

The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell 326 Bloomfield Avenue Caldwell, NJ 07006 973-228-0310 www.firstprescaldwell.org

February 21, 2021 First Sunday in Lent

REFLECTION

"Lust is the craving for salt of a man who is dying of thirst."

~ Frederick Buechner

PRELUDE

April (Snowdrop), Op. 37bis, No. 4

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840 – 1893)

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

HYMN No. 816

"If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee"

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

If thou but trust in God to guide thee,
With hopeful heart through all thy ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee,
To bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
Builds on the rock that nought can move.

Only be still, and wait God's leisure
In cheerful hope, with heart content
To take whate'er thy Keep'ers pleasure
And all discerning love hath sent.
No doubt our inmost wants are clear
To One who holds us always dear.

Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways,
But do thine own part faithfully.
Trust the rich promises of grace;
So shall they be fulfilled in thee.
God never yet forsook at need
The soul secured by trust indeed.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Awesome God, you have made all of creation and each cell of our bodies. We have tried to excuse our sin by saying you made us so we could feel desire, so it must be okay to follow lustful urges. Even as you know the limits of our human capabilities, we know the unlimited power of your love. Help us turn from self-centered pleasure and turn to respect.

(Time of silent reflection. Think about something you want to turn from during Lent, or something you want to turn toward.)

Lord, hear our prayers.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God's life turned towards humanity in Jesus, even before people repented and turned our lives toward God. Trust the Lord who reaches out to us in grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Amen.**

TAIZÉ CHANT "O Lord, Show Us the Way"

O Lord, show me the way, And make me ready to follow it. Lord, show me the way. Give my heart peace.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANTHEM "Show Us How To Love" Mark A. Miller

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON 2 Samuel 11:1-5, 14-17

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Corinthians 6:11-20

SERMON "The 7 Deadly Sins: Lust" Rev. William Schram

HYMN No. 27 "Sacred the Body" TENDERNESS

Sacred the body God has created, Temple of Spirit that dwells deep inside. Cherish each person; nurture relation. Treat flesh as holy, that love may abide.

Bodies are varied, made in all sizes, Pale, full of color; both fragile and strong. Holy the difference, gift of the Maker, So let us honor each story and song.

Love respects persons, bodies and boundaries.

Love does not batter, neglect, or abuse.

Love touches gently, never coercing.

Love leaves the other with power to choose.

Holy of holies, God ever loving.

Make us your temples; indwell all we do.

May we be careful, tender and caring,

So may our bodies give honor to you.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. 717 *"For the Life That You Have Given"*

PLEADING SAVIOR

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known, With these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:
Here we offer, Lord our praises;
Heart and mind and strength we bring;
Give us grace to love and serve you,
Living what we pray and sing.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Minuet Finale" G. F. Handel (1685 – 1759)

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Rev. Barbara Piercy
Susan Jones
Paul Salierno, Cantor
Charlotte Casazza, Piano
Westminster & Pilgrim Choirs
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers

SERMON QUESTIONS FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST, 2021

- 1. Why is "It's the way we're made," a poor excuse for lust?
- 2. How is lust different than healthy intimacy?
- 3. Do you agree that giving in to lust perpetuates immaturity?
- 4. How do you understand the link between sinful lust and power?
- 5. How does respect for others act as a corrective or preventive to the sin of lust?