

FAITH AT FIVE: OUT OF THE DARKNESS SUICIDE PREVENTION WALK SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2020



Leader Stay with us, Christ, for it is evening.
People **Make your Church bright with your radiance.**
Leader O God, be not far from us.
People **Come quickly to help us, O God.**
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

Psalm 18:28–36

You, Lord, keep my lamp burning;
my God turns my darkness into light.
With your help I can advance against a troop,
with my God I can scale a wall.
As for God, his way is perfect:
The Lord's word is flawless;
he shields all who take refuge in him.
For who is God besides the Lord?
And who is the Rock except our God?
It is God who arms me with strength
and keeps my way secure.

He makes my feet like the feet of a deer;
he causes me to stand on the heights.
He trains my hands for battle;
my arms can bend a bow of bronze.
You make your saving help my shield,
your help has made me great.
You provide a broad path for my feet,
so that my ankles do not give way.

A Reading: John 1: 1–14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

A Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Message

Louise Coggins

The Prayers (*The response to each petition is, "Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer."*)

Leader From whose love nothing can separate us, we pray this day for all persons dealing with mental illness and those who love and care for them.

Leader Especially this day, we pray for all whose lives have been touched by suicide, for those who have died by suicide, and those who have attempted it.

Leader We pray for those who, because of mental health challenges such as depression, PTSD, or bipolar disorder, live with thoughts of suicide.

Leader We pray for those who live in despair and without hope because of poverty or discrimination.

Leader We pray for families and friends, colleagues and co-workers, who have been touched by the suicide of a loved one, We pray for counselors and therapists, psychologists and psychiatrists, for pastors, rabbis, priests, and imams and for all who seek to help.

Leader And we pray, too, that you might give us the courage and wisdom to be there for others in distress, to offer your love and our care, to help break the silence a change the conversation about suicide, to be your listening ear, your hands, and your heart for others.

Lord,

It is time to begin our walk.

Our walk to help bring light into darkness.

Let us remember that we walk in the presence of God.

Tonight we walk to remember:

For those who have died,

For those who are struggling,

For those who live in depression,

For families, friends and all people whose lives have been touched by sorrow.

The night is dark.

Let our fears of the darkness of the world

And in our lives rest in you.

The night is quiet.

Let the quietness of your

peace enfold us,

All dear to us,

And all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.

Let us look expectantly to a new day,

New joys,

New possibilities.

In your name we pray. **AMEN.**

Blessing

God's Blessing be with us, Christ's peace be with us, the Spirit's outpouring be with us, now and always. **AMEN.**