



Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ March 21, 2021  
Mt Hope 8:30am Greenfield 9:50am Grace 11:00am  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

*Community News*

*Prayer List and Prayers of the People*

*Prelude/Lighting of the Candles*

*The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings*

Offertory Statement

\* Doxology

\* Offertory Prayer TH # 551

**God, there are many who “wish to see Jesus.”**

**In joy and celebration of the many gifts that we share,  
we ask you to bless all of our offerings.**

**May Jesus shine in all the world. Amen.**

\* *Call to Worship*

Let us gather to worship.

**O God, we wish to see Jesus!**

**We come to worship, to pray, and learn.**

We come looking for Jesus in Scripture lessons,  
in our own life experiences,  
in helping our world,  
in prayers for each other.

**We seek to follow in the way of Jesus.**

We lay bare before God and one another  
our own wilderness journey  
filled with some gladness and hope,  
with reluctance and sorrow,  
with fear and confusion.

**O God, speak to us, show us, touch us with your presence!**

Let our Lenten journey lead us to Jesus,  
so that we may show Jesus forth  
in our lives, our faith community, and our world.

**Amen.**

\* *Opening Hymn*

*“Whiter Than Snow” vs 1,3,4*

*Mt Hope VH #364*

*Greenfield CH #653 Grace VH #364*

*Gathering Prayer*

**God of the journey, you invite us, the church, “to accept the cost and joy of discipleship” and “to be your servants in the service of others.” In so doing, may your presence be our guide and Jesus our model. May we respond to you in loving faithfulness. Amen**

*First Reading*

**Jeremiah 31:31-34 NIV**

<sup>31</sup> “The days are coming,” declares the LORD,  
“when I will make a new covenant  
with the people of Israel  
and with the people of Judah.

<sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant  
I made with their ancestors  
when I took them by the hand  
to lead them out of Egypt,  
because they broke my covenant,  
though I was a husband to them,”  
declares the LORD.

<sup>33</sup> “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel  
after that time,” declares the LORD.

“I will put my law in their minds  
and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,  
and they will be my people.

<sup>34</sup> No longer will they teach their neighbor,  
or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’  
because they will all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest,”  
declares the LORD.

“For I will forgive their wickedness  
and will remember their sins no more.”

*Prayer of Reconciliation*

*Psalm 51*

God of steadfast love and mercy,

**we have shielded our eyes from the evil and injustice in the world.**

We have turned away

**from your forgiveness and your compassions and from your wisdom and your guidance,**

We have allowed our voices to be silent.

**Cleanse us. Purify us.**

Remind us that we still have much to learn, and that you continue to teach us.

**Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that our faith in you might be renewed. In humble confidence, we pray. Amen.**

*Words of Assurance*

In the grace of God, through the love of Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are saved from brokenness and sin and are restored to the joy of God's salvation.

*Epistle Lesson*

**Hebrews 5:5-10 NIV**

<sup>5</sup>In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him,

“You are my Son;  
today I have become your Father.”

<sup>6</sup>And he says in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
in the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered <sup>9</sup>and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him <sup>10</sup>and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

\* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

John 12:20-33 NIV

*Gloria Tibi (Glory be to Thee, O Lord.)*

TH #497

*Jesus Predicts His Death*

<sup>20</sup>Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup>Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

<sup>27</sup>“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name!”

Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

<sup>30</sup>Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children's Message*

\* *Meditation Hymn*

*Mt Hope PH #218*  
vs 1,3,4

*“O Jesus, I Have Promised”*

*Greenfield CH #676 Grace TH #271*  
vs 1,3,4

*Today's Message*

