

**Glen Echo Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
March 19, 2023**

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Kathleen

Greeting One Another in Christian Love

(Please return to your seats to worship when the lights flash.)

PRELUDE

“This Little Light of Mine”

arr. Craig Curry

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Dawn is breaking. Christ’s light is shining.

All: The Light of the world shines in our lives.

One: Put aside the cares of the night.

All: In the Lord, we live in the light.

One: Even in the darkest valley, God illuminates our path.

All: Even in times of despair, hope shines forth.

One: Sleeper, awake! Christ’s light is shining.

All: The Light of the world shines in our lives.

***HYMN OF PRAISE #284 “Gather Us In” vv. 1,4**

**Here in this place, the new light is streaming,
Shadows of doubt are vanished away,
See, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
Gather us in, our spirits inflame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
We shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**Not just in buildings, small and confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away,
Here in this space, the new light is shining,
Now is God present, and now is the day.
Gather us in, and hold us forever;
Gather us in, and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

***INVOCATION**

***GLORIA PATRI #35**

**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.**

FIRST READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

PRAYER HYMN #576 “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” vv. 1,3

**My faith looks up to thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;
Oh, let me from this day be wholly thine.**

**While life's dark maze I tread,
And griefs around me spread, be thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray from thee aside.**

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

arr. Judith

SECOND READING

John 9:1-5

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

SERMON

“Light Fruit”

The Reverend Dr. Tim Diebel

HYMN OF PREPARATION #408 “Come Share the Lord” vv. 1,3

**We gather here in Jesus' name,
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame;
For through the loving Son the Father makes us one:
Come take the bread, come drink the wine,
Come share the Lord.**

**No one is a stranger here, everyone belongs;
Finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrongs.**

**We'll gather soon where angels sing;
We'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King;
Now we anticipate the feast for which we wait:
Come take the bread, come drink the wine,
Come share the Lord.**

**Invitation to Commune
Communion Sentences**

Pam

One: Be Thou our vision, O God. Be our eyes. Be our hearts.

All: **Be the grace that flows through our lives. Only with your eyes can we see rightly.**

Prayer of Consecration

(Please partake of the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation.)

Communion Music “O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee”

***INVITATION AND HYMN OF DEDICATION #540**

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go” vv. 1-2

**O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.**

**O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine’s blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.**

(Please be seated for the Postlude and Benediction.)

POSTLUDE “Excerpt From Fantasy in D Minor” Mozart

BENEDICTION The Reverend Dr. Tim Diebel
**Please stand, if you can.*

Portions of the worship service were adapted from:

The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year. Scifres, Mary and Beu, B.J., Editors. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2022.

News in the Pews

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

None this week

Upcoming Schedule: The following Pulpit Supply ministers will lead worship services on the following days:

March 19, March 26: The Reverend Dr. Tim Diebel

April 2 (Palm Sunday): The Reverend Josh Patty, Regional Minister

April 6 (Maundy Thursday): The Reverend Dr. L. Louise Bruce

April 9 (Easter), April 16, April 23: The Reverend Paul Witmer

April 30: Bob Markley

May 7, May 14: The Reverend Dr. L. Louise Bruce

Choir: Judith plans to have the Choir sing on Easter. Practices will be held at the church at 7:15 PM on March 29th and April 5th.

Spring Clean Up Day: Our Annual Indoor Spring Cleaning Day will be held Saturday morning, April 1st, at 9 AM.

From Elder Chair, Rosemarie Kelling: “On April 2nd, Josh (Patty) will fill the pulpit. He will also donate his time for a question and answer session following the service. Please make an effort to attend the session, and perhaps formulate questions to present at that time.”

March Good Fellowship Supper: Sign up to attend March’s supper at 6 PM on Friday, March 24th, at the Johnston Cozy Café.

Good Friday Prayer Vigil: On Good Friday, April 7th, participants are invited to pray from their homes. Sign up for a shift (or two) from 6 AM – midnight. See Dorothy, Worship Chair, if you have questions.

Videographer Wanted: Talk with Dennis if you can help.

Who to Contact: If you have general concerns or questions, please contact our President, Kathleen. If you have pastoral concerns, please contact our Elder Chair, Rosemarie.

EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK
MARCH 19-25, 2023

Sunday	Worship Coffee Fellowship in Lounge	10:15 AM After church
Friday	Good Fellowship dinner at Cozy Café	6:00 PM

Today's Serving Schedule

Accompanist:	Judith Henry
Deacon:	Dennis
Elder:	Pam
Minister:	The Reverend Dr. Tim Diebel
Worship Leader:	Kathleen

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