

Knox Presbyterian Church of LA

"Faith"

4th Sunday in Lent Year B

Words to Ponder: *"Faith is the touching of a mystery. It is to perceive another dimension to absolutely everything in the world. In faith, the mysterious meaning of life comes through. . . To speak in the simplest possible terms: faith sees, knows, senses the presence of God in the world."* (Alexander Schmemmann, Russian Orthodox Priest)

Prelude "La Rejouissance" **George F. Handel**
String Quartet

Words of Welcome | *Passing of the Peace **Rev. Ann Hayman**

Call to Worship **Cicely Bingener**

Be still and know that God is.

God was, also, in the beginning.

And when all human striving has ceased, God will still be.

From everlasting to everlasting, God is God, and alone is worthy to be worshiped.

***Opening Hymn** "For All the Saints" **PH # 526**

Call to Confession **Cicely Bingener**

Prayer of Confession

Love that knows no boundaries: we crowd our lives with so much activity that it is hard to find time for you. We become so focused on ourselves, we can overlook those around us who are searching for hope. We fill our spiritual emptiness with junk, rather than feasting on your Word.

Abundant Mercy, forgive us. Open our eyes, increase our faith that we may see your new covenant written in plain sight on our hearts. Open our hearts, that we may join you in serving the broken of the world. Open our love, so we may pour it out as abundantly and graciously as your love is given to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Time with Children "Who'd Have Thunk It?" **Rev. Ann Hayman**

Anthem "It Is Well with My Soul" **Phillip Bliss**
String Quartet

Prayer for Illumination **Cicely Bingener**

Scripture **Isaiah 53: 3-11 (RSV)** **Cicely Bingener**

Sermon

**“The Magnetism of the Cross”
John 12:20-33**

Rev. Dr. John Skelly

Text: John 12:32 “. . . and I, when I am lifted from the earth, will draw all humanity to myself.”

Words of Faith: YES! I BELIEVE!

Rev. Dr. John Skelly

I believe. So help me God.

I believe in the mercy which is from everlasting to everlasting to those who love God, and even to those who love but a little or at this moment love not at all.

I believe in a mercy that is always as free as the wind, generous as the sunshine and rain, and more boundless than the stars of the Milky Way

I believe in a God who from ancient days made glimmers of mercy known, from continent to continent and to islands in the distant paths of the sea.

I believe bright shafts of such knowledge are especially reflected in the best poems and prophecies of the Hebrew people as they were called to be a light to the nations.

I believe that in the fullness of time God has exceeded all expectations, and made divine mercy incarnate; visible and touchable in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I believe in a God who at this moment is more ready to embrace us with Christ’s mercy than we are to receive and trust it.

I believe that this very belief is itself only possible because of God’s mercy which precedes all our thinking, understanding, and speaking. So I believe, and pray for the wisdom to express my belief in all I do and say.

So help me God. Amen!

Pastoral Prayers and the Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Ann Hayman

The Offering

Call to Giving

Cicely Bingener

Offertory

**"Largo"
String Quartet**

George F. Handel

***Doxology**

Hense Powell

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Cicely Bingener

Announcements

Cicely Bingener

***Closing Hymn**

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

PH #84

*** Benediction**

Rev. Dr. John Skelly

Postlude

**"Little Fugue"
String Quartet**

George F. Handel

***Please stand if you are able.**

Please be seated for the duration of the postlude.

The chancel flowers today are in honor of Esther Bridgman's 90th birthday!