

Ephraim Moravian Church
Third Sunday in Lent/Communion
March 7, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Order of Service

“Fugue sur les Jeux d’Anches” – by François Couperin

Welcome & Announcements

Watchword for the Week: *‘For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing; but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God’ – 1 Corinthians 1:18*

Hymn #775 (v. 1 & 2): “For God So Loved Us”

For God so loved us, he sent the Savior
For God so loved us, and loves me too
Love so unending, I’ll sing your praises
God loves his children, loves even me!

He sent the Savior, the blessed Redeemer
He sent the Savior to set me free
Love so unending, I’ll sing your praises
God loves his children, loves even me!

Prayers of the Church / The Lord’s Prayer

Congregational Sung Response:

Open my ears that I may hear
Voices of truth thou sendest clear
And while the wave notes fall on my ear
Everything false will disappear

*Silently now I wait for thee
Ready my God, thy will to see
Open my ears illumine me
Spirit divine! Amen.*

Scripture Readings: I Corinthians 1: 18-25
John 2: 13-22

Reflection

“Rose Window” – by Gordon Young

Meditation

The Lord’s Supper

Breaking of the Bread

Hymn (p. 199): “You Are the Bread of Life”

You are the bread of life, O Lord, to me
Your holy word, the truth that rescues me
Give me to eat and live with you above
Teach me to love your truth, for you are love!

Bless your own truth, dear Lord, to me, to me
As when you blessed the bread by Galilee
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall
And I shall find my peace, my All in All!

The Cup of Salvation

Hymn (Red hymnal #313): “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

Jesus, keep me near the cross
There, a precious fountain
Free to all, a healing stream
Flows from Calvary’s mountain.

*(Refrain) In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever
‘Til my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river!*

Near the cross, a trembling soul
Love and Mercy found me
There the bright and morning star
Shed its beams around me.

(Refrain)

Pastor: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death.
Congregation: *Until He comes!*

Benediction

“Prélude au Salve Regina” – by Joseph Bonnet

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Reflection: “Choose the Best Language” - by Barbara Axelson

There is a puzzle that runs in the daily newspaper which encodes a famous or pithy quotation disguised within the letters of the alphabet. Recently, Mark Twain was quoted as saying, “Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”

As soon as I thought about it, I was reminded of Jesus, who spoke the language of love with such clarity. In these challenging and even depressing times, every human being can benefit from a dialog with Jesus.

We sing this morning the words, ‘Open my ears that I may hear, voices of truth thou sendest clear... Ready, my God, Thy will to see...illumine me!’ Our senses are gifts from God. Perhaps this is why Jesus used so many physical images to convey his messages, such as, “I am the Bread of Life”, or when, in our Gospel reading from the book of John, he spoke of his body as a temple.

As we think of all the ways our language impacts others, remember the language of love, of kindness, of truth and of eternity. Christ is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Speak for Him here on earth with all the languages of love.

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Pastor.....Dawn Volpe
Music Director.....Colin Welford



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