

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day

March 24, 2019

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your Word and obey it, that we may become instruments of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship:

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

People: **My heart sings for joy to the living Lord.**

Leader: Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!

People: **For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.**
Psalm 84

Leader: Praise the Lord!

People: **The Lord's name be praised!**

*Hymn: **O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing** #610

*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

God of great mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you. We are quick to quarrel and condemn and slow to receive your gift of grace. We boast about our own success and deny our suffering savior. Forgive us, by your steadfast love. Create a clean heart within us, teach us your holy way, and restore the joy of salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Time for Personal Confession

Response: **Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us**

**Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: Therefore, having been justified by faith,

People: **We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Leader: Friends, this is the good news of the Gospel: Romans 5:1

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

*Gloria Patri: **Glory Be to the Father** #581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings:

Offertory

*Doxology: **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; #606
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination:

O God, your word is a lamp to our feet, a light to our path. Open our lives to its guidance and to the Spirit's power that we may be obedient, for we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Psalter: **Psalm 103**
Tune: Dix #14; For the Beauty of the Earth

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

People sing: **Bless, O bless the Lord, my soul,
All within me, praise the Lord!
In the fullness of my life, ever is God's name adored!
Who redeems my sinful soul makes my fainting spirit whole.**

Leader: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

People sing: **Merciful, with grace endured,
God will judge with righteousness;
Slow to anger or to chide, swift to pardon and to bless.
Though our sin deserves the rod,
more than sparing is our God.**

Leader: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

People sing: **High as heav'n above the earth is the Lord's redeeming love;
Far as east from west is laid, so does God our sin remove.
As a parent, pity take; cleanse our hearts for Thine own sake.**

Leader: As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.

People sing: **Like the grass that grows and fades,
So the cycle of our days;
But God's love is ever sure
unto those who sing God's praise.
Lord of heav'n, in faithfulness, may I never cease to bless.**

Leader: The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

People read: **Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, obedient to his spoken word.**

Leader: Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers that do his will.

People read: **Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion.**

All: **Bless the LORD, O my soul.**

Scripture Reading: **Revelation 5:1-6**

Anthem: **Take Me to the Water** arr. David M. Cherwien
Brianna Glaze, mezzo soprano

Time for Young Disciples
Preschool children may return to their pew or gather at the piano door where today's shepherd will lead them in a time of special activities.

*Hymn: **O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High** #618

Scripture Reading: **Matthew 26:47-56**

Sermon: **For God So Loved the World**

Prayers of the People

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.

Service of Installation

*Affirmation of Faith: from the Confession of 1967

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of man's mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.

Hymn: **Lift High the Cross** #826

*Benediction

*Choral Response: **Have Mercy, God, upon My Life** #421

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

