



Worship Service for February 18, 2024

Prelude	Marshall Davies
Chiming of the Hour	Paula McKnight
Welcome	Pastor Felix Carrión
Centering Moment	Pastor Felix Carrión
*Praise & Worship Songs	Congregation

“Make a New Heart”

Make a new heart

Make a new heart in me today and everyday

Make a new heart

Make a new heart in me today and everyday (x2)

Just as you made the earth,

sky and sea and everything teeming in them

Make a new heart

Make a new heart in me today and everyday (x2)

Renew your breath of life in us

Restore our joy, restore our joy

Make a new heart

Make a new heart in me today and everyday (x2)

How can a person start over and change

and be born again to new life

Make a new heart

Make a new heart in me today and everyday (x2)

Feel the heartbeat of the world

and soften us to listen

Make a new heart

Make a new heart in us today and everyday

Make a new heart

Make a new heart in us today and everyday (x2)

Announcements

Paula McKnight

Call to Worship

Paula McKnight

LEADER: Let us come before the God of all creation
with open spirits, deeply longing for divine insight.

**ALL: We stand before our God in stillness of
spirit, and offer God the reverent silence of
our souls.**

LEADER: Together we acknowledge the precious gifts
of life and love that are not of our own making.

**ALL: Together we proclaim: There is but one
Lenten Journey of seeking, prayer, fasting,
reflection, and listening. In the end, we will
know that all of us are children of God.**

***Congregational Song**

Congregation

“Break Our Hearts Again”

We pile up like dry bones,
like orphans gathering
In burden, we're broken,

our defenses fracturing

So break our hearts again

Stretch us 'til we bend.

Breathe new life on these tired bones

And make us new again

Our mountains are crumbling,

like sand into the sea

Our rivers run drier

than the rocks beneath our feet

So break our hearts again

Stretch us 'til we bend.

Breathe new life on these tired bones

And make us new again

So break our hearts again

Stretch us 'til we bend.

Breathe new life on these tired bones

And make us new again

We lay our burdens down,
We lay our burdens down
We lay our burdens down,
We lay our burdens down

Gathering Prayer

Paula McKnight

ALL: God of life, we bring our whole selves to you in this season of Lent. We seek to follow in the footsteps of Jesus as he went into the wilderness. May our Lenten journey take us into sacred solitude. May we seek to know you and ourselves more fully. May we come upon your voice as we affirm the purpose of our making. As we gather in worship, we commit ourselves to live in stillness of spirit. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Biblical Witness

Pastor Felix Carrión

Mark 1:12 & 13

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Contemporary Witness

Paula McKnight

Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation
by Parker J. Palmer

Some time when the river is ice ask me whether what I have done is my life. I will listen to what you say. You and I can turn and look at the silent river and wait. We know the current is there, hidden; and there are comings and goings from miles away that hold the stillness exactly before us. What the river says, that is what I say.

William Stafford, "Ask Me"

"Ask me whether what I have done is my life." For some, those words will be nonsense, nothing more than a poet's loose way with language and logic. Of course what I have done is my life! To what am I supposed to compare it.?

But for others, and I am one, the poet's words will be precise, piercing, and disquieting. They remind me of moments when it is clear – if I have eyes to see – that the life I am living is not the same as the life that wants to live in me. In those moments I sometimes catch a glimpse of my true life, a life hidden like the river beneath the ice. And in the spirit of the poet, I wonder: What am I meant to do? Who am I meant to be!

Reflection

Pastor Felix Carrión

"Lent: Look Again"

Special Music**Plymouth Choir****“Come to Me and Rest”**

I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto Me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my
breast.”

I came just as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;

I found in Him a resting place, and He has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold, I freely give the
living water; thirsty one, stood down and drink and live.”

I drank of that life-giving stream;

my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in
Him.

I hear the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s Light,
look unto Me, your morn will rise, and all your day be bright.”

I looked to Jesus, and I found in Him my Star, my Sun; and
in that Light of life I’ll walk till trav’ling days are done.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come to me, I will give you rest.”

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Felix Carrión

Invitation to Offering

Paula McKnight

Houston Peace and Justice Center

Offertory Music

Marshall Davies

*** Doxology**

Congregation

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God for all that Love has done

Creator, Christ, and Spirit one Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Paula McKnight

LEADER: God of the journey, we give these offerings in

gratitude,

ALL: rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us.

LEADER: We give these offerings in faith,

ALL: trusting that you will provide for our needs.

LEADER: We give these offerings in hope,

ALL: knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world.

LEADER: And with these offerings, we give ourselves;

ALL: may we live with generous hearts and with open hands. Amen.

***Congregational Song**

Congregation

“Come to Me”

All who are weary

All who are burdened down

Come to me, come to me

Come to me and I will give you rest. (x2)

My yoke is easy

My burden feels so light

Come to me, come to me

Come to me and I will give you rest. (x2)

All who are weary

All who are burdened down

Come to me, come to me

Come to me and I will give you rest. (x2)

Come to me, come to me

Come to me and I will give you rest. (x2)

Benediction

Pastor Felix Carrión

***Song of Parting**

Congregation

Sing! # 201 "Deep Peace"

Peace, peace, deep peace,

My peace I give to you.

Peace, peace, deep peace,

My peace I give to you.

Not as the world gives, I give to you,

Not as the world gives, I give to you.

Peace, peace, deep peace,

My peace I give to you.

Postlude

Marshall Davies

Today's Worship Participants

Worship Leader: Paula McKnight

Sound: Mary Davis

Video: Amie and Shelby-Mak Friday

Projector: Cathy Normand

Pastor Felix Carrión

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