**The Inter-Faith Chapel**

“A House of Prayer for All People”

**Mid-Week Lenten Service**



***April 10, 2019***

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE 12:00 PM**

✞ ***Please enter in silence and use the prelude to prepare yourself for worship.*** ✞

**PRELUDE**

***I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked*  Geoffrey O’Hara**

***My Jesus, I Love Thee* Adoniram Gordon**

 ***The Holy City* Stephen Adams**

***Just for Me*  Kenneth Louis**

**Everett P. Williams, Jr., Guest Organist**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** **Dr. Woodie Rea**

*Leader: Jesus had confidence in life after death. That confidence can be ours.*

**PEOPLE: Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life.”**

*Leader: Through his healing ministry, Jesus demonstrated that death is not*

*beyond the hope found in resurrection.*

**PEOPLE: Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life.”**

*Leader: We are given courage and confidence by the power of God to overcome*

 *our darkest moments and worst fears.*

**PEOPLE: We are strengthened in our faith by the mighty acts of Jesus.**

*Leader: Praise be to God who has given us Jesus.*

**PEOPLE: Praise be to Jesus who has given us life.**

**ALL:****The Spirit of God breathes life into each one of us.**

 **Lord, give us open hearts to receive your healing love.**

**INVOCATION UNISON**

*Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though they may die, yet shall they live.” This is the promise of God, to whom we now pray:*

**Holy God, Foundation of life, you offer us new grace and growth each day. When we see nothing but hopelessness, you surprise us with the breath of your spirit. When we see despair and depression, you show us what life can be. O God, as we gather for worship, call us out of our complacency and routines, challenge us to live fully and vibrantly, arouse us to live more passionately, always alive to the power and promise of your presence. Fill us with your spirit of life today, we pray. Amen.**

✞ **HYMN *Martha, Mary, Waiting, Weeping***

✞ **You may stand.**

*Music used by permission, CCLI #1683224*

**CALL TO CONFESSION Dr. Ramonia Lee**

*The Lenten journey continues to carry us closer and closer to the cross. To know that Jesus died, changes us. To believe that Jesus lives, turns our grief to joy. Through darkness and death, Jesus is the life. Let us now confess the sins of our hearts and the shortcomings of our lives to our Lord who hears and forgives:*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Living God, your power goes far beyond our own, and yet still we act as though the pains of this world have final claim upon us. We give in to the despair and darkness, not trusting in your ability to call forth new life from the tombs of our lives. Forgive us for doubting your power to raise up new life in the midst of all the deaths we experience. Forgive us for not trusting that you will always come on time. Forgive us, and open our eyes to the wonder of new life sprouting into being in our very midst. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

***(A period of silent prayer is offered for personal confession)***

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*“Come out,” Jesus calls, and his word unbinds us from the oppressive weight of our past and pushes away the rocks that close us off from love.*

*“Come out,” Jesus cries, and his word moves* ***us from the tombs of our existence into the brightness of a new day.***

***“Go out,” Jesus challenges, and entices us into a world filled with grace and possibility.***

***“Go out,” Jesus commands, into the world to live as God’s resurrected people!***

*Believe the good news: Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life.*

*Thanks be to God. Amen.*

**SCRIPTURE READING John 11: 17-25**

 *Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.*

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

**ANTHEM *Lift Thine Eyes (Elijah)* Felix Mendelssohn**

**Women’s Chorus**

**SERMON Dr. Robert Perry**

 **“I Am the Resurrection and Life”**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Each petition ends with the following response:*

*Leader: Living and risen Lord,*

 **PEOPLE: Be our life and resurrection.**

**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.**

✞ **CLOSING HYMN *Savior, Again to Your Dear Name***

**BENEDICTION**

***As you exit, please leave quietly to respect the continued worship of others.***

***You are invited to stay to meditate and pray for as long as you desire.***

***Go with God and in peace.***

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

*I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!*

*He lives, my kind and caring friend; He lives, and loves me to the end.*

*He lives, and offers abundant life; His promise of presence amidst life’s strife.*

*He lives, and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I too can conquer death.*

*He lives, all glory to his name; Jesus is the life, and we shall never be the same.*

* Carol Geisler

**HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**PALM SUNDAY April 14 9:00 / 11:00 AM**

***“Palms, and The Rest of The Story”***

**WEDNESDAY MOVIE April 17 1:00 PM**

***Risen***

**MAUNDY THURSDAY April 18 7:00 PM**

 ***“I Remember”***

**GOOD FRIDAY April 19 12:00 PM**

***“The Way of The Cross”***

**EASTER SUNDAY April 21 9:00 / 11:00 AM**

 ***“Putting Easter to Good Use”***

**USHERS**

**Cloteele Damsky and Clydis Kellough**

**OUR SOUP & YOUR SANDWICH**

**All are invited to join us for lunch in the Fellowship Hall.**

**Soup has been purchased from the Terrace Room.**

**LENTEN OFFERING**

**Offering Plates are located in The Narthex.**

**The Lenten offering will go toward the outreach ministries**

**of The Inter-Faith Chapel.**

**MITE BOXES FOR THE SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW**

As part of your Lenten discipline, please consider setting aside your loose change every day and placing it in one of the Society of St. Andrew mite boxes.

**Please return your mite box to the table in the Narthex**

**on Good Friday, April 19th.**