

You are invited to share your joys and concerns with the congregation. Please place them in the prayer basket on the table to your right upon entering (prayer request slips are in the basket), or if online use Zoom Chat or Facebook Comments. Please indicate if the request is not public (i.e., for the pastor alone). Your financial offerings can be placed in the offering box next to the Prayer basket. Restrooms are found behind the kitchen, to the right as you exit Fellowship Hall.



## Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church

Pastor – Rev. Diane Hoppe Hugo

*The mission of Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church is to be in partnership with God to transform ourselves, our communities, and our world.*

**Service for the Lord's Day ~ March 22, 2026**

**Fifth Sunday in Lent ~ Our Theme is Wilderness**

**Welcome** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

### Lighting of the Christ Candle & A Time of Silence

*We invite you to a time of silent meditation and companionship with God.*

### Call to Worship *(responsive)*

We have been in the wilderness—

**Discerning and working, seeking and dreaming.**

We have been in the wilderness—

**Grieving and wondering, praying and hoping.**

We have been in the wilderness—

**Longing and running, creating and waiting.**

We have been in the wilderness, but we have not been alone;  
for God walks with us, every step of the way.

**So let us worship the God of our darkest nights and our brightest days.**

One: Let us worship Holy God.

### Prelude

### Call to Reconciliation

*Eph. 5:8-10*

As children of God's light, we are called to do what is pleasing to the Lord: to participate in what is good and right and true, and expose what is unfruitful and evil. Knowing that we turn from the light, we bring our confession to God, so that what is hidden in us becomes visible, and the shadows of our hearts may be illumined by grace.

### Unison Prayer of Confession

*Ps 130:3; John 4:5-42; Ps 130:4-5,8*

**O Lord, if you held our sin against us, who could live, who could stand? You invite us to plant a garden of love and harmony, but we grow weeds of prejudice and hatred. You invite us to sow joy and gratitude, but we scatter seeds of fear and envy. You call us to tend the soil, but instead we close our eyes and let the earth suffer. Forgive us. .**

*Pause for silent reflection . . .*

**You invited us to plant a garden, and we lost ourselves in the wilderness.**

**Clear our hearts. Breathe life into these weary bones and grant us a fresh start.**

**Gratefully we pray, amen. *Pause in silence . . .***

### Assurance of Forgiveness

*Ezek 37:4; Rom 8:10-11*

O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! If Jesus Christ dwells in you, the Spirit of God will be your life and the grace of God will be your righteousness.

And if the Holy Spirit dwells in you, then God, who raised Jesus from the dead, will also give life to your mortal bodies. *Followed by the singing of our Lenten verse.*  
(singing) **Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream; all the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him.**

**I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.**

**In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel,

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise 130** (please rise) *Let Every Christian Pray*

**Prayer for Illumination** (unison)

*Eph. 5:9–10*

**Gracious God, illumine our hearts and minds as the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, so that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may see what is good and right and true. And seeing, help us to do what is pleasing to you, so that your glory becomes visible in our words and deeds.**

**In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

**Scripture Lessons** **Ezekiel 37:1-14 & John 11:1-45**

Come Holy Spirit (*silence is kept for reflection*). This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** *Six Million Dollar People Learning to Breathe*

**Hymn of Response 317** (please rise) *Holy Ghost, Dispel Our Sadness*

**Sharing Joys & Concerns** (*You are invited to pray with the congregation at 10:10 am or pm, any & every day*)

**Lenten Intercessions** when you hear the phrase: *We answer this call in faith...*

please respond: **We place ourselves and this world in your care.**

**The Lord's Prayer: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**A Time of Offering**

**Offering Prayer**(unison)

*Ezek 37:11-14*

**Holy God, giver of life, we thank you for raising us up and joining us together as one people, your people, flesh and bone in the body of Christ. As you have delivered us from death, use our lives to proclaim the good news of new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Hymn of Sending 376** (please rise) *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

**Charge to the Congregation & Benediction**

**God is Good—All the Time. All the Time—God is Good.**

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