# OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 67 Central Ave., Ocean View DE 19970 March 22, 2020



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

# SILENT MEDITATION

And God held in His hand a small globe. Look, He said.

The Son looked. Far off – as through water – He saw a scorched land of fierce colour.

A light burned there, crested buildings cast their shadows;

A bright Serpent, a river, uncoiled itself, radiant with silver.

On a bare hill, a bare tree saddened the sky.

Many people held out their thin arms to it, as though waiting for a vanished

April to return to its crossed boughs.

The Son watched them. Let me go there, He said.

# ▲▲▲ GATHERING

# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# **CALL TO WORSHIP**

- L: God is our refuge in times of trouble, keeping our feet steady on the road, watching over us and keeping us from harm. Where does our help come from?
- C: Our help comes from the Lord, maker of heaven and earth.
- L: God is our fortress on times of distress, circling us in the safety of loving arms, granting peace when our lives are not at ease. Where does our help come from?
- C: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

ALL: Let us worship the Lord, our Rock and our Salvation!

#### THE WORD

# REFLECTION ON OUR COMMON HUMANITY

In this time of difficult separations, and even isolations, we turn to you, our living God, whose course through our lives is like a continual stream of living water, coursing now at flood, and another time at a trickle, but always in us, moving our hearts forward in trust of you, love of you, and love of our neighbors. We acknowledge that too often it is we ourselves who dam up and block the flow of your Holy Spirit, in ourselves and in this your world, shared to us by your amazing grace. We pray for your continuing forgiveness, for your steadfast love, and for the transformation of our lives promised in your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Enter now, and be with us; stay with us; for any time spent without you is too long. Knit us together, and help us to maintain our vital bonds, we pray, in Jesus' own name. **AMEN**.

# PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OT READING 1 Samuel 16: 1-13 (p.255; P.253) GOSPEL LESSON John 9: 1-41 (p.943; P.97)

L: The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SERMON "Strange How You Never Can Tell"

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. Amen.

CONCERNS AND JOYS: Please email, text or call your concerns directly to Pastor Terry at:

Office: 302-539-3455 Cell: 856-432-1196

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE CHARGE BLESSING

We respectfully remind you of the ongoing expenses of our ministry, and of our beautiful Campus. Please continue to donate. We can receive your donation by regular mail. If you need to drop your donation off, come to the office Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and make sure we know.

"May our gifts be a source of light, in a world that has learned to love darkness."