

RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST
THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

*Today we worship via the internet. As you gather around your phone, computer, or tablet,
we encourage you to pause for a moment to become aware of God's presence.
Quiet your mind, listen to the voluntary, and prepare to worship God.*

Voluntary

Sonata No. 3 in A major
I. Con moto maestoso

Felix Mendelssohn

The first movement of Mendelssohn's Third Organ Sonata opens and closes with a majestic march. The middle section is a double fugue in the manuals (keyboards), while the pedal employs the German chorale (hymn) melody that was written in Martin Luther's day for the singing of Psalm 130, which is the first Old Testament reading today.

Welcome, Invocation, and Our Lord's Prayer

Rev. Anna Perry Miller

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Hymn 282

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

If thou but trust in God to guide thee,
with hopeful heart through all thy ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide
thee,
to bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
builds on the rock that nought can move.

Only be still, and wait God's leisure
in cheerful hope, with heart content
to take whate'er thy Keeper's
pleasure
and all-discerning love hath sent.
No doubt our inmost wants are clear
to One who holds us always dear.

Sing, pray, and swerve not from
God's ways,
but do thine own part faithfully.
Trust the rich promises of grace;
so shall they be fulfilled in thee.
God never yet forsook at need
the soul secured by trust indeed.

Scripture Lessons

Psalm 130; Ezekiel 37:1-14
See last page

Rev. Anna Perry Miller

The Word of the Lord;
Thanks be to God

Solo

For the Mountains Shall Depart (from Elijah)

Felix Mendelssohn

For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed;
but Thy kindness shall not depart from me,
neither shall the covenant of Thy peace be removed.

—Isaiah 54:10

Seth Roberts, bass

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Daniel Bagby

Offertory Sentences

Rev. Anna Perry Miller

Solo

O God, Have Mercy (from St. Paul)

Felix Mendelssohn

O God, have mercy upon me, and blot out my transgressions, according to Thy loving kindness; yea, even for Thy mercy's sake, deny me not. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Spirit from me, O Lord. Lord, a broken and a contrite heart is offered before Thee. God, have mercy upon me, and blot out my transgressions, according to Thy loving kindness; yea, even for Thy mercy's sake.

Seth Roberts, bass

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Sermon

Power and Hope

Rev. Dr. Daniel Bagby

*Hymn 438

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

DENNIS

Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.

Before our Maker's throne
we pour our ardent prayers.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes;
our mutual burdens bear.
And often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.

When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.

From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.

*Benediction

Voluntary

Sonata No. 3 in A major
II. Andante Tranquillo

Felix Mendelssohn

*The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of their anniversary, March 24,
by Judy and Griz Dixon.*

*We give thanks to Rev. Dr. Dan Bagby for preaching and leading in worship today. Dan has
served as a chaplain, pastor, and seminary professor. He also served River Road Church as
Minister of Pastoral Care. Dan and Janet have two adult children and three grandchildren.*

*We are grateful for your continued generosity to God through our church ministry.
You may give securely online at <http://rrcb.org/give-online> or by mailing a check.
Thank you for your faithfulness. This QR code will take you to our giving page.*



Psalm 130 (NRSV)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Ezekiel 37:1-14 (NRSV)

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”