



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

March 21, 2021
Fifth Sunday in Lent

REFLECTION

“Envy is the consuming desire to have everybody else be as unsuccessful as you are.”
~Frederick Buechner

PRELUDE

“What Wondrous Love Is This, O My Soul” (Fantasia on Four American Hymns)
Emily Maxson Porter

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

HYMN No. 162

“O Carpenter, Why Leave the Bench”

LEWIS-TOWN

O carpenter, why leave the bench
Where wood yields to your art,
And take instead, to try your skill,
The stony human heart?

O carpenter, why leave the tools
To carry out your plans,
And go instead to do God’s work
With empty, open hands?

O carpenter, why leave the world
Of table, bed, and house,
To face the empire’s carpentry,
To lift a Roman cross?

O carpenter, why leave repairs
With wood and clamp and glue,
And rise from death to seek instead
To make the whole world new?

O carpenter, who else could do
The work that you have done?
What can we do but sing your praise,
O Savior, Mary’s son!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

Loving God, we confess freely that all is not well with us. We seek your forgiveness and grace. We confess to injuries caused by cutting words uttered out of envy. We confess to not loving ourselves or others as much as you do. Accept us as we are and then shape us to do your will.

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

Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

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 we are forgiven.

HYMN No. 451, St. 3

“Open My Eyes, That I May See
Open my mouth, and let me bear
Gladly the warm truth everywhere.
Open my heart, and let me prepare
Love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
Ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart; illumine me,
Spirit divine!

OPEN MY EYES

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Servants of Peace” (based on a prayer of St. Francis of Assisi)

K. Lee Scott

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 4:1-12

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:54-58

SERMON

“The 7 Deadly Sins: Envy”

Rev. William Schram

HYMN No. 834, St. 1 – 3

“Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days”

ST. FLAVIAN

Lord, who throughout these forty days
For us did fast and pray,
Teach us with you to mourn our sins
And close by you to stay.

As you with Satan did contend
And did the victory win,
O give us strength to persevere,
In you to conquer sin.

And through these days of penitence,
And through this Passiontide,
Yes, evermore, in life and death,
O Lord, with us abide.

JOYS & 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. 834, St. 4 *“Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days”* ST. FLAVIAN
Abide with us, till when this life
Of suffering shall be past,
An Easter of unending joy
We may attain at last.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Finale on “Jesus, Priceless Treasure”*
Johann Gottfried Walther (1684 – 1748)

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Rev. Barbara Piercy
Sue Jones & Noel Piercy
Paul Salierno, Cantor
Chancel Choir
Ray Liptak, AV Engineer

SERMON QUESTIONS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 21ST

1. When have you been envious?
2. How do you distinguish between greed and envy?
3. Do you agree with the quote that envy is a "small town sin?"
4. How does envy isolate a person from others?
5. How does envy erode a person's sense of self-worth?
6. In what ways does loving God and loving neighbor as yourself defend us from envy?