ORDER OF WORSHIP
February 21, 2021
First Sunday in Lent

Hopewell UMC has a vision to be a community of hope for a hurting world.

Mission Statement: We are a home for ALL people to be transformed by the love of God and grow in mind, body, and spirit.


WELCOME
Prelude

CALL TO WORSHIP:
Leader: Friends, today, we come together as one body.
People: Whether we are together physically or virtually, let us join our hearts spiritually as we call upon the name of the Lord.
Leader: The name of the Lord strengthens us. The righteous run to it and they are safe.
People: Let us seek in our time together to become a more righteous people in communion with God.
Leader: Great God, we worship you today because you are worthy.
People: We desire, through our prayers and our praise, to draw closer to you, O God. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER:
Spirit of the Lord, search our hearts and minds this day so that we may hear and recognize your voice. Help us in our weakness. Reveal yourself to us and show us your way. May the Spirit intercede for us this day in accordance with your will. We ask all this in the name of Jesus the Christ our Savior, Amen.
OPENING HYMN:  
What a Friend We Have in Jesus  
UMH #526

CHILDREN’S MOMENT
PASTORAL PRAYER
LORD’S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE: Old Testament: Genesis 9:8-17 (NRSV)
8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 9 “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, 10 and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. 11 I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” 12 God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: 13 I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. 14 When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, 15 I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. 16 When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” 17 God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

New Testament: Romans 8:26-27 (NRSV)
26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. 27 And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

HYMN OF PREPARATION:  
Lord Listen to Your Children Praying  
TFWS #2193

SERMON:  Purple Theory: Prayer  
Rev. Laura Steele
OFFERING

CLOSING HYMN: *Open the Eyes of My Heart* by Paul Baloche

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE