



**March 18, 2018 11:15 a.m.**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

### *Gathering Time*

*"We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies." - Romans 8:22-23*

We are no strangers to suffering. We experience bodies that ache from illness and disease, and hearts that break with the pain of loss. We bemoan the widespread destruction that occurs whenever disasters strike or wars rage. We lament tragedies that steal human life or devastate our environment. Some of us know friends or family members who are suffering. Some of us are suffering ourselves. This anguish does not only pain us; it also pains God, who yearns for the wholeness of creation.

We invite you to lift up the suffering of this world by writing the names of people or places you hold within your heart. Please write on the torn pieces of paper you received with your bulletin, and then offer them to God by pinning them to the cross prior to worship or during the offering. We offer our prayers with confidence that God walks with us through the darkest valleys and loves us into wholeness.



*Response*

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Song #177*

“I Will Come to You”

*Message*

Greg Jones

*Song #775*

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

Vs. 1: Leader

Vs. 2-3: All

*Offering*

*Please sign the blue friendship notebook and pass it to the person next to you.*

*You may pin your torn paper to the cross.*

*Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer*

Barbara Jobe

*Song #822*

“When We Are Living”

*Sending*

*Response (#314)*

**Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church  
gathered today.**

*Following worship, please join us in the Meeting Room  
for coffee, tea, and fellowship.*

## *Come to the Cross: A Lenten Journey*

The center of the Easter story is the cross. Throughout these forty days, the cross in Rodney Chapel will become a visual prayer, representing our lament, our longing, and our hope.

***We are thankful for your presence and participation this morning.*** Westminster has two worship options each Sunday. Our other Sunday morning worship service is held at 9:00 a.m., and includes a choir, organ music and a brief Children's Message. Both services include prayers, singing, scripture and sermon.

***Following worship, feel free to make a bouquet to brighten someone's day.*** Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jack and Janet Foster and Sara Jane Evans and Charles Pfleegor by Anne Foster and Chip Pfleegor.

***Please remember in your prayers*** Jeanne Butz, Peggy Cartmell, Grace Firestone and Mary Young.

***Children are welcome in worship.*** You will find yellow worship bags for all children at the chapel entrance.

***Image: "Gethsemane" by Michael O'Brien, <https://www.episcopalcafe.com/save-us-from-the-time-of-trial/>***

Pastors: Gregory Knox Jones and  
Sudie Niesen Thompson (on maternity leave)  
Pianist: Paul Fleckenstein  
Song Leader: Travis Lucas  
Digital Artist: Bob Cox



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