



seeking:
honest questions
for deeper faith

Anaheim First Presbyterian Church

March 26, 2023 @ 10:30 am

PRELUDE

There is a Balm in Gilead

arr. Jan Sanborn

CHORAL INTROIT

Jesus, We Share Your Sorrows

Anton Dvorák

CALL TO WORSHIP

Have you ever felt washed up, brittle, worn-down to the bone?

Have you ever felt grief lay heavy on your back?

Have you ever felt like hope was out of reach?

Have you ever wondered, can these bones live?

If you have, then you are in the right place, for this is God's house. Hope lives here.

Here we can rest our weary bones.

Let us worship Holy God.

***HYMN NO 316**

Breathe on me, Breath of God

Trentham

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what Thou dost love, and do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until with Thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with Thee the perfect life of Thine eternity.

CALL TO CONFESSION: EXTINGUISHING THE FIFTH CANDLE OF LENT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Spirit and Breath of Life, before you we recognize that our spirits are not fully alive. We have succumbed to the sin of despair; we have been lifeless, not lively, in our faith. Like dry bones, we are brittle and break under pressure. Breathe your Spirit of power into us. Pour yourself into the cracks in our hearts. Bring these bones back to life. Bring us closer to you. With gratitude we pray, amen.

ANTHEM

Jesus Christ Triumphant

F. B. Staley

PASSING THE PEACE

RESPONSE NO 85 (v 1) What Wondrous Love is This

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the heavy cross for my soul,
For my soul, to bear the heavy cross for my soul!*

SCRIPTURE Ezekiel 37:1-14

SERMON *Can These Bones Live?*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that God loves us—

God loves us enough to weep when we are gone.

We believe that God does not give up on us— breathing new life into tired bones.

We believe that God returns to us—always seeking us when we are lost.

We believe that God holds hope for us— so we hold onto hope as well.

We believe, help our unbelief. Amen.

OFFERING MOMENT

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER (Traditional, Hymnal p. 16)

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.

***HYMN NO 394** *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

Refrain: There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.

There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work’s in vain,

But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. [R]

Don’t ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,

And if you lack for knowledge He’ll not refuse to lend. [R]

If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,

You can tell the love of Jesus, and say, “He died for all.” [R]

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *The Angelus*

Gordon Young

Today’s Worship Leaders:

Kim Skilling, Pastor

David Hughes, Director of Music, Carol Hughes, Accompanist

Abbott Hatch & Richard Ramich, Video and Sound

Liturgy by Sarah Speed, sanctifiedart.org



Announcements