



THE
SEASON
OF
LENT

THE
FEDERATED
CHURCH

MARCH 8, 2020



FEDERATED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

March 8, 2020

Second Sunday in Lent

10 am

Theme: Waiting in the Dark

Prelude *Balm in Gilead* (R. Powell) Marcia Snavelly, organ

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton

Introit *Witness* (arr. J. Halloran) Federated Choir

* **Call to Worship** Beth Rutkowski, Worship Leader

One: We are in the presence of God.

All: May we leave behind familiar comforts and habits and walk with God.

One: May we leave behind our limiting thoughts and imagine.

All: New ways of being in this world are possible for each of us.

One: God is our light and our salvation.

All: Lord, we open ourselves to you. Direct our paths and open our hearts and minds.

One: In this place, in every place,

All: for this time, for all time.

One: As our children depart for Sunday School, may we give ourselves into the hands of God and pass the peace of Christ to each other.

* **Passing of Peace**
(Children leave for Sunday School)

* **Hymn** *Bring Many Names* No. 10

Prayer of Confession (unison)

O living God, you dwell in clouds and thick darkness.

We lift our eyes to the night sky

and sense depth and fullness beyond our grasp.

You freed your children from Egyptian bondage
under the security of nightfall.

When you were born, the star came in the night heavens.

A black man carried your cross.

You made your pure sacrifice of love in the midday darkness.

* Those who are able stand

Rain falls from black clouds.
 Babies grow in uterine shadows.
 Prophets speak in ebony voices.
 Treasures of darkness!
 Help us receive them as riches from you. Amen.

Sung Response (remain seated) *Kyrie eleison*



Greek Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
 English Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - - - son.
 Lord, _____ have mer - - - cy.

Scripture *Genesis 12:1-4a*

Faith Witness and Prayers of the People

Beth Rutkowski

Blessing and Commissioning of our Servant Leaders

* Hymn

Joyful Is the Dark

No. 333

Invitation to Offering Our Lives and Resources

Anthem

Inscription of Hope (Z. Randall Stroope)

Federated Choir

* Hymn of Dedication (G.W.D. Shepherd; Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH)

Praise God throughout these forty days,
 Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise
 And praise the Spirit who imparts
 God's love in Christ into our hearts.

* 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 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.

Scripture

John 3:1-17

Sermon

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton

* Hymn

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

No. 66

* Benediction

* Postlude

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (D. Hustad) Marcia Snavely, organ
(Children get picked up from Sunday School on second floor)



Jesus Mafa: Nicodemus



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