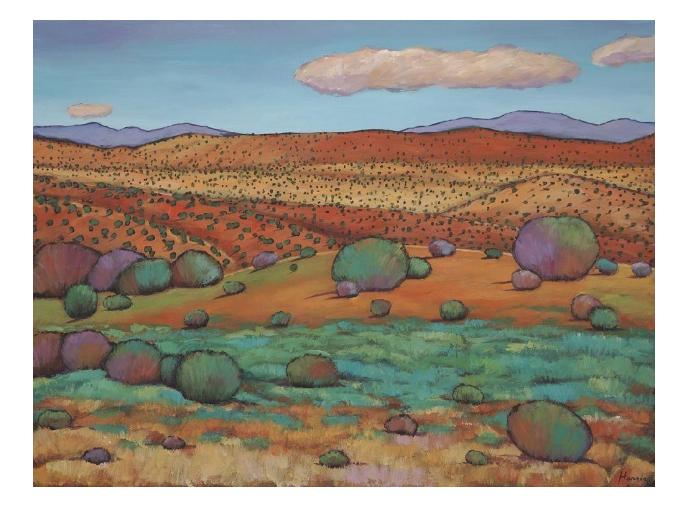
First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan

Third Sunday in Lent • Sunday, March 15, 2020 • 10 a.m. 178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN, CT 06840 • 203-966-0002 • FPCNC.ORG *Creating a loving and just world by serving others*.



"Desert Day" by Georgia O'Keeffe

GATHERING

Johannes Brahms

Intermezzo in A Major, Op. 118, No. 2

Prelude

**Call to Worship

Minister: Let all who thirst come to the waters.

People: Let all who are hungry come and eat.

Minister: For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace. The mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

People: Let us worship God.

**Hymn



Victoria Shields

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to show us the way, teach us the truth, and give us abundant life. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves as pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, Amen.

(Silent Prayer of Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Gracious God, as we wander in the wilderness, guide us. Help us to thirst for your living water and abundant life, so that we might become restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hebrew Bible Lesson – Exodus 17:1-7 (OT page 64) Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Oculi Mei Estêvão Lopes Morago My eyes are ever upon the Lord: for he shall pluck my feet out of the snare. Turn to me, and have mercy upon me.

Gospel Reading – John 4:5-26 (NT page 95) Minister: Holy wisdom, holy word. People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Thirsting for Life"

Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

RESPONDING TO THE WORD



Prayers of the People

** Hymn

Rev. Christopher G. Tate

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

QUEBEC

Richard Farrant

Offertory

Hide Not Thou Thy Face

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord, and cast not off thy servant in thy displeasure; for we confess our sins unto thee and hide not our unrighteousness. For thy mercy's sake, deliver us from all our sins.

<u>SENDING</u>

** Hymn

I Hear the Voice of Jesus Say

KINGSFOLD



- ****** Charge and Benediction
- ****** Choral Response

Be Still, My Soul

Finlandia

J.S. Bach

- ****** Ringing of the Church Bell
- ** Postlude

Wo soll ich fliehen hin, BWV 646

CCLI #1120652