



DOUGLAS UCC
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

Order of Service for Sunday, March 6, 2022

First Sunday in Lent

Thank you for joining us today.

For Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Prayer List, [visit this week's E-Pistle here](#), where you can also subscribe to receive it by email, if you like.

***- stand if you wish to, and are able.**

Congressional Responses in Bold

Prelude *God Bless the Broken Road, Peter Black*
(Please use this time for quiet reflection and preparation for worship)

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of Altar Candles & Ringing in the Hour

Let us recognize the light of the world within us and ring in the hour of worship.

Introit *Take, O Take Me As I Am*

Take, O take me as I am.

Summon out what I shall be.

Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Call to Worship

Psalm 91

Reader: Lynn Snyder

One: You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,

Many: Say to God, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

One: You have made God your refuge, your dwelling place,

Many: Therefore, no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.

One: For God will command your angels to guard you in all your ways.

Many: On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.

One: God says, "Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name."

Many: "When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in times of trouble."

One: God says, "I will rescue them and honor them."

Many: "With long life I will satisfy them and show them my salvation."

***Opening Hymn,**

When Peace Like a River

(Black New Century Hymnal No.438)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

Unison Prayer

O God, just as Spring is the season for new and expanded life, Lent is a time of rebirth and renewal for us. Help us to use this season to realign ourselves with the mind and heart of Christ and to allow ourselves to be transformed. This season, help us to consciously "fast" from negative thoughts and behaviors that create a sense of separation from you and from our own authentic selves. This season, help us to devote additional time to prayer, meditation and thoughtful reflection. We know that as we heed the guidance of your still, small voice within us, the way is made clear. As we empty ourselves of the things that no longer serve us, we are renewed, restored, rejuvenated and reborn. Amen.

Assurance of Grace and Peace

One: Peace be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

***Passing the Peace** *Send Your Spirit to Set Us Free*

Send your Spirit to set us free. Send your Spirit to set us free.

Fill our hearts and minds, loose the chains that bind.

Send your Spirit to set us free.

Words of Integration & Guidance

By Clara May Rowland

Throughout the church world during the season of Lent, people strive to become better Christians. Therefore, we should not look upon it as a forbidding or a sad season of fasting and prayer, but as a spiritual experience that means much to all of us if we enter into its observance in the right spirit. Primarily the purpose of Lent is to prepare us mentally, physically, and spiritually for a new awakening; to resurrect us out of old states of consciousness into a new realization of life; and to permit us to reconsecrate and rededicate ourselves to the will and the work of Jesus. Through our spiritual awakening, we shall find renewed life and health, a joyous freedom from burdens, and best of all, peace of mind. Our preparation consists, first of all, of a careful and honest appraisal of our thinking habits in order to see how they can be improved. In early days, penitent Christians began Lent by acknowledging their sins and by entering upon a period of public penance. Today, we know that we can find release from error and the effects of erroneous thinking in the past by bringing our mind and heart into unity with the Christ-mind so that its divine ideas may control our thinking and guide it into constructive channels. We cannot do these things alone through the personal will, but we always have the help of the Spirit of truth within us. During the Lenten season, we become especially aware of the desire in our hearts to expand our spiritual nature. The power of the Spirit at work in us will back us up in our desire to prove we are truly children of God. During Lent, let us reconsecrate our eyes, our ears, and our tongues to this Truth.

Wilderness Companions

The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Deuteronomy 26:1-11

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Luke 4:1-13

Many: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Homily "An Opportune Time," Stan Greene

Offering & Offertory *Lead Me, Guide Me*
Nancy Plantinga and Peter Black
Composer: Doris Akers

Entering the Desert

Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God!

Many: **Alleluia!**

One: O God,

Many: **Hear our prayer.**

***Doxology** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that Love has done,

Creator, Christ and Spirit One.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

***Celebration of Holy Communion**

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

Many: It is good to give God thanks & praise

***Creation's Praise** (Isaiah 6:3)

Holy holy holy, Lord, God of Hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of Thee.

Heaven and earth are praising Thee.

O Lord most high.

(Please be seated)

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Receive the Bread of Life. **Amen.**

The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. **Amen.**

Always and Everywhere

***The Lord's Prayer**

Our Mother/Father, always and everywhere, 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.**

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen.

***Hymn of Sending**

We Are Often Tossed and Driven

(Black New Century Hymnal No.444)

(Find Music at the End of this Program)

***Benediction**

Postlude, *Guide Me O Though Great Redeemer*, Peter Black

Have a great week! Keep up with the Douglas UCC community and the work of our service groups here:

www.douglasucc.org

<https://www.youtube.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.facebook.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.instagram.com/douglasucc>

STRUGGLE AND CONFLICT

438

When Peace, Like a River
(It Is Well with My Soul)

Ps. 146; Col. 1:19-23; 2:13-14; 3 John 1:2

Horatio G. Spafford, 1873; alt.

1 When peace, like a riv - er, up - holds me each day, when
 2 Though e - vil should tempt me, though tri - als should come, let
 3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought— my
 4 O God, speed the day that is filled with your light, when

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, What - ev - er my lot, you have
 this blessed as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ has re - gard - ed my
 sin— not in part, but the whole— Is nailed to the cross and I
 clouds are rolled back as a scroll; The trum - pet shall sound and the

Refrain

taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."
 help - less es - tate, and has paid life and blood for my soul: It is
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall ap - pear, "e - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 It is well with my soul.

444

We Are Often Tossed and Driven

(We'll Understand It Better By and By)

Charles Albert Tindley, c. 1906; alt.

1 We are of - ten tossed and driven on the rest - less sea of time,
 2 We are of - ten des - ti - tute of the things that life de - mands,
 3 Tri - als harsh on ev - ery hand, and we can - not un - der - stand
 4 Temp - ta - tions, hid - den snares of - ten take us un - a - wares,

Som - ber skies and howl - ing tem - pests oft suc - ceed a bright sun - shine;
 Want of food and want of shel - ter, thirst - y hills and bar - ren lands;
 All the ways that God would lead us to that bless - ed prom - ised land;
 And our hearts are made to bleed for man - y a thought - less word or deed,

In that land of per - fect day, when the mists have rolled a - way,
 In our God our trust's as - sured, and ac - cord - ing to the Word,
 We are guid - ed by God's eye, and we'll fol - low till we die,
 And we won - der, why the test, when we try to do our best,

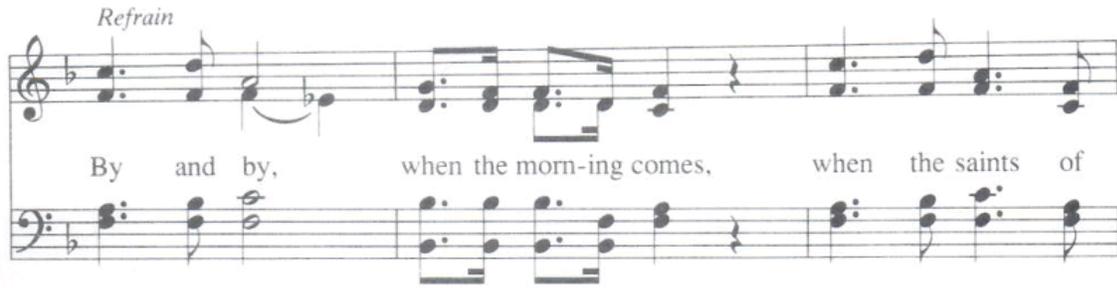
to Refrain

We will un - der - stand it bet - ter by and by.
 We will un - der - stand it bet - ter by and by.
 For we'll un - der - stand it bet - ter by and by.
 But we'll un - der - stand it bet - ter by and by.

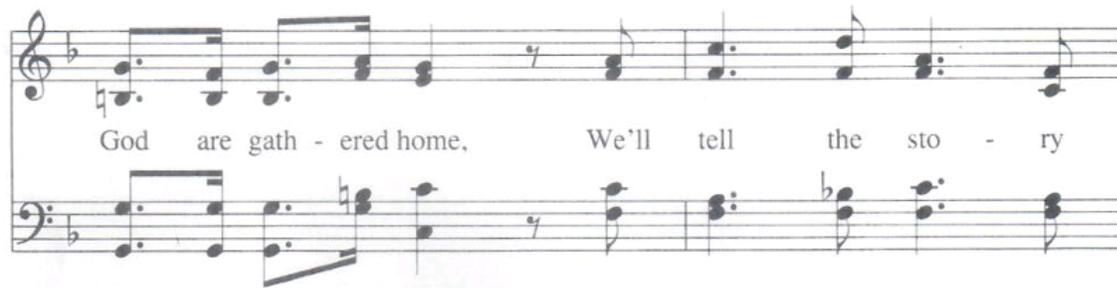
2

STRUGGLE AND CONFLICT

Refrain



By and by, when the morn-ing comes, when the saints of



God are gath - ered home, We'll tell the sto - ry



how we've o - ver-come: for we'll un - der-stand it bet-ter by and by. (by and by.)

This is probably Charles A. Tindley's most celebrated gospel hymn of the early twentieth century. Far from being a song that merely looks heavenward, Tindley's song identifies poverty as a social problem.

Tune: BY AND BY Irr. with refrain
Charles Albert Tindley, c. 1906
Transcribed by F. A. Clark, 1906