FORTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 14, 2021

Online Worship 10 AM

PRELUDE – MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE - *BISH*

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING – UMH 384

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF FORGIVENESS God of love, We forget the beginning of the story-That we were made from love, to be love, to give love. Instead of rooting our narrative in the goodness refrain of creation, We skip ahead and find our worth at the fall,

With Cain and Abel, lost in the wilderness.

We forget that first there was you, and you are love. We forget that out of that love you created us. We forget that from the very first day, you loved first. We forget, because a love like that doesn't make sense to us. Forgive our low self-esteem. Forgive our resistance to love ourselves.

Forgive our hesitation to trust that even we could be made good. And forgive our tendency to pass that doubt on- from generation to generation.

Write a new beginning for us that roots our confidence in your unrelenting love.

With hope we pray, again and again. Amen.

LOVE CAME DOWN -BRIAN & JENN JOHNSON, JEREMY RIDDLE, IAM MCINTOSH & JEREMY EDWARDSON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever.Amen.

ONE THING REMAINS – Brian Johnson, Jeremy Riddle and Christa Black Gifford

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 3:14-21

SERMON – AGAIN & AGAIN: GOD LOVES FIRST

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe God is love— Unconditional, constant love.

We believe this love exists for all, Choosing each and every one of us, Day after day, Again and again and again.

We believe that God's love is like a river. Rivers cannot help but flow toward the sea; God's love cannot help but move toward us. We are swimming in it.

We believe that God loved first. We believe that God breathed life into dust. We believe that God said, "This is good," And because we believe that God loved first, We strive to build lives that reflect God's love. May we begin again here. Amen

THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY – UMH 121 CLOSING BENEDICTION POSTLUDE – LOVE LIFTED ME – WOOD

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 Rev. Katie Osier
 Pastor
 Jason Beamish
 Vocals
 Tara Beamish
 Bass

 Betty Gross
 Organist
 Roger Herbst
 Vocals
 Cullen Kress
 Drums

 Brian Lawson
 Website/Vocals
 Dustin Oliver
 Worship Leader
 Dan Royer
 Guitar

 Kelly Witsaman
 Vocals
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 Vocals
 Vocals
 Vocals

Giving—With worship being online, please be encouraged to use Vanco online, or, by appointment, drop off your giving. Feel free to email office@greensburgumc.net or call the church office if you have questions.

Lenten Coffee and Conversation – All ages are invited to share in a time of conversation about the Lenten series. Pull up a cup of joe and enjoy! To join on Zoom, **Meeting ID is 862 1402 8420. The Password is 273691.**

Lent Boxes - *If you have not received one or would like to gift one to someone, please contact the church office.*

Kids' Lent Event - *Again & Again* has started! To request all crafts and/or the direct link sent each week contact David Weyrick at <u>davidspc@icloud.com</u> to register.

Sunday Worship - If you would like a DVD of the services, please contact the church office.

Spring Flower Sale - Girls Scout Troop 7335 is having a fundraiser to help support their needs. Details in the March Newsletter.

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down; Fix in us they humble dwelling; All thy faithful mercies crown! Jesus, thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love thou art; Visit us with thy salvation; Enter every trembling heart. Breathe, O breath thy loving Spirit Into every troubled breast! Let us all in thee inherit; Let us find that second rest. Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be; End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, Let us all thy life receive; Suddenly return and never, Never more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, Serve thee as thy hosts above, Pray and praise thee without ceasing, Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; Pure and spotless let us be. Let us see they great salvation Perfectly restored in thee; Changed from glory into glory, Till in heaven we take our place, Till we cast our crowns before thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

LOVE CAME DOWN

If my heart is overwhelmed And I cannot hear Your voice I'll hold on to what is true Though I cannot see If the storms of life they come And the road ahead gets steep I will lift these hands in faith I will believe

I remind myself of all that You've done And the life I have because of Your Son

Love came down and rescued me Love came down and set me free And I am yours I am forever Yours Mountain high or valley low I sing out remind my soul that I am Yours I am forever Yours

When my heart is filled with hope And every promise comes my way When I feel Your hands of grace Rest upon me Staying desperate for You God Staying humbled at Your feet I will lift these hands and praise I will believe

'Cause I am yours and I am Yours For all my days Jesus I am Yours And I am Yours and I am Yours For all my days Jesus I am Yours

(Oh) I am Yours I am Yours All my days Jesus I am Yours

ONE THING REMAINS

Higher than the mountains that I face Stronger than the power of the grave Constant in the trial and the change

One thing remains One thing remains

Your love Your love Your love will never change

Your love never fails it never gives up never runs out on me Your love never fails it never gives up never runs out on me Your love never fails it never gives up never runs out on me Your love

On and on and on and on it goes It overwhelms and satisfies my soul And I never ever have to be afraid One thing remains One thing remains

In death in life I'm confident and covered by The power of Your great love My debt is paid there's nothing that can separate My heart from Your great love Your love

WAY MAKER (CHORUS)

You are Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper Light in the darkness My God, that is who You are You are Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper Light in the darkness My God, that is who You are

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THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY

There's a wideness in God's mercy Like the wideness of the sea; There's a kindness in God's justice, Which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner, And more graces for the good! There is mercy with the Savior; There is healing in his blood.

For the love of God is broader Than the measure of our mind; And the heart of the Eternal Is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple, We should rest upon God's word; And our lives would be illumined By the presence of our Lord.