Central Woodward Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

3955 West Big Beaver Road Troy, Michigan 48084

February 21, 2021
First Sunday in Lent

The Church Gathers

Prelude

Welcome Pastor Bob

*Call to Worship Cheryl Cornwall

L: God said, "I will be your God."

P: God has promised. God remembers. God is faithful.

L: God said, "I will lead you in the paths of truth."

P: God has promised. God remembers. God is faithful.

L: God said, "I will forgive you."

P: God has promised. God remembers. God is faithful.

L: God said, "My kingdom is near."

P: God has promised. God remembers. God is faithful. —Ministry Matters

*Opening Hymn

This Is My Father's World

59 (vs. 1, 3)

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; God's hands the wonders wrought.

3 Our God has made this world; oh, let us ne'er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet. God trusts us with this world, to keep it clean and fair. All earth and trees, the skies and seas, God's creatures everywhere.

*Opening Prayer Cheryl Cornwall

Sharing in God's Word

Scripture Genesis 9:8-17 Pastor Bob

Sermon The Covenant Making God Pastor Bob

* Invitation Hymn: Great Is Thy Faithfulness 86 (vs. 1, 2)

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above, join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. (Refrain)

Call to Confession: Pastor Bob

It is in our confession where we realize our desire for God and our hope for God's mercy. It is in admitting the truth of our lives that we take the first step toward wholeness and healing. So let us make our confession:

Prayer of Confession:

Holy God, we will be honest: life is really hard right now. It is really hard to wear masks, to avoid public gatherings, to spend so much time watching screens. We are losing patience and we are losing hope and we are losing our grip on faith. We're caught between the selfishness of wanting to do whatever we want without regard for others, and wanting to be helpful, patient and loving. We need the gift of Lent, these 40 days to help us restore right relationships with you, with other people and with your earth. God be with us and let us pray:

Creating and Renewing God, whose covenant with life remains. In this Lenten season we each need the opportunity to clear our eyes and focus our energies. As Noah rode the waves for days and weeks, as God relented and covenanted never again to destroy creation by flood—marking the heavens with the rainbow — may you again set before us your rainbow, clearing our eyes of anxiety and fear, focusing our minds on your goodness and re-orienting our whole selves to healing and wholeness. May I be in right relationship with you and may I join with others in curbing the spread of COVID, overcoming violence and injustice and engaging in acts of compassion. In Jesus's name I pray. Amen.

Assurance of God's Steadfastness:

Friends, Brothers and Sisters, God hears our prayers and, even in our human frailty, promises to be with us in the wilderness times. Rainbows continue to break forth. Observe, find comfort, and offer with courage to restore and build relationships among God's people. Experience a new and renewed sense of hope. Amen.

Giving and Receiving Gifts

Hymn of Preparation:

For the Beauty of the Earth

56 (vs. 1, 5)

1 For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

5 For thy church that evermore lifteth holy hands above, offering up on every shore one pure sacrifice of love, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Call to Stewardship

Pastor Rick

Stewardship is an important part of Christian life; our financial offerings not only support the ministry of the church but serve as an expression of faith and trust in the God who provides. For in-person worship, please place your offerings in the baskets at the back of the church upon exiting. For those worshiping online, you may mail in your offerings or use our Givelify app, which you can find on the website.

Call to Communion and Words of Institution

Pastor Rick

Prayer

Elder

The 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Sharing of Bread and Cup:

For in-person worship, you may use your own elements or the pre-packaged elements of bread and juice. If worshiping online, we invite you to participate using elements from home.

Prayer after Communion:

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*Closing Hymn: Peace Be Yours CP 190

Peace be yours. May the Lord be with you as we gather now and your whole life through, blessing and mercy and wholeness too. May God's peace be yours.

Peace be yours as you scatter from here. Anywhere you go, God is always near, loving and calming your deepest fear. May God's peace be yours.

*Benediction Pastor Rick

Postlude

Copyright information:

Great Is Thy Faithfulness (FAITHFULNESS) - Thomas O. Chisholm, William M. Runyan. Words and Music - ©1923, 1951 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprint License from ONE LICENSE with license #726902-A.

Peace Be Yours: Words and Music: Blair A'Hearn.; © 1997. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprint License from CCLI with license # 2927790 Size A

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license # 726902-A Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI with License # 20635281

Rev. Dr. Robert Cornwall, Senior Minister
Patrick Kuhl, Minister of Music
Rev. Rick Modglin-Green, Associate Minister
Susan Menko, Minister of Spiritual Formation
Penny Brady, Office Manager, office@centralwoodwardchristian.com
248-644-0512 www.centralwoodwardchristian.com

We are an open and affirming congregation.

This Week at Central Woodward For more calendar details, check centralwoodward.org/calendar.		Prayer Requests Health, Healing & Support: Nancy Fisher, Dan Potter, Karin
Sun Feb 21 10:30a	Worship Service (Both in- person and online)	Diepholz, Susan Menko, Barbra Arnold, Christian Church Michigan Region
Wed Feb 24 1:30p	Bible Study with Pastor Bob	CWCC provides a confidential
Thur Feb 25 7:00p	Bible Study with John McCauslin	prayer chain. Contact Marge at margeham@att.net or 586-799-7360 for more information.
Sun Feb 28 10:30a	Worship Service (Both in- person and online)	
Sun Mar 7 10:30a	Worship Service (Both in- person and online)	

Sunday Worship Schedule

Sunday, February 28 Second Sunday in Lent Sermon: The Covenant of Promise Scripture: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Sunday, March 7 Third Sunday in Lent Sermon: Covenant Rules and Regulations Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17
Central Woodward Christian Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation.	Central Woodward is signed up with Givelify, the mobile giving app for places of worship and charities.
	https://www.givelify.com/givenow/1.0/MjEyODA =/selection

Please join us for the Zoom Coffee Hour after the service:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85907504017?pwd=cG1BZGk5eUFKSHBJRngxYjlkZzFZZz09

Meeting ID: 859 0750 4017

Passcode: 044107