Order of Worship The Journey Begins

September 3, 2023 10:00 AM

Welcome to this time of worship, as we gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

Prelude Meditation on "There is a Green Hill Far Away" Leo Sowerby

Mark Frazier, organ

Welcome Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

Greeting

Leader: Followers of Christ, God calls us just as we are

to live as truth-tellers and gospel-bringers in the world.

People: God, we know you call us, and still, we ask,

"Who am I that you would call me?"

Leader: Like Moses standing before the burning bush

convinced of his unworthiness to lead your people out of bondage,

we ask.

People: "Who am I that you would call me?"

Leader: Like Peter who thought he got it right only to realize

that who Jesus is doesn't meet his expectations of who a Savior should be,

we ask,

People: "Who am I that you would call me?"

Leader: As we raise this question to God today,

we open our hearts to receive God's answer:

People: You are my beloved children. You are my disciples.

You are my people called to share the love of God

for the transformation of the world. Amen.

Hymn Jesus, Draw Me Close **TFWS 2159**

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God.

Though we live in a culture that is reluctant to admit guilt,

assume responsibility, or ask for forgiveness,

we are so bold as to pray the words of the psalmist who said:

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Search us, O God, and reveal anything in our lives that stands

between us and your love.

Search us, O God, show us our sins so that we might confess them,

Search us, O God, show us places where we have neglected Christian responsibility and then teach us how to live on this earth with each other,

Search us, O God, show us the faces of those we have wronged so that we might seek their forgiveness.

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

Leader: We have not been called to this hour of worship to wallow in sin and

self-pity. God has promised to forgive our sins when we confess them and to cleanse us from all manner of unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Rise from your knees as children of God, forgiven from sin and empowered to lead

holy lives.

People: Amen, thanks be to God!

Children's Message

Scripture Matthew 16:21-28

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon The Way of the Cross Rev. Wines

Hymn Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee UMH 175

Prayer of the PeopleRev. Furtado-Gilliam

Offering

You are invited to make your offering to support the ministry and mission of Clarendon UMC.

You may text to give at 84321 or go to the Online Worship page of our website

and click "Make your online offering."

Hymn Take Up Thy Cross UMH 415

Benediction Rev. Wines

Postlude Allegro Maestoso e Vivace from Sonata II Felix Mendelssohn

Mark Frazier, organ

Greeting written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, March 2023.

Prayer of Confession/Words of Forgiveness written by Safiyah Fosua, The Africana Worship Book, Year A (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006), 151-152.