## The Downtown Presbyterian Church Order of Worship for March 21, 2021 Fifth Sunday in Lent

**Opening Voluntary** Prayer on *St. Agnes* Raymond H. Haan

Melody for hymn "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

Welcome

**Announcements** 

Call to Worship JOSHUA BELL

Leader: I am doing a new thing, says our God. **People:** We will answer God with new hearts.

Leader: See me, and desire truth and mercy, calls our God. **People:** With our whole selves, we will hear God's voice.

Leader: If a grain of wheat dies, it grows into new life, promises Jesus.

People: We will seek to let go, and to grow deeper into faith.

Leader: If you wish to follow me, become servants, Jesus tells us.

People: We will live a life of service, following him.

**Hymn** "At the Name of Jesus" Amy Finka, cantor

#### Call to Confession HENRY AND ALICE BUTLER

Come to worship God, who is making a new covenant with us. "I will write my law on your hearts. I will be your God. You will be my people." We will not have to teach one another about God, for we will all know God, from the greatest to the least. Come and worship God, who forgets our wrongs and forgives our sins.

### **Prayer of Confession**

### **HENRY AND ALICE BUTLER**

Leader: Gracious God, we have all we need, but we want more.

We want cars and houses and clothes and toys.

People: Create in us clean hearts, O God.

Leader: We want to be on the winning team.

People: Create in us clean hearts, O God.

Leader: We want everyone to like us all the time.

People: Create in us clean hearts, O God.

Leader: Have mercy on us.

Put your Holy Spirit in our hearts and keep us close to you.

Help us to be grateful for your love.

(personal prayer continues in silence)

### **Assurance of Pardon and Passing the Peace**

**HENRY AND ALICE BUTLER** 

Leader: People of God, know that there is nothing you can do to make God love

you any less,

And there is nothing you can do to make God love you any more. Live in the promise that we are God's people, forgiven in Christ and

empowered to serve.
Believe the Good News:

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Leader: Since God in Christ has forgiven us, let us also forgive one another.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Please share that peace with the people around you, or wish your neighbors peace in the comment section.

**Gloria Patri** Glory Be to the Father

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.

## **Prayer for Illumination**

**GIDEON BYL** 

God of light, be our light. Fill us with your Spirit so that we may hear and understand and do what is your will, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### **Word for Our Youngest Disciples**

**SUZIE LANE** 

**Children's Message Verse** 487, vs.4 These Treasured Children

Come, Holy Spirit, help us be a nurturing community; empower us to realize God's kingdom through our children's eyes.

Old Testament Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34 LILY BYL

New Testament Reading John 12:20-33 SUZIE LANE

Message The Tale of Three Trees

JOSHUA BELL, ELIZA BELL, JACKSON WILLS, SUZIE LANE

**Hymn** "In the Bulb There Is a Flower" Amy Finka, cantor

## Prayer of Intercession, Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

#### **EVELYN AND ABIGAIL SZALAJ**

Hymn

"Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said" Amy Finka, cantor

## **Charge and Benediction**

**ELIZA BELL** 

God will write a new covenant on our hearts.

God will be our God and we will be God's people.

No longer shall we teach one another,
or say to each other, "Know the Lord"

For we shall all know God.

In the name of God the Source of Life,
the Word of Truth, and the Spirit of Love.

Amen.

**Closing Voluntary** 

There Is a Green Hill Far Away

Raymond H. Haan

# At the Name of Jesus 264



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This may well be a hymn based on a hymn, for scholars say that the passage behind it (Philippians 2:5–11), though not in the style of Greek poetry, shows traits of a communal creedal statement capable of being sung. It is set here to one of the composer's most sonorous tunes.

## In the Bulb There Is a Flower 250

Hymn of Promise



- 1 In the bulb there is a flow er; in the seed, an ap-ple tree;
- 2 There's a song in ev-ery si-lence, seek-ing word and mel-o-dy;
- 3 In our end is our be-gin-ning; in our time, in-fin-i-ty;



in co-coons, a hid-den prom-ise: but - ter-flies will soon be free! there's a dawn in ev-ery dark-ness, bring-ing hope to you and me. in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.



In the cold and snow of win-ter there's a spring that waits to be, From the past will come the fu-ture; what it holds, a mys-ter-y, In our death, a res-ur-rec-tion; at the last, a vic-to-ry,



un - re-vealed un - til its sea - son, some-thing God a - lone can see

The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T. S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning." Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/composer's husband was diagnosed with what proved to be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.

## Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said 718



Written by a nineteen-year-old in Connecticut, this challenging text has been widely printed on both sides of the Atlantic. It is strengthened by its resolute repetition of the same four words at the beginning of each stanza and by the appropriately stark shape note tune.