ORDER OF WORSHIP
March 14, 2021
Fourth 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: This is the Good News which we proclaim to You.

*People*: Jesus Christ washes away all our sins.

Leader: Walk in the Light of His love.

*People*: Live in the Light as God is in the Light.

Leader: Come, let us worship the One who forgives us and takes our sins away.

*People*: Let us live in the Light of Truth in our hearts.

OPENING PRAYER:
Open our hearts and minds this day to the presence of Jesus. Give us the courage and teach us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. It is in Jesus Holy name we pray, Amen.

OPENING HYMN:
(by C. Nockels, D. Carson, J. Reeves, K. Stanfill, M. Maher CCLI # 5925687)

*Lord I Need You* performed by Lou Steele
CHILDREN’S MOMENT
PASTORAL PRAYER
LORD’S PRAYER


The Joy of Forgiveness

32

Our God, you bless everyone

whose sins you forgive

and wipe away.

2

You bless them by saying,

“You told me your sins,

without trying to hide them,

and now I forgive you.”

3

Before I confessed my sins,

my bones felt limp,

and I groaned all day long.

4

Night and day your hand

weighed heavily on me,

and my strength was gone

as in the summer heat.
5
So I confessed my sins
   and told them all to you.
   I said, “I'll tell the Lord
each one of my sins.”
Then you forgave me
   and took away my guilt.

6
We worship you, Lord,
   and we should always pray
whenever we find out
   that we have sinned.
   Then we won't be swept away
   by a raging flood.

7
You are my hiding place!
   You protect me from trouble,
and you put songs in my heart
   because you have saved me.

8
You said to me,
   “I will point out the road
   that you should follow.
I will be your teacher and watch over you.
New Testament: 1 John 1:5-9

God Is Light

5 Jesus told us that God is light and doesn't have any darkness in him. Now we are telling you. 6 If we say that we share in life with God and keep on living in the dark, we are lying and are not living by the truth. 7 But if we live in the light, as God does, we share in life with each other. And the blood of his Son Jesus washes all our sins away. 8 If we say that we have not sinned, we are fooling ourselves, and the truth isn't in our hearts. 9 But if we confess our sins to God, he can always be trusted to forgive us and take our sins away.

HYMN OF PREPARATION:  You Are My Hiding Place (sung 2x)  TFWS #2055

SERMON:  Confession is Good for the Soul  Lorraine Donahue, Certified Lay Speaker

OFFERING

CLOSING HYMN:  Nothing but the Blood  UMH #362

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE