



Worship Service for February 25, 2024

Prelude Marshall Davies

Chiming of the Hour Jan Lundy

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

Jan Lundy

Call to Worship

Jan Lundy

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

Jan Lundy

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

Jan Lundy

Psalm 51:6-12

You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.

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

Pastor Felix Carrión

Rumi on Suffering and Separation

“One day your soul will carry you to the Beloved.
Don’t get lost in your pain,

know that one day your pain will become your cure.”

“Don’t grieve. Anything you lose comes round in another form.”

“The wound is the place where the light enters you.”

“Whoever finds love beneath hurt and grief disappears into emptiness with a thousand new disguises.”

“What goes comes back. Come back.
We never left each other.”

“Dance, when you’re broken open.
Dance, if you’ve torn the bandage off.
Dance in the middle of the fighting.
Dance in your blood.
Dance, when you’re perfectly free.”

“Your body is away from me,
but there is a window open
from my heart to yours.”

“But listen to me:
for one moment, quit being sad.
Hear blessings dropping their blossoms around you.”

“Goodbyes are only for those who love with their eyes.
Because for those who love with heart and soul
there is no such thing as separation.”

Reflection

Pastor Felix Carrión

“Lent In a Different Light”

Special Music

Plymouth Choir

“Stained Glass”

I prayed to be strong.

I longed to be bold, to stand against the wrong like the
heroes of old.

Faith was too fragile, my heart frail and sad, and pieces
of dreams were all that I had.

Broken, shattered, stained and scattered, gathered
together in the Artist’s hand;

a life left in pieces, brought into place; a window of light,
a portrait of grace.

Who could have known that God would make art from
glass stained and broken, from lives torn apart?

Flooded with light, new colors reveal that in weakness
He shines, and His beauty is made clear.

Broken, shattered, stained and scattered, gathered
together in the Artist's hand;

a life left in pieces, brought to this place; a window of
light, a portrait of grace.

So, here are my scars, my wounds old and new,
this life filled with failure, I give it to You.

Lord, gather my pieces with Your tender hand,
and put them together, and put them together as only
You can.

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Felix Carrión

Liturgy for the Sacrament of Baptism

Pastor Felix Carrión,
Logan Kytile & Family

Invitation to Baptism

PASTOR: Members and friends of Plymouth United Church, as we come to this font of living water, let us recall the meaning of baptism. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Jesus Christ.

ALL: For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

PASTOR: Now you are the body of Jesus and individually members of it.

**Presentation of
Logan Van Kytile as a Candidate for Baptism**

Blessing of the Water

PASTOR: Water is life. We affirm the way it cleanses, sustains, and nourishes us.

ALL: Let it sprinkle, pour, and flow upon all people that all may know each day the gift of God in water.

PASTOR: The biblical stories also talk of the preciousness of water. These stories remind us that water is a blessing and the source and strength of life. Without it, humanity and all that is created could not survive.

ALL: Our stories remind us that God's way is the way of compassion and love. God's love, like a shower of rain in drought, awakens the sleeping seed within the soul and makes it blossom. So let us give thanks for the blessing of living water as it blesses Logan today, on the day of his baptism.

Questions for the Candidate, Family, Godparent, and Congregation

Ritual of Baptism

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Felix Carrión

Invitation to Offering

Jan Lundy

Equal Justice Initiative (EJI)

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

Jan Lundy

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: Jan Lundy

Sound: Mary Davis

Video: Mark Vines

Projector: Mary Lowell

YouTube Host: Amie & Shelby-Mak Friday

Pastor Felix Carrión

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