St. Peter's United Church of Christ Tatamy, Pennsylvania

Worship Leaders: Pastor Dan Schroeder and Jeff Heald

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Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Ernest G. Shaffer Ministers: Every member of the Congregation

2nd Sunday in Lent – March 16, 2025

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE AND TOLLING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

Open your hearts to God's love today.

In the midst of winter darkness, we seek the brightness of God's love.

Don't be afraid. God is with you.

With the Lord's help, we can overcome the darkness.

The Lord is your light and your salvation.

Even though everything around us is disturbing, yet God's love is constant. Thanks be to God!

HYMN #649 Gather Us In

CONFESSION

There is a certain winter in our spirits today, O Lord. We feel that the journey on which we have embarked will demand too much of us. There are so many other things in our lives which claim our spirits, our energy, our hopes and fears. It is easy to be like Jerusalem, turning our backs on those whom you send. The world shouts its solutions to us and then deserts us when we are in need. Forgive us for the many times in which we have strayed from your pathway of life; when we have chosen not to hear the cries of those in need; when we have belittled the gifts and skills you have given us in order to avoid serving others. Heal us, O Lord. Place us back on your path to Jerusalem, to live.

ASSURANCE

When God called your name, God called you to a journey of faith. Do not be afraid to look inside to see those things which are holding you back from being who God created you to be. Place your trust in God who is always with you, loving you into wholeness. Amen.

#734 GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Luke 13: 22-35

MEDITATION

HYMN #352 Spirit Song

PASTORAL 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.

OFFERING / OFFERING RESPONSE

Praise God from whom all blessings flow: Praise Him all creatures here below, Praise Him above the heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving God, our shelter and hope, we come to you with hearts open to your grace. May these offerings bring comfort to the weary and hope to the brokenhearted. Strengthen us to be a source of light and love in this world, reflecting your compassion in all we do. Amen.

HYMN #252 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION (#250, verses 1 and 5) Throughout these Lenten days and nights, we turn to walk the inward way, where, meeting Christ, our guide and light, we live in hope 'til Easter Day.

So let us choose the path of one who wore, for us, the crown of thorn, and slept in death that we might wake to life on Resurrection Morn!

Call to Worship, Confession, Assurance: https://www.ministrymatters.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are presented by Tom & Shawn Castellano in honor of Tom's birthday.

CONSISTORY MTG will be held this Wednesday at 7pm.

BIBLE STUDY will be held this Thursday at 10 am.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

17 Ben Buss

21 Tom Castellano

22 Amy Stoudt

GIVING 3/9/25--\$593.00 TOTAL GIVING YTD--\$7,032.00

3/9/25 MEMBER ATTENDANCE—32 3/9/25 TOTAL ATTENDANCE—33 YTD MEMBER ATTENDANCE AVERAGE—27 YTD TOTAL ATTENDANCE AVERAGE--32