



## **Guest Preacher**



Join us in welcoming our guest preacher, Colin Kroll, Director, Campbell Youth Theological Institute (CYTI), Office of Spiritual Life.

Colin lives in Raleigh, North Carolina with his wife, Sarah, and his rescue Cocker Spaniel, Bambi. Prior to joining the Office of Spiritual Life, Colin served several churches as a youth minister. His passion for working with teenagers found a new home when he joined the CYTI as a graduate assistant in 2017. Colin moved into the director role for CYTI in 2018, and he joined the Office of Spiritual Life as an associate campus minister in 2019.

Colin has earned a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry (2015) and a Master of Divinity (2019) from the Department of Christian Studies, and the Campbell University Divinity School, respectively. We are honored to have him lead us in worship this morning.



# The Worship of God

## Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 20, 2022

All Are invited to sing during worship! Masks are recommended but not required. For anyone who would like to wear a mask but does not have one, they are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Prelude "Peace Medley" arr. Linda R. Lamb

GBC Handbell Choir

Welcome Chrissy Tatum Williamson

## **† Call to Worship**

One: Come, all who are thirsty.

All: Come, all who are seeking.

One: Come, all who are waiting.

All: Come, all who labor.
One: Come, all who need rest.

All: Come, all who dream dreams.

One: If God is a like party,

All: we're invited to dance.

One: Come—

whether you're young or old,

confident or curious, lonely or hopeful.

All: This is God's house. All are welcome here.

Let us worship Holy God.

"Full to the Brim"

Words and Music by Christian McIvor ©2022

Full to the brim, God's love is overflowing.
Full to the brim, God's grace, in us, is growing.
Let us pour out living streams
as we realize God's dream,
living lives that are full to the brim.

<sup>†</sup> Please rise in body or spirit.

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, For the love which from our birth over and around us lies: Lord of all, to Thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light: Lord of all, to Thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, Friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild: Lord of all, to Thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

For Thy Church that evermore lifteth holy hands above, Offering up on every shore Her pure sacrifice of love: Lord of all, to Thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

For Thyself, best gift divine, to our race so freely given; For that great, great love of Thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: Lord of all, to Thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

Children's Sermon April Alston

Call to Confession Anna Beth Cross

There is something so healing, so life-giving, about telling our stories.

In the prayer of confession, that is what we get to do.

The mask comes off. Any pretense of perfection is removed.

We let the pressure to perform slip away and we sit here, face to face with God, sharing honestly who we long to be.

Friends, there is healing here.

There is life to be gained here.

So join me in this moment of honesty. Join me in the prayer of confession.

## **Prayer of Confession**

Holy God,

we treat our self-worth like something that can be bought at a store; but you know this even better than we do. Instead of trusting that we are made good, instead of trusting that we are loved exactly as we are, we stockpile our value in earthly things— in trophies and awards, in likes and follows, in wealth and power.

(cont'd on next page)

Forgive us for creating our own measuring stick.

Heal our open wounds and tell our hearts
that we won't be forgotten if we slow down.

We won't be forgotten if we rest. Gratefully we pray, amen.

## **Words of Forgiveness**

One: Friends, take a deep breath. Release the tension in your jaw.

There is good news here.

For even when we stumble, even when we take the easy way out,

even when we forget our own self-worth,

even when we lose our way—we belong to God. Say it with me—

All: We are loved. We are claimed. We are under God's wing.

We are worthy of grace. We belong to God. Amen.

## **† Offertory Anthem**

"You Do Not Walk Alone" GBC Adult Choir

Traditional Irish Blessing, Music by Elaine Hagenberg

May you see God's light on the path ahead when the road you walk is dark.

May you always hear, even in your hour of sorrow, the gentle singing of the lark.

When times are hard may hardness never turn your heart to stone,

May you always remember when the shadows fall,

You do not walk alone.

(Repeated Twice)

May you always remember when the shadows fall, You do not walk alone.

## † Doxology

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

O WALY WALY; Words by Neil Weatherhogg,

Music: Scottish Folk Melody

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.

## **Prayer of Dedication**

Elizabeth Worley

Scripture Reading Luke 13:1-9 Sylvia Cash

#### **Silent Reflection**

#### **Musical Reflection**

"We Are Worthy"

Words and Music by Christian McIvor ©2017

#### Verse 1:

Sometimes I get tired, I feel uninspired As the world spins around, I get run to the ground, and 'Round in circles we go

And then I look to the sky, and I remember why As we turn through these days, there's always reason for praise 'Cause from within me I know... that

#### Prechorus:

We are worthy, we are worthy, we are worthy,

#### Chorus:

We are worthy (We are worthy of God's love),
We are worthy (So let it tear down your walls),
We are worthy ('Cause you are loved),
We are worthy,
We are worthy (We are worthy of God's love),
We are worthy (And in it, there's still hope for all),
We are worthy ('Cause we are loved),
We are worthy!

#### Verse 2:

Love is patient and kind, it gives sight to the blind It hopes and believes, makes givers of thieves, Love never ends

Let's make a new resolution to spark a love revolution Let it work in you, 'till it's shining through, Now it's yours to send... 'cause

(Prechorus, Chorus)

## **Pastoral Prayer**

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

#### Invitation

Words by Mary Jackson Cathey, Music by Johann Crüger; harm. Felix Mendelssohn

I am a child of God, the One who made and keeps me. By God's free gift of love, God's child I always will be. Forever I belong, I know that this is true; and with my mind and heart, I trust and love God, too.

God's image is in us, the people of creation. No matter where we live, we share a close relation. God's covenant is sure, eternal word for all who follow in God's way and answer to God's call.

God never turns from us, not even in our sinning. God loves and waits for us to claim a new beginning. By opening our hearts, we then prepare the way for God's love to come in and guide us every day.

I thank God for that love and all the world around me, the seen and unseen things, and promised things that will be. Through worship, trust, and prayer, may I reflect God's will. Let love be seen in me as I God's word fulfill.

## **Celebrating Community**

April Alston

#### **Benediction**

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

As you leave this place, may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world. May you laugh, and may it be contagious. May you overflow with love for those around you. May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.

And in all of your living, and breathing, and being, may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit, and may it change your life.

In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself—go in peace, full to the brim. Amen.

**Postlude** 

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

GBC Handbell Choir

by Lowell Mason, arr. Bill Ingram

#### Cover Art:

You Are Worthy by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman Inspired by Luke 13:1-9 Block print with oil-based ink

How often does society wish us to feel like we are wasting soil? The whole capitalist system lurches forward, powered by our collective sense of unworthiness and our searching for worth based on what we produce. This parable upends the notion that we are what we produce, and speaks truth: you are worthy. You deserve rest and care simply for existing. What a gift!

In this image, I wanted the fig tree to look unremarkable, surrounded by the hands of the Gardener reaching down to lovingly massage the soil. The sleeves contain patterning of simplified visual references to everything a plant needs to not only survive, but to thrive. Starting close to the roots and moving upward, the patterns include water, air, sunlight, nutrients, and space. The emphasis in this image is on what is happening below the surface, in the depths of the dirt. The roots stretch toward the hands of the Gardener as the specks of dirt seem to also image the stars of the vast universe. Within us, despite what we produce, despite what can be seen at the surface, we contain multitudes. We bear the image of God, and our mere existence makes us worthy of Sabbath and the loving arms of the Gardener reaching out to provide us with everything we need.

On a personal note, the Full to the Brim theme keeps bringing me back to the image of resting while God reaches to embrace us. Lately I've spent so much time and energy fighting so hard to get some kind of tangible grasp of God, all the while feeling so empty. I'm realizing that I need to practice surrender, allowing God to find me where I am, and to receive God's care and love, filling me to the brim so I can then be full to pour out once again.

-Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

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