

**We Gather in Spirit. ~ Worship  
2/28/21**



**Welcome to Worship with  
Kingston Presbyterian Church**

**Prelude “Ave Verum Corpus”**

**Call to Worship**

Today in worship, we will be reminded that again and again, we are called to listen. This is part of our invitation as people of faith—to not only speak, pray, and sing, but to listen.

And I will be the first to say, listening is hard. From our toddler years on up, we struggle to listen, particularly when we don't know what we're listening for or we don't agree with what we're hearing.

So for just a moment, as we gather ourselves for worship, I want to invite you to join me in a kinesthetic call to worship by embodying our prayer as I prompt you. Let us listen, let us pray: Family of faith, I invite you to close your eyes.

Rest your feet on the floor beneath you.

Release any tension you are holding—

In your jaw, your neck, your shoulders, your hands, your legs, your feet.

Take a deep breath in and slowly let it out.

The Hebrew word for breath (*ruach*) is the same word for Spirit.

So as you breathe, imagine that it is God who is filling up your lungs with energy and love.

Trust that God is as close as your very breath.

Now I invite you to still your mind. Imagine your mind as a river.

Thoughts will drift into view; they always do.

However, instead of holding onto those thoughts, allow yourself to let them float by.

And listen. Listen deep.

Listen far. Listen wide.

Listen. The sound of your breath is the sound of the Divine.

This is a holy space.

Let us worship God.

## **Time of Prayer** ~*We Tell the Truth About Ourselves and We Turn to God*

Listening God, take what is closed in us and open it. Take what is distracted in us and settle it. Take what is hurting in us and hold it. Take any and all parts of us that create distance from you. For we are like Peter, O God. We argue what we don't know. We fear what we cannot see. And we almost always speak sooner than we listen. So open us, settle us, hold us, and forgive us. We long to hear you more clearly. We long to know you more fully. With hope we pray, And with gratitude we confess...

Lord, we pray to you now with hope. We have hope in the saving grace of Jesus Christ! We give you thanks for all the good we see even in these hard times. We give you thanks for our mission partners and lift them up to you. Be with them and may your Spirit encourage their work this week. Give strength and encouragement to our mission partners: close to home with the Presbytery of New Brunswick, The Desais (ISI) as they work alongside international students and the unknown of this coming academic year, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, Committee on Religious Ministries (Princeton Hospital Chaplaincy), Young Life. *Internationally we lift up* - Katie Wolf (Haiti), The Kishores (New Life Associates-India), The Riddells (World Team), Karla Koll (Costa Rica), Medical Benevolence Foundation, The Levis (Operation Nehemiah-Africa), The Tebbes (Pakistan).

Thanks for the gift of partnership with you and with each other. We have hope because your Son is working in and through each of us! We have hope in your forgiveness! God, remind us of our hope, even in the midst of despair, heartbreak, and stressful situations. 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.

Almighty, attentive God, thank you for being a personal Lord whom we can approach with honesty, with frustration, and with hope. We pray these things together, as your grateful people. 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 LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD**

### **Children's Time**

**Scripture & Sermon** Mark 8:31-9:8, Again & Again We Are Called to Listen Pastor Sharyl

## 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.

### 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

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

### Hymn

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

GTG #835

### Refrain:

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,  
daily walking close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

1 I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. [Refrain]

2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. [Refrain]

3 When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;  
guide me gently, safely o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore. [Refrain]

### Benediction

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May God's face shine with delight in looking upon you with favor, and may you rest forever in God's peace.

### Passing of Christ's Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you today and may you share it with all you meet.



### Postlude

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord

Flowers are given by Jean and Ray Gibson in loving memory of their parents, Mr. & Mrs. Russel Cushman and Mr. & Mrs. Gibson, Sr.