

Instructions for the Service over Zoom

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89161398447?pwd=Q1JhbUhZT1RRRGNVVkJyNzdYOEpaUT09>

Meeting ID: 891 6139 8447

Passcode: 832648

Telephone: 646 558 8656

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Please use the chat button to convey your celebrations and your prayer concerns so that we can save them to a file and publish them in the prayer list for the congregation on Monday.

Recording this Service

We will record today's service for members and friends who cannot participate in worship at this hour. The recording will begin with the Call to Worship and end at the close of the Benediction. We will also post an audio of the reading and homily.

The service will be ready for viewing beginning on Monday evening and will be available until Saturday evening. The link to view the service will be in the Monday e-mail. You can listen to the audio and print a copy of the sermon from the church's website, which will also be available Monday evening:

<https://www.shcong.org/sermons>

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 19, 2023 10:00 AM
Rev. Chris Mereschuk, Bridge Pastor
David Cavallin, Music Director

PRELUDE

David Cavallin

WELCOME

Pastor Chris

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Based on Psalm 130)

Leader: Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, hear our voice! Let your ears be attentive to our prayers!

Leader: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, who could stand?

People: But there is forgiveness with you, and we offer you our praise.

Leader: We wait for the Lord, our souls wait, and in the Lord's word we hope.

People: May my soul wait for the Lord, more than those who watch for the morning.

Leader: May we hope in the Lord!

All: For with the Lord there is steadfast love, holding great power to redeem. Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN**

"Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer"

Black #18

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of abundant life, we come to worship this day from various walks of life and places of engagement, yet we are drawn together through the connection in this community of faith. We pray that during this time, we would be reminded yet again of the power of doing good and of changing the lives of others. It can be so easy to get caught up in our own lives that we forget the simple acts of kindness which can make a world of difference. We want to seize the day and not miss any opportunities. Show us the paths where we might follow in the footsteps of your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to pass the peace in whatever way is comfortable for you and your neighbors. Handshakes, waves, peace sign, etc.

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all!

People: And also with you!

OFFERING INVITATION & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, we offer these gifts in the spirit of gratitude and with an open heart. These offerings are one way of showing our commitment to sharing with those who are in need, neighbors near and far, whom we are unlikely to meet. Let us not grow weary in giving our gifts to others. Bless them, just as you have us, with an extra measure of your grace. In Christ's name, Amen.

SCRIPTURE

A Retelling of John 11:1-45

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *"Were You There?"*

Were you there in the wilderness with him?

Were you there in the wilderness with him?

Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there in the wilderness with him?

SERMON

"Unburdened & Unbound"

Pastor Chris

*HYMN

"Just As I Am"

Blue #342

JOYS & CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

"Abide With Me"

Black #99

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

David Cavallin

Contact:

Rev. Chris Mereschuk

Email: revcjm@gmail.com

Cell: (860) 966-8055

Please contact Pastor Chris to schedule an office visit.



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"The Wilderness Journey"

Lenten Sermon Series

Sundays at 10:00 am

Fifth Sunday of Lent • March 26th

Table Fellowship in Parish Hall

Palm Sunday • April 2nd

Communion

Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem

Maundy Thursday • April 6th at 7:00 pm

Service of Tenebrae & Communion

Easter Sunday • April 9th

Sunrise Worship at 6:00 am

On Top of Church Hill

Morning Worship at 10:00 am

Sanctuary Christ is Risen!