



**Worship Service for March 13, 2022  
Second Sunday in Lent**

<b>Prelude</b>	Marshall Davies
<b>Chiming of the Hour</b>	Pam Laham
<b>Welcome</b>	Pastor Mak
<b>Centering Moment</b>	Pastor Mak
<b>Call to Worship</b>	Pam Laham

LEADER: We rejoice in the Divine as we make our way through this Lenten Journey.

**ALL: In the wilderness our hunger is filled by Holy Hope.**

LEADER: In the desert our thirst is quenched from the stream of God's Presence.

**ALL: On the road to Jerusalem our weariness is transformed into strength by Grace.**

LEADER: We each walk our own journey as led by the Spirit.

**ALL: We all walk together as the Body of Christ in the world.**

**Hymn**

Marshall Davies

TNCH # 433 "In The Bulb There Is A Flower"

**Biblical Witness**

Pastor Mak

Genesis 45:25 - 46:5

The sons of Israel went up out of Egypt after meeting with Joseph and came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan. They told him, "Joseph is still alive! He is even ruler over all the land of Egypt." Jacob was stunned; he could not believe them. But when they told him all the words of Joseph that he had said to them, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of their father Jacob revived. Jacob, who is also known as Israel, said, "Enough! My son Joseph is still alive. I must go and see him before I die."

When Israel set out on his journey with all that he had and came to Beer-sheba, he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. God spoke to Israel in visions of the night, and said, "Jacob, Jacob." And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "I am God, the God of your father; do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make of you a great nation there. I myself will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also bring you up again; and Joseph's own hand shall close your eyes."

Then Jacob set out from Beer-sheba; and the sons of Israel carried their father Jacob, their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons that Pharaoh had sent to carry him.

## **Contemporary Witness**

Pam Laham

### “Daughter Of The East”

by Benazir Bhutto; Preface (excerpt)

More than a million of my countrymen came out to greet me when I returned to Pakistan from two years of exile in April 1986, catapulting me into the glare of international publicity. Suddenly I received several offers to write not my father’s story, but my own. I hesitated. It was one matter to write about my father, who had become the democratically elected prime minister of Pakistan and had lasting achievements to his name, and quite another to write about myself, whose most important political battles were still to be fought. It seemed presumptuous. I thought autobiographies were written in the autumn of one’s life, looking back.

A friend’s chance remark changed my mind. “What is not recorded is not remembered,” she told me. I saw her point. Like many in Pakistan, I had experienced the dark years of Martial Law. Unlike many, I had the opportunity to put those experiences on record. It is important that the world remember the repression we in Pakistan had to bear following General Zia’s coup d’etat.

Writing the book has been difficult. It has meant reliving the pain of the past. But it has also been cathartic, forcing me for the first time to come to terms with memories I had been trying to escape. This is my story, events as I saw them, felt them, reacted to them.

**Reflection**                      “Lenten Catharsis”                      Pastor Mak

**Lenten Ritual of Grief and Lament**                      Pastor Mak

“What are your family griefs about the pandemic?”

**Special Music**    “Sing to Bring Us Together”  
Plymouth Women’s Ensemble

**Pastoral Prayer**                      Pastor Mak

**Unison Prayer**                      Pastor Mak

**Prayer for Conscience and Courage**

*by Sister Joan Chittister*

**Loving God, lead us beyond ourselves to care and protect, to nourish and shape, to challenge and energize both the life and the world You have given us. God of light and God of darkness, God of conscience and God of courage lead us through this time of spiritual confusion and public uncertainty. Lead us beyond fear,**

**apathy and defensiveness to new hope in You and to hearts full of faith. Give us the conscience it takes to comprehend what we're facing, to see what we're looking at and to say what we see so that others, hearing us, may also brave the pressure that comes with being out of public step. Give us the courage we need to confront those things that compromise our consciences or threaten our integrity. Give us, most of all, the courage to follow those before us who challenged wrong and changed it, whatever the cost to themselves.**

**Invitation to Offering**

Pam Laham

Plymouth's General Fund &

"Montgomery County Women's Center" - Loose Offering

**Offertory Music**

Marshall Davies

**Doxology**

Marshall Davies

**Offertory Prayer**

Pam Laham

*written by Rev. Joanna Harader*

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, with open  
hands. Amen.**

**Hymn**

Marshall Davies

Sing! # 90 "There Is Peace"

**Benediction**

Pastor Mak

**Postlude**

Marshall Davies