

March 18, 2012 SERVICE OF WORSHIP

11:00 am

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Liturgical Color: Purple

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Lynn Polk, Lay Leader

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

MaryAshlynn Perkey

PRELUDE

Beautiful Savior
Rhonda McGinnis, flute and Joyce Nickles, piano

arr. Karen Kuehmann

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Susan Pinckney

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Do not avoid the light of God but expose yourself to it.

**People: We come to the light so that it will be clear that God is involved in all
the good things that we do.**

***HYMN NO. 103**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

St. Denio

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

When we keep silent about our sin, we are burdened and weak. But if we acknowledge our sin before God, God will forgive and heal us. Let all who are faithful offer prayer in times of distress. Let us confess our transgressions to the Lord. Please join in the Song of Approach followed by the unison Prayer of Confession and a time of Silent Prayer.

***SONG OF APPROACH**

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

God our Redeemer, you welcome us

with the unbounded love of a parent for a lost child.

Help us when we turn away from your safekeeping;

watch over us when we choose the far country of doubt and fear;

guide us back with the thoughts of the place you have prepared for us;

forgive us when we fail to see Jesus, sent from you.

Turn our eyes toward the cross where he was lifted up for us.

In his name we pray. Amen.

***SILENT PRAYER**

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

"Happy are those who are forgiven, who stand among the righteous surrounded by the steadfast love of the Lord." By the power of Jesus' death and resurrection, we are forgiven and healed.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Numbers 21:4-9 Page 174 (OT) in pew Bibles

***GOSPEL LESSON**

John 3:14-21 Page 114 (NT) in pew Bibles

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

The Reverend Terry C. Martin

OFFERING**OFFERTORY**

Immortal Love, Forever Full
Chancel Choir

arr. George Mabry

***DOXOLOGY**

God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Nettleton

God whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store;

Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door.

Gifted by You, we turn to You, offering up ourselves in praise;

thankful songs shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING*CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Alice Balentine

As the children come to the front of the Sanctuary, they are invited to bring change to help in Heifer International. If any adults want to contribute, please pass your money to a child as they come forward. Following the message, 3-year-olds through Kindergarteners may leave the Sanctuary for Extended Session.

***HYMN NO. 189**

Fairest Lord Jesus

St. Elizabeth

SERMON

The Reverend Terry C. Martin

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 880**

We believe in one God, the father, the Almighty
 maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
 We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,
 Light from Light, true God from true God,
 begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
 through him all things were made.
 For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
 and became truly human.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
 He ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.
 We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in the one holy Catholic and apostolic church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI NO. 70**

Glorify 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.

***HYMN NO. 206**

I Want To Walk as a Child of the Light

Houston

***BLESSING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**

God came down to us like the sun at morning,
 wounded to the heart by our helplessness.
 Let us proceed in God's strength
 to love and serve one another.
 Go in peace and may the peace of God go with you.
And also with you.

***POSTLUDE**

**Please stand if you are able*

Nursery Provided

Chancel Flowers

The chancel flowers today are given to the glory of God in loving memory of **Stanley Baker, III** by his family.

Music Notes

The lyrics for today's anthem were written by John Greenleaf Whittier and come from his 38-stanza poem, "The Master," first published in 1856. The tune, *Morning Song*, is an American folk tune dating back to 1813.

Immortal Love, Forever Full

arr. George Mabry

Immortal love, forever full, forever flowing free,
 Forever shared, forever whole, a never ending sea.
 Our outward lips confess the name, all other names above;
 Love only knoweth whence it came, and comprehendeth love.

We may not climb the heavenly steeps to bring the Lord Christ down;
 In vain we search the lowest deeps, for him no depths can drown.
 But warm, sweet tender even yet a present help is he;
 And faith had still its Olivet, and love its Galilee.

The healing of his seamless dress is by our beds of pain;
 We touch him in life's throng and press and we are whole again.
 O Lord and Master of us all, whate'er our name or sign;
 We own thy sway, we hear thy call, we test our lives by thine.