

Create in me a
clean heart,
O God, and
Renew a right spirit
within me.
Restore to me the
joy of your
salvation, and
Sustain in me a
willing spirit.

from Psalm 51

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 21, 2021

Lake Shore Baptist Church

Prelude

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

arr. David Angerman

Cindy Fuller

Welcome

Sharlande Sledge

We are a welcoming and affirming community of Christians, attempting to discover, articulate, and embody the meaning of the Gospel in the world today. We welcome all at Lake Shore because we believe that God's love knows no bounds.

Passing of the Peace

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

MANY: And also with you.

Welcome to New Members, Steve and Carol Salvesen

We affirm you in your Christian decision and celebrate your place in the family of God. We accept our responsibility to help you grow into the fullness of Christ. We offer ourselves to be your family, to surround you with God's kind of love.

Call to Confession

from Psalm 51

Jo Ann Miller

Prayer of Confession

Jon Snyder

ONE: For failing to notice God's presence in all things, even in our times of pain and confusion,

MANY: **We confess our sins, O God.**

ONE: For basking in our privilege when so many of your children are suffering,

MANY: **We confess our sins, O God.**

ONE: For our lack of imagination that limits our vision for our mission with you,

MANY: **We confess our sins, O God.**

ONE: For failing to see your image in all things and in all people, even in ourselves,

MANY: **We confess our sins, O God.**

ONE: For failing to dream the dreams you invite us to dream with you,

MANY: **We confess our sins, O God.**

ONE: For walking away from your invitation to be the persons who live life with you as our guide and our wisdom,

MANY: **We confess our sins, O God.**

Silence for Confession

Song of Transformation

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”
ADELAIDE

Have thine own way, Lord, have thine own way.
Thou art the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Song

“Softly and Tenderly”
THOMPSON

Soft-ly and ten-der-ly Je-sus is call - ing, call - ing for you and for me;
O for the won-der ful love he has prom-ised, prom-ised for you and for me;
pa - tient and lov - ing, he's wait-ing and watch-ing, watch-ing for you and for
though we have sinned he has mer - cy and par - don, par - don for you and for
me. ___ Come home, ___ come home, ___ ye who are wea-ry come home; ___
me. ___
ear nest-ly, ten-der-ly, Je-sus is call-ing, call-ing, "O sin-ner, come home!"

Hebrew Scripture

Joshua 5:9-12
Grant Dooley

ONE: This is a reading from our ancient stories.
MANY: Thanks be to God.

Gift of Music

“Amazing Love”
Chris Tomlin
Jon Snyder

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:11-52
Richard Groves

ONE: This is the Gospel of Grace.
MANY: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“A Story of Homecoming”

Commissioning of Search Committee and Task Groups

Leader:

As individuals and as a church, we are seeking God’s guidance and help in this season of transition. In this time of discernment about many things, we have called some within our congregation to search for a new senior pastor, some to lead us in the way of reconciliation, some to discern future staffing concerns, and some to evaluate our policies and procedures. All these are big tasks that call for the dedicated time, memory and vision, focused attention, and spiritual wisdom of those we have asked to serve. These are holy tasks. How do you respond to the commitments you have made to these significant leadership roles?

Search Committee and Task Groups:

We see our tasks as part of the holy work of the church. We pray that we will grow in harmonious relationships within our groups through openness and patient listening. We will search our own hearts and minds so that our actions will be true to our calling as Christ’s disciples and to God’s hope for our church at this time. We will listen to the congregation, seeking what is best for the church as a whole.

Leader:

The roles of the Search Committee and these tasks groups are not easy ones. How will you, as a community of faith, support those serving in these new ministries?

Congregation:

We will ask God to give those who serve an understanding of who we are as a people of faith. We will speak the truth in love to help them discern our needs and our hopes. We will pray for them to have patience with one another and the time necessary to work through such important processes. We will hold the Christ Light for them when they need extra portions of energy, wisdom, or time for their jobs.

Leader:

Seek. Hope. Pray. Question. Imagine. Discern. Listen. Dream. Search. Remember who you are as fellow members and ministers among us here. But above all, remember who you are as followers of Jesus Christ, seeking to serve our God who calls us to bear Christ’s Light in the world today.

O God of vision, we entrust our sisters and brothers to your mission on behalf of this community called Lake Shore. We are confident that the present tasks and future mission you have for our church are greater than all our human thoughts and ideas. We pray that God will keep the hearts and minds of those we commission today centered in Christ Jesus, who brings us together to hear the gospel of Christ and sends us out again to practice resurrection in our world.

“Let the Amen, sound from God’s people again.”

All: Amen!

Pastoral Benediction

Congregational Benediction

“The Church of Christ in Every Age”
GIFT OF LOVE

Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be
A partner in Christ’s sacrifice, and clothed in Christ’s humanity.

Postlude

“Morning Has Broken”
arr. Lloyd Larson
Cindy Fuller

Offering: <https://my.simplegive.com/App/Giving/lswcwaco>

Parents’ Gathering:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3251880550?pwd=YU5RYs9xc3FTWmlEQlZTait5ejlxzd09>

Meeting ID: 325 188 0550

Passcode: Bishop5801

Senior Pastor Search Committee

Kristi SoRelle, Chair; Gail Boyd; Jennifer Bronson; Sakina Dixon;
Barb Francis; Steve Gardner; David Hendon; Van Jones;
Kim Kellison; Andy Powell; Vern Sauter

Polity, Structure and Procedures Task Group

Charlie Smith, Co-Chair; Beverly Hill, Co-Chair; Kay Avant;
Bob Baird; Henry Clarke; Karen Matkin; Gary Miller

Staffing Task Group

Martie Sauter, Co-Chair; Vernon Davis, Co-Chair; Ibbey Jones;
Becky Kennedy; Sandy Londos; Don SoRelle; George Stonikinis

Reconciliation Task Group

David Davis, Co-Chair; Beth Farwell, Co-Chair; Rick Allen;
Bill Bellinger; Judy Bowman; John Warren; Rae Wright