE BROADCAST**  Each week, our Sunday morning worship service is recorded for rebroadcast. You can tune in every Wednesday, at 2:00 PM on Leisure World Cable Channel 972 for viewing. This is a significant part of our extended ministry to the Leisure World community. We encourage you to let those who are unable to be in regular church attendance know about this service.

**FLOWER DELIVERY** We have open dates for delivering flowers on Mondays in February. Please check the signup clipboard in the Narthex to volunteer.

**2020 BIBLE READING GUIDE** We encourage you to read the Bible daily to reveal new understandings about God and about yourself. You may pick up a 2020 Bible Reading Guide in the Narthex. You may also go to [www.inter-faithchapel.org](http://www.inter-faithchapel.org) and click on 2020 Bible Reading Guide on the home page.

**SINGERS WANTED FOR ALZHEIMER’S CHOIR** A special choir is being formed for all interested singers including dementia patients, caregivers and friends. The **All Primetimers Choir** will rehearse on Thursdays at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, or to register for the choir, please call Bill Pailen at 301-606-8273 or through email at Primechoir@gmail.com.

**CHAPEL CALENDAR**

 **Monday, February 10 2:00 PM Sandwich Makers**

**Tuesday, February 11 10:00 AM Men’s Chorale**

 **10:30 AM Brooke Grove Service**

 **12:00 PM Staff Meeting**

 **1:30 PM Handbells**

 **Wednesday, February 12 10:00AM Women’s Chorus**

 **Thursday, February 13 9:30 AM Finance Committee**

 **1:30 PM Inter-Faith Women**

 **2:00 PM Primetimers Choir**

 **7:00 PM Chancel Choir**

 **Friday, February 14 10:00 AM Knitting**

 **11:00 AM Yoga (for those who**

 **registered)**

**THE INTER-FAITH CHAPEL**

**3680 South Leisure World Blvd.**

**Silver Spring, MD 20906**

[**www.inter-faithchapel.org**](http://www.inter-faithchapel.org)

**CHAPEL OFFICE HOURS**

**9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  Monday – Friday**

**301-598-5312**

***Rev. Dr. Woodie Rea, Senior Minister***

***Rev. Dr. Ramonia Lee, Minister of Congregational Life***

***Kevin M. Clemens, Director of Music***

***Bonnie Bonner, Administrator***

***Joy Dufour, Administrative Assistant***

***Steve Buck, Gary Carpenter, Video Technicians and Sexton***

Lent, which begins **February 26** on **Ash Wednesday**, is a time of preparation. The observance of Lent during the forty days (plus six Sundays) before Easter appeared in the early church as an imitation of Jesus’ forty days of self-denial and prayer in the wilderness.

 As observed today, Lent is the opportunity for us to test, reflect, give-up, and give-in as a means to discover God’s presence, purpose, and power.

**The Terms**

**Lent** is an Anglo-Saxon word meaning spring. The season lasts from Ash Wednesday until Maundy Thursday of Holy Week.

**Ash Wednesday** is the day on which Lent begins, often observed in worship by receiving a cross of ashes on the forehead.

**Holy Week** includes the days from Palm Sunday through Easter.

**Palm or Passion Sunday** has contrasting names, one because of Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem with the crowds waving palm branches and the other because this Sunday begins Jesus’ days of suffering and death.

**Maundy Thursday** gets its name from Jesus’ new commandment to love one another, which he spoke during the Passover meal when he washed his disciples’ feet and instituted the Lord’s Supper.

**Good Friday** marks the events of Jesus’ trial, crucifixion, death and burial, sometimes with special *Tre Ore* (three hour) observances. The altar may be stripped of all decoration and the church darkened until Easter.

**Easter** comes from the name of an ancient spring festival. Easter is the great Sunday, after which each Sunday worship is modeled.

**The Symbols**

**Colors**: *Violet* is the usual color of all of Lent, symbolizing repentance. *Black* dominates on Good Friday, while *white* is the color for Easter.

**Ashes** placed on the forehead hint at an ancient ritual—covering oneself with ashes in penitence. Receiving the cross-shaped “smudge” reminds us that we are dust and is a public statement of repentance. Usually the ashes are from the previous year’s Palm Sunday branches, illustrating the circle of the church year.

**Forty Days of Lent** parallel the forty days that Jesus spent in fasting and prayer in the wilderness.

**Palm Branches,** in ancient times, signified victory and were used in triumphal processions by Romans and Jews.

**Traditional Lenten Disciplines**

**Worship and Meditation** During Lent, many congregations offer added opportunities for public worship and encourage their members to more frequent and fervent prayer, Bible study, and private meditation on the saving love of God in Jesus the Christ.

**Fasting and Abstinence** As an aid to devotional life, many Christians who are able, give up certain foods and activities throughout the season of Lent. Some also set aside certain days for more rigorous fasting in the Lord’s honor.

**Almsgiving** Moved by the sacrifice of Christ, many Christians combine almsgiving with fasting, giving to the poor the money they saved by eating, drinking or buying less as they rely more on God’s abundant grace.

 **Lenten Bible Study: The *Sermon on the Mount***

**Tuesdays: March 3—31 at 10:30 A.M.**

Matthew’s gospel contains Jesus’ longest recorded message – a sermon given to His disciples early in His ministry to articulate what the life of a Christ-follower would look like. It was a message intended to turn upside down every expectation His closest followers might have. Both practical and profound, the Sermon on the Mount asks of us the same questions it posed to its original hearers.

Join us for this five session Lenten Bible study that we might better understand the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount from the context of His suffering, death and resurrection. The class will meet on Tuesdays in March at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The series will be co-led by Drs. Rea and Lee. Register for the class by calling The Chapel Office at 301-598-5312. The cost of the study book is $5.99. Please order and purchase your book when you sign up.

Here is the schedule:

**Tuesday, March 3 Week 1 Blessed Are You Matthew 5:3-10**
Christ remind us that we are blessed, now and for all eternity.

**Tuesday, March 10 Week 2 Prayer and Fasting Matthew 6:5-18**
Lent is a season of prayer and fasting.

**Tuesday, March 17 Week 3 Do Not Worry Matthew 6:25-34**
Christ teaches us to stop being anxious.

**Tuesday, March 24 Week 4 Do Not Judge Matthew 7:1-5**
Christ teaches us to leave all judgment up to God.

**Tuesday, March 31 Week 5 Build on Rock Matthew 7:24-27**
Jesus reminds us in His teachings that the only solid foundation is Himself, the Rock of our salvation. On Him alone we build.