

# Come and Find the Quiet Centre

F (Gm F) Dm Bb F

1 Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead,  
 2 Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,  
 3 In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,

F (Gm F) Dm Bb F

find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:  
 God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, face to face,  
 let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:

F C Dm Am F Bb

clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see  
 making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,  
 there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,

C Dm Bb F Gm Am Bb F

all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.  
 raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.  
 in the Spirit it's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

Words: Shirley Erena Murray, alt. 1989 BEACH SPRING  
 Music: attrib. Benjamin Franklin White 1844; harm. Ronald A. Nelson 1978 8 7 8 7 D  
 Words copyright © 1992 Hope Publishing Company. Harmony copyright © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.



## First Reformed United Church of Christ

Where People Discover...  
 The Love of God...  
 The Power to Love Others...  
 The Ability to Love Ourselves

March 2, 2022

The Worship of God  
 Ash Wednesday



(\* Please stand as you are able  
**"BOLD"** indicates congregational response

Prelude

Christopher Kiser

\*Chimes

Greetings

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Choir Selection

"Take My Life"

arr. Craig Courtney

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
 Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.  
 Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.  
 Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King.  
 Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King.

Take my silver and my gold. Not a mite would I withhold.  
 Take my moments and my days. Let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
 Take my moments and my days. Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my will and make it Thine. It shall be no longer mine.  
 Take my heart, it is Thine own. It shall be Thy royal Throne.  
 Take my heart, it is Thine own. It shall be Thy royal Throne.

**\*Call to Worship**

Rev. Evan Sieges

Friends and neighbors, in the middle of our busy week, we pause to observe Ash Wednesday together.

**We come to remember that God made us from fragile blessed dust and breathes though us the breath of life and love.**

With dust and oil we claim the mark as God's beloved creation.

**From dust we are created in God's image and to God's good dust we shall return.**

Today we begin our 40-day Lenten journey to discover who we are created to be as God's beloved.

**In daily practices of prayer and service we will embark upon this Lenten journey.**

We follow Jesus, God's Son, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh in whom we see God's image most clearly.

**So, come let us pray for strength to follow Jesus where he will lead us this Lent.**

**\*Hymn**

*"Come and Find the Quiet Center"* (back of bulletin)

**Prayer of Invocation**

Rev. Dr. Arnetta Beverly

**Prayer of Confession**

*Psalm 51* Dr. Beverly

Have mercy, tender God, forget that I defied you. Wash away my sin, cleanse me from my guilt.

**I know my evil well, it stares me in the face, Evil done to you alone before your very eyes.**

How right your condemnation! Your verdict is clearly just. You see me for what I am: frail, a sinner.

**You love those centered in truth; teach me your hidden wisdom. Wash me with Fresh water, wash me bright and clean.**

Fill me with happy songs! Let the bones you bruised now dance, Shut your eyes to My sin, make my guilt disappear.

**Creator, reshape my heart, God, steady my spirit. Do not cast me aside stripped of your holy spirit.**

Save me, bring back my joy, support me, strengthen my will, Then I will teach your way and sinners will turn to you.

**Help me, stop my tears, and I will sing your goodness. Lord, give me words and I will shout your praise.**

*Adapted from The Psalter, translated by the International Committee on English in the Liturgy©1995 Archdiocese of Chicago*

**Words of Assurance of Blessing**

Dr. Beverly

**Scripture**

Matthew 6: 6, 16-21

Rev. Horton

But when you pray, go to your room, shut the door, and pray to your Father who is present in that secret place. Your Father who sees what you do in secret will reward you.

And when you fast, don't put on a sad face like the hypocrites. They distort their faces so people will know they are fasting. I assure you that they have their reward. When you fast, brush your hair and wash your face. Then you won't look like you are fasting to people, but only to your Father who is present in that secret place. Your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Stop collecting treasures for your own benefit on earth, where moth and rust eat them and where thieves break in and steal them. Instead, collect treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust don't eat them and where thieves don't break in and steal them. Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

**Sermon**

*"Street Corners and Rooms"*

**Invitation to Discipleship**

**Marking of the Ashes**

**Special Music**

*"Dust and Ashes Touch Our Face"* Ellen Peterson

**Offering**

*This evening's offering will benefit Davidson County Crisis Ministry*

**Prayer of Dedication**

Dr. Beverly

**Congregational Response**

Tune: *"When I Survey the Wondrous" Cross"*

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.**

**\*Benediction**

Rev. Horton

**Postlude**

Christopher Kiser

**MINISTERS:** The Congregation of **FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**104 EAST CENTER STREET, LEXINGTON, NC 27292** PHONE: 336-248-2617 [www.frucc.org](http://www.frucc.org)  
**PASTOR:** Rev. Elizabeth Horton ([elizabeth@frucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@frucc.org), cell/text #336-972-8895)  
**MINISTER OF PASTORAL CARE:** Rev. June Grubb ([jgrubb3@triad.rr.com](mailto:jgrubb3@triad.rr.com), #336-248-5668)  
**DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES:** Rev. Evan Sieges ([evan@frucc.org](mailto:evan@frucc.org))  
**CHOIR DIRECTOR:** Ellen Peterson ([ellenrpeterson@gmail.com](mailto:ellenrpeterson@gmail.com))  
**ORGANIST/PIANIST:** Christopher Kiser ([cdkiser94@gmail.com](mailto:cdkiser94@gmail.com))  
**ADMIN ASST.:** Carolyn Robbins ([carolyn@frucc.org](mailto:carolyn@frucc.org))  
**FINANCIAL ADMIN.:** Paula Lopp ([paula@frucc.org](mailto:paula@frucc.org))