ORDER OF WORSHIP
March 7, 2021
Third 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: I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)
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CALL TO WORSHIP:
Leader: Gracious Spirit, we ask you to fill this space with your presence this day.
People: We yearn to see more of God and live more like Christ.
Leader: Open our eyes as we seek to live a life that is pleasing to you.
People: We hope, oh God, that our lives would have an impact on this hurting world.
Leader: Nearer, nearer blessed Lord, to the cross where Thou hast died!
People: Draw us nearer to you, Jesus, that we might live as you would have us live. Amen

OPENING PRAYER:
Jesus, we come here today to receive Your teaching on what it means to live a life more deeply connected to You. Direct our hearts, minds and actions in a way that leads to new life for ourselves and for your kingdom come. Amen.

OPENING HYMN:  
God of Grace and God of Glory  
UMH #577
CHILDREN’S MOMENT
PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE: Old Testament: Psalm 19 (NRSV)

God’s Glory in Creation and the Law
To the leader. A Psalm of David.

1
The heavens are telling the glory of God;
    and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

2
Day to day pours forth speech,
    and night to night declares knowledge.

3
There is no speech, nor are there words;
    their voice is not heard;

4
yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
    and their words to the end of the world.
In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

5
which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
    and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

6
Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
    and its circuit to the end of them;
    and nothing is hid from its heat.

7
The law of the Lord is perfect,
    reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure,
    making wise the simple;
8
the precepts of the Lord are right,
    rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear,
    enlightening the eyes;

9
the fear of the Lord is pure,
    enduring forever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true
    and righteous altogether.

10
More to be desired are they than gold,
    even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
    and drippings of the honeycomb.

11
Moreover by them is your servant warned;
    in keeping them there is great reward.

12
But who can detect their errors?
    Clear me from hidden faults.

13
Keep back your servant also from the insolent;
    do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless,
    and innocent of great transgression.

14
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
    be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Concerning Fasting

16 "And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. 17 But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18 so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

HYMN OF PREPARATION: Sanctuary TFWS #2164

SERMON: Work it Out!! Fasting Rev. Laura Steele

OFFERING

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

CLOSING HYMN: His Eye Is on the Sparrow TFWS #2146

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE