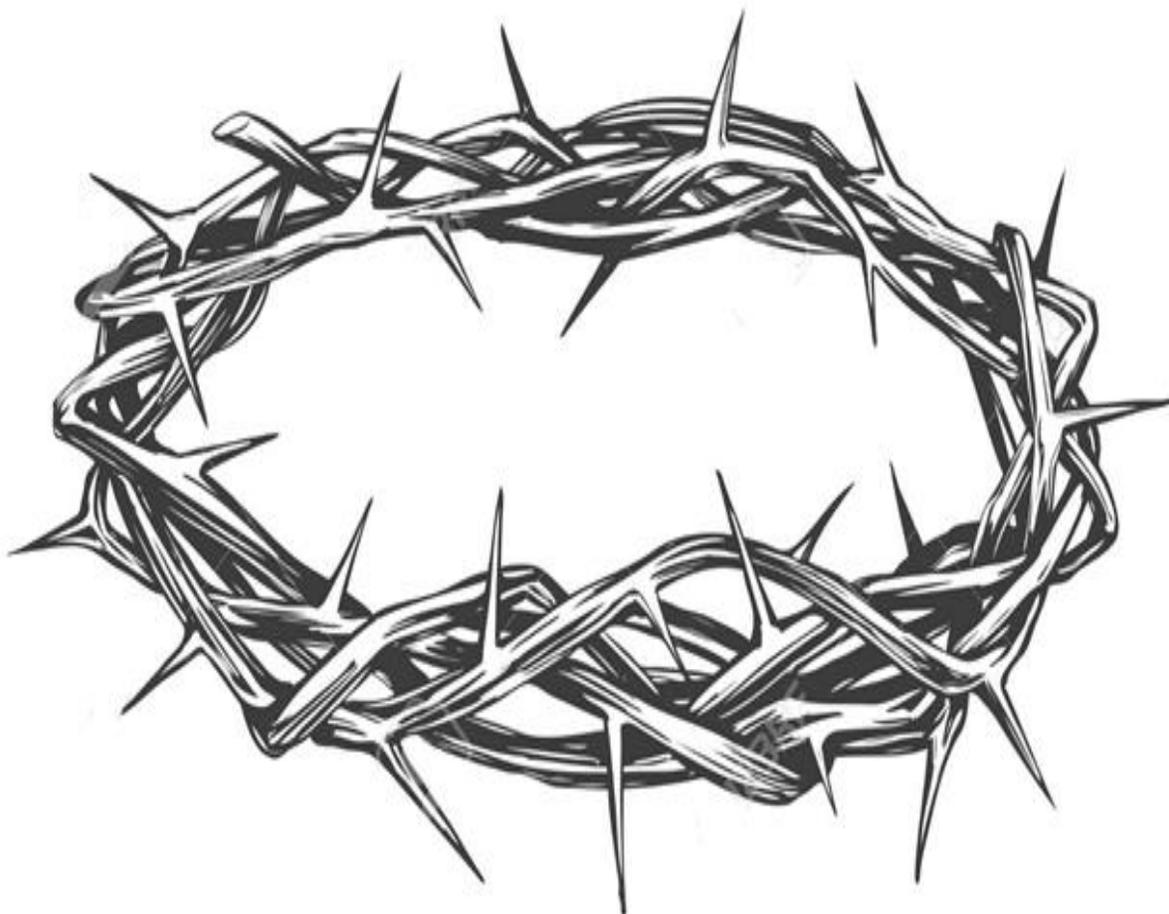


Sunday Worship – Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020 – 10am



Our Mission: *Through the power of the Spirit, Beneficent Church creates meaningful connections to God and one another and promotes justice, peace and healing in our local and global communities. We are a Christ-centered, Open and Affirming, racially, culturally, and socio-economically diverse congregation.*

When you join our virtual worship, you will be muted. Click “unmute” in the lower left corner of your screen to be heard, then “mute” again as worship begins. For more information, refer to “Etiquette for Our Online Gatherings” on the last page of this bulletin.

One: Lord, have mercy
All: Lord, have mercy.

Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsive*)

One: God calls us by name, forgives us and invites us to move beyond shame into love, for Christ and for one another.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Let us greet one another.

(Please remember to “mute” again after greeting one another.)

Announcements		Pastor Elizabeth
We Consider the Symbols of Lent: Crown of Thorns		Evan Nolan
Lenten Song	“Santo/Holy” (<i>Latin America</i>)	Insert, p. 7
Lenten Prayer		Evan Nolan
Anthem	“De Blin’ Man Stood On De Road An’ Cried” (<i>Woodwind/arr. Johnson</i>)	Earnest Cox
Children’s Moment		Amy Kinney
Sung Response	“Lord, Listen to Your Children” (<i>Medema</i>)	Insert, p. 8 <i>Chorus</i>

We Share the Word

Scripture	John 9:1-41	Deacon Paul Leimer
Sermon	“Opportunity”	Pastor Elizabeth
Hymn	“Open My Eyes, That I May See” (<i>Scott</i>)	Insert, p. 9

We Offer Our Prayers and Ourselves

During the music, please use the Chat Box to share a prayer request or reflect quietly.

Time of Prayer		Pastor Cleo
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The Lord's Prayer

Our Father (Mother, Creator), 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

Prayer Response

“Just As I Am”
(*Gradbury/Cottrell/Elliott, Moffit/Smith*)

Insert, p. 10
v. 1

Invitation to the Offering

Pastor Cleo

Offertory

“Never Alone” (*Williams*)

Insert, p. 13
Refrain

Doxology

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEjc2esWNas>

Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, giver of life, we thank you for raising us up and joining us together as one people, your people, flesh and bone in the body of Christ. As you have delivered us from death, use our lives to proclaim the good news of new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go Forth

Hymn

“God Be With You” (*Rankin*)

Insert, p. 14

Benediction

Pastor Elizabeth

Postlude

“Volunteer”

Earnest Cox

Holy Ground

Words and Music by
Geron Davis

♩ = 88

VERSE

C G/B Am G

1. As I walked through the door, I sensed His pres - ence.
(2. In His) pres - ence, there is joy be - yond meas - ure.

4 Dm/F A⁷/E Dm F/G C

And I knew this was the place where love a - bounds,
And at His feet, peace of mind can still be found.

8 F/G Am A^b7 Gm Gm/C C⁷ C^{7sus}/F F

for this is a tem - ple, Je - ho - vah God a - bides here.
If you have a need I know He has the an - swer.

12 $B\flat^9$ C/G C/E Dm^7 G^7 C

We are stand - ing in His pres - ence on ho - ly ground.
Reach out and claim it, child you're stand - ing on ho - ly ground.

CHORUS

16 F/G C G^7/D C/E F C/E G^7/D

We are stand - ing on ho - ly ground,

20 C F/G C/E A^7 D/F#

and I know that there are an - gels all a - round.

24 Fm F/G C G^7/D C/E F C/E G^7/D

Let us praise Je - sus now.

Santo, Santo, Santo

(Holy, Holy, Holy)

111

C G7 Am F G C

San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you! My

F G7 C Am F G7 C

co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res Señ - or!
heart knows how to say to you: Ho - ly are you, Lord!

WORDS: Latin America (20th century)
MUSIC: Latin America (20th century); arr. 1990 Iona Community

Arr. © 1990 Iona Community; used by permission of GIA Publications, Inc.

SANTO
67.67

♩=96

Lord Listen To Your Children

Words and Music by
Ken Medema

CHORUS

E \flat E \flat 7 D \flat /A \flat A \flat B \flat 7 E \flat A \flat /E \flat E \flat F7

Lord, lis-ten to Your chil-dren pray - ing; Lord, send Your Spir - it in this

4 B \flat 7 E \flat E \flat 7 D \flat /A \flat A \flat A \circ 7 Last time to Coda \oplus

place. Lord, lis - ten to Your chil - dren pray - ing; Send us

7 E \flat /B \flat B \flat 7 A \flat E \flat /G Fm7 E \flat

love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Open My Eyes, That I May See 480



1 O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps - es of truth you have for me;
 2 O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth you send so clear;
 3 O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev - ery - where;




place in my hands the won - der - ful key that shall un - lock and set me free.
 and while the mes - sage sounds in my ear, ev - ery - thing false will dis - ap - pear.
 o - pen my heart, and let me pre - pare love with your chil - dren thus to share.




Si - lent - ly now, on bend - ed knee, read - y I wait your will to see;




o - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
 o - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
 o - pen my heart, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!



WORDS and MUSIC: Clara H. Scott (1841-1897), alt.

OPEN MY EYES
8.8.9.8.8.8.8.4.

Just As I Am

Words by
Charlotte Elliott, Travis Cottrell,
Sue C. Smith and David Moffitt

Music by
William Batchelder Bradbury,
Travis Cottrell, David Moffitt
and Sue C. Smith

♩ = 73

VERSE

A E/A A^{sus} A

1. Just as I am with - out one plea but
(2. Just) as I am and wait - ing not to
(3. Just) as I am I would be lost, but

5 E/A D²/A E/A A

that Thy blood was shed for me, and that Thou
rid my soul of one dark blot. To Thee whose
mer - cy and grace my free - dom bought. And now to

10 A/G# F#m⁷ D² A/C# D²

bidst me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I
blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I
glo - ry in Your cross, O Lamb of God, I

CCLI Song # 5635850
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CCLI License # 3165881

15 E^{sus} E A 1. A^{sus} 2. $A/G\sharp$

come, I come. I come. I come. I come. I come.

2. Just I come

20 CHORUS $F\sharp m^7$ D^2 A E $F\sharp m^7$

bro - ken to be mend - ed. I come wound - ed to be healed. I come des - p'rate to be

25 D^2 A $E/G\sharp$ $F\sharp m^7$ D^2

res - cued. I come emp - ty to be filled. I come guilt - y to be par - doned by the

30 $A/C\sharp$ D^2 E $F\sharp m$ D 3rd time to Coda Φ

blood of Christ, the Lamb. And I'm wel - comed with o - pen arms, praise God, just

35 **1. TURNAROUND**
E A A^{SUS} A
as I am.

39 A^{SUS} D.C. E A² A²/G# D.S. al Coda
3. Just as I am. I come

43 Coda TAG
E F#m⁷ A/E D² E
as I am. Praise God, just as I

ENDING
49 A A^{SUS} A A^{SUS} A
am. Just as I am.

Never Alone

Ludie Day Pickett, 1897

Arranged by Fred Jackey

Refrain

No, ne-ver a - lone,

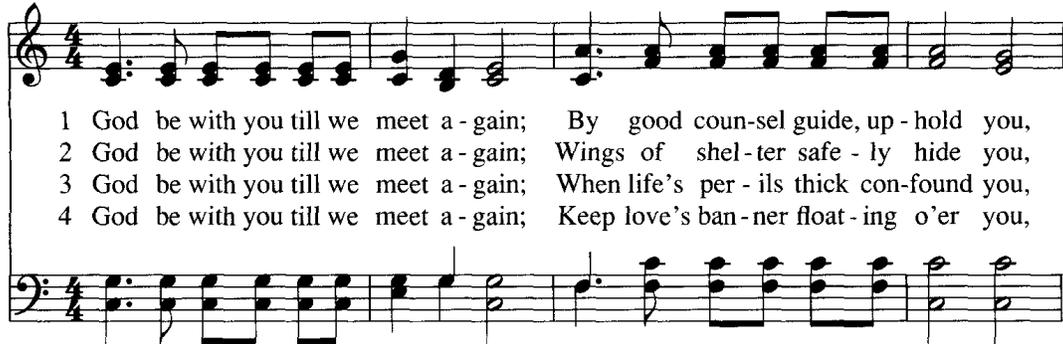
no ne-ver a - lone, He pro-mised ne-ver to leave me, He'll claim me for His own;

No, ne-ver a - lone, no ne-ver a - lone. He pro-mised ne-ver to leave me,

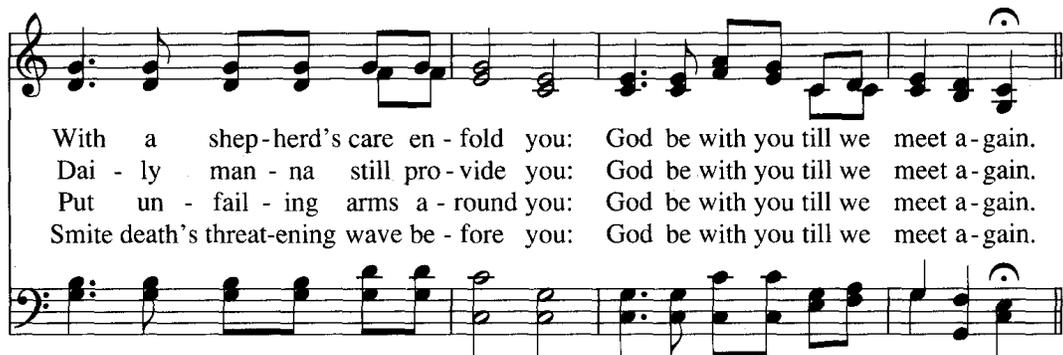
Ne-ver to leave me a - lone.

God Be with You

81

Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880; alt.


1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; By good coun-sel guide, up - hold you,
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; Wings of shel-ter safe - ly hide you,
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; When life's per - ils thick con-found you,
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; Keep love's ban-ner float - ing o'er you,



With a shep-herd's care en - fold you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 Dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 Put un - fail - ing arms a - round you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 Smite death's threat-ening wave be - fore you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Refrain



Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;
 till we meet, till we meet a - gain, till we meet,



till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 till we meet, till we meet a - gain,

Written during his last pastorate, at First Congregational Church in Washington, D.C., Jeremiah Rankin's hymn spread quickly throughout America and England by way of Moody and Sankey's revival meetings. Rankin later served as the seventh president of Howard University.

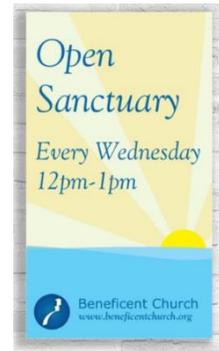
Tune: GOD BE WITH YOU 9.8.8.9, with refrain
 William G. Tomer, 1880

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Open Sanctuary – Wednesdays at 12pm

Our Open Sanctuary services take place via Zoom each Wednesday starting at 12pm. If you're working from home, take a few minutes to join us for a moment of calm and peace.

- Visit <https://zoom.us/j/821831076> to connect to the service.
- Should you need it, the "Meeting ID" is **821 831 076**.
- If your computer doesn't have speakers and a microphone, you can call in separately to **I-646-558-8656**.



Adult Bible Study Online Sunday

Our Adult Bible Study group continues to meet virtually. All participants are invited to join us at 9am on Sunday morning.



- Visit <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7743698661> to connect to the group.
- Should you need it, the "Meeting ID" is **774 369 8661**.
- If your computer doesn't have speakers and a microphone, you can call in separately to **I-646-558-8656**.

If you have trouble logging in or have any questions, email John Felker at meetthefelkers@verizon.net.

Pledges and Payments

During last week's "virtual worship," Pastor Cleo invited members and friends to use Realm, our online e-giving platform, to make their weekly pledges and donate to special offerings.

Signing up for Realm is quick and easy, and it allows you to make donations directly from a credit card or bank account. To learn more or for help setting up your own account, contact Michele Adamo at office@beneficentchurch.org.

One Great Hour of Sharing - Sunday

If you haven't yet made a commitment to support One Great Hour of Sharing, please submit your payment online via our e-giving system or mail it to Beneficent Church/OGHS, 300 Weybosset St, Providence, RI 02903.

One Great Hour allows us to provide emergency help and development assistance in the U.S. and around the world. For



more information on who this offering is used in the world, visit <https://www.ucc.org/oghs>.

Book & Brew Online Tomorrow

Starting at 5:30pm tomorrow, March 30, we will convene online for a discussion of *The Water Dancer* by Ta-nehisi Coates. This novel is the first work of fiction from this American author and former correspondent for *The Atlantic*. Published in 2019, *The Water Dancer* was a #1 *New York Times* bestseller, and it was named one of the year's best books by *Time Magazine*, NPR, and *The Washington Post*.

Bring your own brew (or dinner) and join us for some lively conversation!

- Visit <https://zoom.us/j/295933559> to connect to the discussion.
- Should you need it, the "Meeting ID" is 295 933 559.
- If your computer doesn't have speakers and a microphone, you can call in separately to I- 301-715-8592.

Online Office Hours

Connect with Pastor Elizabeth

Pastor Elizabeth will have open "office hours" on Thursday afternoons from 5pm to 6pm for anyone to join her. Note that these sessions will have a "waiting room" feature so your conversations with Pastor Elizabeth can be private.

- Visit <https://zoom.us/j/803072240> to meet with Pastor Elizabeth.
- Should you need it, the "Meeting ID" is 803 072 240.
- If your computer doesn't have speakers and a microphone, you can call in separately to I-646-558-8656.

Connect with the Church Office

Office and Communications Manager Michele Adamo will host open "Church Office hours" each Friday from 9am to 12pm for anyone to drop in with a question, concern, or just to visit. She'll also be available to answer your questions about how to use Zoom or how to sign up for online pledging.

- Visit <https://zoom.us/j/342714213> to connect to the drop-in session.
- Should you need it, the "Meeting ID" is 342 714 213.
- If your computer doesn't have speakers and a microphone, you can call in separately to I-301-715-8592.

Help Wanted

We know that some of our Beneficent community are being impacted financially by the COVID-19 public-health emergency, and we want to help. To that end, we've created a "bulletin board" in Google where those who are looking for work can sign up with a list of work they can perform, and those who need work done can request help.

You can access this bulletin board by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/yx4cj5ba>

Note that Beneficent Church is offering this bulletin board as an opportunity to connect; we are not involved in any arrangements.



Virtual Worship Each Sunday

All are invited to join us for our live virtual worship each Sunday at 10am! Be sure to forward this invitation to friends and others who want to experience our Beneficent community.

To participate:

- Visit <https://www.beneficentchurch.org/virtual-worship.html> and download the PDF of the bulletin at the bottom of the page.
- Visit <https://zoom.us/j/594289087> to connect to the service.
- Should you need it, the "Meeting ID" is 594 289 087.
- If your computer doesn't have speakers and a microphone, you can call in separately to I-646-558-8656.

Note that recordings of our worship services will be made available at <https://www.beneficentchurch.org/virtual-worship.html> and on Facebook for those who may want to review them again later.

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### Etiquette for Our Online Gatherings

In using Zoom, our online videoconference platform, for meetings and gatherings, please keep in mind:

- When you join in, you can choose to use just audio, just video, or both.
- If your computer has speakers, you'll be able to hear, but won't be heard.
- If your computer has a microphone and speakers, you'll be able to hear and be heard.
- If your computer has a camera, you'll be able to be seen.
- If your computer doesn't have speakers and a microphone, you can call in separately; the invitation to each gathering will include a phone number specific to that meeting. Note that the phone numbers are not toll-free so if you're calling from a landline or a cell phone without unlimited talk/text, there likely will be a charge the call.

When you first log in to your gathering, you will be muted; scroll down to the lower left corner of your screen to unmute when, for example, it's time to say prayers in unison. Scroll down and press "mute" again after to minimize distracting background noises. Please remain muted unless you are speaking.

**Please pray for those who are in need of special support:** Annie Jones; Gordon Smith; Randy Bertholdt; Marguerita DelGiudice; Carol and Ethan Alli; Brendon Curran; Ruth Whipple; Halina Hencler; Linda Drywa; Pat Auger; Lauris Speid; Perry Gebhardt; El Caldwell; Debbie & Stanley Scott; Mary Ryder; Selvin Lemus; Jay & Oliver Frails; Shenny Carrillo; Larry Shaw; Jane & Gerry Houle; Robert Gonzenbach; Carol Kanea; Nancy Egan; Katherine and Michael Belles; Sue Belles; Edward Moretti; Maggie/Emily Kanea

## Happy Birthday!

3/1 – Rob Howard  
3/2 – Irene Musa  
3/3 – Juan Garedo  
3/4 – Stefon Stuckey  
3/6 – Carol Kanea  
3/6 – Dashawn Howland  
3/7 – Maggie Sloan  
3/8 – Gordon Smith  
3/11 – Matthew Hird  
3/11 – Jon Hird  
3/14 – Paulina Hutter  
3/18 - Luis Guy  
3/21 – Edward Delaney  
3/21 – Zara Howland  
3/23 – Sylvia Delaney  
3/23 – Mark Ramsey  
3/28 – Amy Lau

3/30 – Annie Jones  
3/30 – Brenda Westberry  
3/30 – Michael Reis



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Cover image: found at [https://www.123rf.com/photo\\_94448322\\_stock-vector-crown-of-thorns-easter-religious-symbol-of-christianity-hand-drawn-vector-illustration-sketch.html](https://www.123rf.com/photo_94448322_stock-vector-crown-of-thorns-easter-religious-symbol-of-christianity-hand-drawn-vector-illustration-sketch.html)

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Words of Gathering: adapted from *The Pattern of Our Days: Liturgies and Resources for Worship*, ed. Kathy Galloway of the Iona Community

Kyrie: an ancient Christian formula for confession

Prayer of Dedication: adapted from *Feasting on the Word, Year A, Volume 2*

### Serving the Church

Senior Minister - Rev. Elizabeth Chandler Felts | [revelizabeth@beneficentchurch.org](mailto:revelizabeth@beneficentchurch.org) | 401.479.6791 (cell)  
Associate Minister - Rev. Cleo D. Graham | [revcleo@beneficentchurch.org](mailto:revcleo@beneficentchurch.org) | 401.479.6960 (cell)  
Minister of Music - Earnest Cox | Building and Grounds Supervisor - Bruce Mitchell  
Director of Christian Education - Amy Kinney | Nursery Attendants - Melissa Callahan, Alejandro Hinton  
Office & Communications Manager - Michele Adamo | Director of Business Administration - Martha Ahern  
[www.beneficentchurch.org](http://www.beneficentchurch.org) | 401.331.9844 | [office@beneficentchurch.org](mailto:office@beneficentchurch.org) | [finance@beneficentchurch.org](mailto:finance@beneficentchurch.org)