

**Words to Ponder: “People forgive best if they go at it in bits and pieces, and for specific acts.”** [Lewis B. Smedes]

**Gathering Music: “There Is a Green Hill Far Away” Cecil Francis Alexander**

**Words of Welcome | \*Passing the Peace**

**Rev. Ann Hayman**

**Call to Worship:**

**Leigh Lehman**

Lenten travelers, how long have you traveled this road with your gaze pointed down at the dust and gravel and asphalt as you walk or limp or roll down the path? **Sometimes it is easier to look at the road than at the people who share the journey with us.**

Lift up your heads! Look, listen, reach out a hand. Who are your neighbors on this road?

**We lift our heads and look to our Savior who journeys with us and helps us notice our neighbors all around us.**

This is the Lenten journey—to learn to love God and love our neighbors just as Jesus showed us.

**Our journey teaches us to lose our lives to God as we find and follow Christ in our service to others.**

Come, let us worship God who caravans with us on this road to the cross.

**Come, let us worship! Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn**

**“Just as I Am, Without One Plea”**

**PH #370**

(Charlotte Elliott, 1834)

**2. Just as I am, and waiting not  
to rid my soul of one dark blot,  
to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Call to Confession**

**Leigh Lehman**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God, giver of all that is good, we rejoice that you are the source of all that is. The breath of life is a gift from your generous hand. The food we eat is grown in the world you sustain. The community that supports us is called into being by your saving activity. Everything we have is a gift from you. Why, then, do we complain as though the manna, raining down from heaven for us even now, is not enough? Why do we worry that your well of living water will someday run dry? It is surely our sin that causes us live as though we do not trust your**

**goodness. Forgive us, we pray. Teach us again to put all our trust in your promises that never fail. Remind us that we are always in your loving care. Fill us with grace, so that our lives might show forth the fullness of your love for all people. Amen.**

**Words of Assurance** (Hebrews 10:16-18)

“This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: **‘I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,’**

and he adds,

**‘I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.**

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.”

**Believe the promise of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**Time with Children**

**“Snakes on Stick!”**

**Rev. Ann Hayman**

**Anthem**

**“Build My Life”**

**Elder Damon Green**

(Housefires)

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Leigh Lehman**

Shepherding God, you seek us out in our scattered places and bring us again to the rich and good pastures of your holy scripture. By your governing Spirit, feed us now with your word of life and lead us in all truth and obedience, for you alone are our protector and sure hope. Amen.

**Scripture**

**Numbers 21:4-9**

**The Message**

**Leigh Lehman**

**Sermon**

**“Trusting Enough”**

**Rev. Ann Hayman**

**Ephesians 2:1-10 The Message**

**Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in a sacred power within and around us.

A Divine Source that we call by many names and experience in many ways, that empowers and heals, that calls us forth, forgiven and freed.

**We believe in our creativity.**

Making and transforming beauty out of words and notes, images and colors, lines and pictures. . . and silence.

**We believe in doing justice.**

Justice that compels and empowers us to risk whatever we must risk to create a climate in which all people can be who they are.

**We believe in our dreams.**

We experience the world as it is, in both its ugliness and beauty, and we see what it can become.

**We believe in making peace.**

A peace that is based on openness, honesty and compassion.

**We believe in hope.**

We expect change to continue to occur in our world. We rely on our courage to continue to bring about these changes.

**We believe in love.**

A passionate love within and around us that laughs and cries, challenges and comforts, a healing love that perseveres.

**We believe in potential.**

We know who we are, painful as that can be at times, yet we continue to call each other to become more of who we are.

**We believe in celebrating.**

We remember and we commemorate. We create rituals. We play and dance, and sing and love well.

**We believe in our diversity.**

We affirm our many shapes and sizes, colors and traditions, emotions and thoughts, differences and similarities.

**We believe in life.**

Life that wells up within and flows out of us like a streaming fountain.

**We believe we are good and holy, a sacred part of all creation.**

**Pastoral Prayers and the Lord's Prayer**

**Rev. Ann Hayman**

**The Offering**

**The Call to Giving**

**Leigh Lehman**

**Offertory "The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power"  
(Andre Crouch)**

**Elder Damon Green**

**\*Doxology**

**Elder Damon Green**

**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**

**Leigh Lehman**

**Announcements**

**Leigh Lehman**

**\*Closing Hymn**

**"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"  
(Elizabeth Cecilia Douglas Clephane, 1868)**

**PH#92**

**3. I take, O cross, thy shadow  
for my abiding place:  
I ask no other sunshine than  
the sunshine of his face;  
content to let the world go by,  
to know no gain nor loss;  
my sinful self my only shame,  
my glory all the cross.**

**\*Benediction**

May God bless you.

**May you be holy and strong and creative.**

May you know the joy of Jesus.

**May you dance in the wildness of the Spirit's breath.**

May God's glory continue to grow in us, gently, powerfully, tenderly.

**May we be cradled in the warmth and healing of forgiveness and repentance.**

May you be held in God's wisdom and love. **Amen.**

**Postlude**

**Hense Powell**