

# Welcome to Worship with Kingston Presbyterian Church

We Gather in Spirit. ~ Worship April 25, 2021



*The congregation in the sanctuary is asked not to sing during worship.*

**Prelude:** *Quiet Reflection*

James Mansfield

## **Call to Worship**

One: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

**All: He lays down his life for his sheep.**

One: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

**All: He knows us, and we belong to him.**

One: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

**All: He speaks, and we listen for his voice.**

## **Prayer of Confession** ~ *We Tell the Truth about Ourselves and We Turn to God*

**Lord, have mercy on us. We talk about love, but our actions betray us. We talk about love, but we neglect the poor. We talk about love, but we fail to love one another. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us, and abide in us by the power of your Spirit so that our lives may show our love for Jesus Christ, in whose body we live and in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## **Words of Forgiveness**

We seek God's grace with boldness because we trust in Jesus Christ, the One who loves us and laid down his life for us. This is the good news of the gospel; in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD**

**Scripture:** John 10: 11 – 18

**Sermon:** *The Wolves are Coming*

**Rev. Lydia Tembo**

## **DISCIPLES RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

## **Offering of Tithes & Gifts**

Continuing our worship, we will give back to God our offerings, gifts, pledges, and tithes by mail or online with Tithe.ly at <https://kingstonpresbyterian.org>. We offer God our hearts, hands, minds and money as an expression of gratitude and our love for God and as a marker of our partnership with God through our Kingston Presbyterian Church.

**Offertory:** *God Leads Us Along* David H. Hegarty, based on a tune by G. A. Young

**Saying the Doxology:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

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

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Gracious God, we give you thanks that you have shown us the meaning of love through Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us. Show us how to share Christ's love by giving our lives for one another; to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

With boldness, let us offer our prayers to the shepherd of our souls, God of goodness and mercy, hear our prayer. We pray for the church in every place....

Lord, we pray to you now with hope. We have hope in the saving grace of Jesus Christ! We give you thanks for our mission partners and lift them up to you. Give strength and encouragement to our mission partners: the Central Presbytery, The Desai's (ISI), Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, Committee on Religious Ministries (Princeton Hospital Chaplaincy), Young Life. Dr. Katie Wolf and Friends for Health in Haiti, The Kishores and New Life Associates-India, The Riddells and World Team in France, Karla Koll in Costa Rica, Medical Benevolence Foundation, The Levis and Operation Nehemiah in Africa and The Tebbes in Pakistan. Be with them and may your Spirit encourage their work this week. Thanks for the gift of partnership with you and with each other.

May we hold each other up, not only when we come together, but through daily reminders, prayers, and affirmations. Thank you, Lord, for your love for us made real in Christ and by your Spirit. May we embody Christ in all we do.

Hear us now as we pray the prayer you taught saying, **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**

**DISCIPLES ARE SENT AND BLESSED TO SERVE GOD**

**Hymn:** *Just as I Am, without One Plea*

**GTG #442**

**1** Just as I am, without one plea but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou biddest me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

**2** Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

**3** Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve, because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

**4** Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken every barrier down; now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

## Benediction

**Rev. Lydia Tembo**

**Postlude:** *Trumpet Voluntary*

Henry Heron (18<sup>th</sup> century)



**Flowers:** To the glory of God.

## We Welcome Rev. Lydia Tembo

Rev. Lydia Tembo is a Zambian born, semi-cradle Presbyterian spent most of her life living in Forest Hills, NY. Rev. Tembo has served as the Youth Coordinator for the Presbytery of New York City; she was a Young Adult Advisory Delegate for the 216th General Assembly; and currently serves on the Committee on Representation. She relocated to Princeton, NJ where in 2019 she earned a Master of Divinity and a Certificate in Theology, Women and Gender at Princeton Theological Seminary.

Rev. Tembo serves on the boards of More Light Presbyterians and Princeton Presbyterians. More Light and Princeton Presbyterians both promote kingdom building and inclusivity of God's creation in and beyond church walls. When Rev. Tembo isn't serving as the Assistant Director of Recruitment at Princeton Theological Seminary, she can be found reading, crafting, facilitating small youth events and taking long walks on the beach with her life-partner Michael.



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**Thanks be to God.**

## **DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD**

**Scripture:** Luke 24: 36b – 48

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**Singing the Doxology**      *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

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praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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## **Prayers of the People**

With boldness, let us offer our prayers to the shepherd of our souls, God of goodness and mercy, hear our prayer. We pray for the church in every place.... Gather us together and make us one, one in ministry and mission to the world, so that there will be one flock, one shepherd. God of goodness and mercy, **hear our prayer.** We pray for the nations of the world.... Anoint all leaders with your wisdom so that they will use their power to help the poor and defend the vulnerable. God of goodness and mercy, **hear our prayer.** We pray for this community.... Strengthen those who work each day to heal the sick, welcome the outcasts, and help brothers and sisters in need. God of goodness and mercy, **hear our prayer.** We pray for friends and loved ones.... Comfort all who are suffering; walk with them through dark valleys and restore them, body, mind and soul. God of goodness and mercy, **hear our prayer.** Loving God, by the power of your Spirit, help us to keep your commandments and to love one another with the love of Jesus, in whose holy name we pray.

Lord, we pray to you now with hope. We have hope in the saving grace of Jesus Christ!

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### **Benediction**

May the goodness and mercy of God follow you all the days of your life, and, at your life's end, may you dwell in the house of the Lord forever. **Alleluia!**



**Flowers:** To the glory of God.

## Walking & Working with Today's Scripture

Place yourself in a quiet environment, take out your bible. Calm your anxieties and thoughts, and acknowledge God's presence. Offer a prayer to the Holy Spirit for inspiration and guidance: Come, Holy Spirit, enlighten my heart and mind to listen to your Word.

Read the text slowly and prayerfully, constantly listening for that word that God has prepared for you. You may want to re-read the same text multiple times to help quiet yourself interiorly and focus on God's voice. Listen and receive the Word that God speaks to you.

Reread the passage again. When a word or phrase strikes you, stop and rest with it. Circle or underline it. Repeat the word or phrase to yourself. Allow it to speak to you in a personal way by pondering the word in your heart, reflecting on what it means to you. Maybe memorize it and repeat it to yourself, allowing it to interact with your thoughts, hopes, memories, and desires.

Read the passage again, slowly. Make a few notes about what stands out to you, what you think God is saying. Make note of what you learn about God and then what you think God would want us to do because of what we hear and feel in today's verses.

Prayer is one of our first responses to God's word. It begins your dialogue with God that comes from your heart. Formulate a prayer, as a response to God. What do you want to say to the Lord in response to the Word spoken to you? Enter into this loving conversation with God.

Rest in God's presence and receive God's transforming embrace. Sit still with God, realizing that in this deep and profound relationship, words are not necessary. Be content and at peace with a wordless, quiet rest in God, which brings joy to the heart. Remember that contemplation is not your action or doing, rather it is allowing God to act in you.