

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

March 5, 2017

11:00 A.M.

Together in Christ, Reaching Beyond Our Doors.

GATHERING IN CELEBRATION AND PRAISE

Thought for entering worship –

Lent is a word that comes from the English word 'Lenten', meaning 'Spring'- not only a reference to the season before Easter, but also an invitation to preparing the ground for Springtime of the soul.

PRELUDE "Litaneý" Schubert/Liszt

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GETTING ACQUAINTED

*PASSING THE PEACE TO OUR NEIGHBOR

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The dust that shapes the journey,
the cross that guides it,
the color that surrounds it,
the word that foretells it,
the wilderness that invites it.

ALL: This is Lent, and into this wilderness adventure God calls us.

One: Come, brothers and sisters, Christ is heading for Jerusalem.

*HYMN OF PRAISE "O God Beyond All Praising" No. 2009

A TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN

"Where Children Belong" (congregation sings)

***This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.***

CONNECTING WITH GOD IN PRAYER

CALL TO PRAYER "Come Away With Me" No. 2202 (vs. 1-3)

LITANY PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

One: Because temptation is woven into the fabric of our lives,
and we know the weariness of forty days in the desert,
and the beckoning power of sweet fruit,
and the vain promises of the world, we need you, God.

All: We need you, God.

One: Because we see the broken before the whole,
and the half empty cup, and the unfinished task,
and the thirst in freedom's quest, we need you, God.

All: We need you, God.

One: Because we trust in what we can see,
and we are blinded by our prejudices,
and we do not know what we do not know, we need you, God.

All: We need you, God.

One: Because you came among us,
and breathed into our sinewy souls,
and healed our pain and let us wound you,
and loved us to the end,
and triumphed over all our hatred, we need you, God.

All: We need you, God.

One: So we lean in toward your son, Jesus,
as we mouth the words he taught us to pray –

All: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PROCLAMATION IN WORD AND SONG

CHORAL ANTHEM “Will You Bear the Cross?” Stratton and Courtney
Will you bear the cross and carry it for life, follow Christ in faith through storms of pain and strife, stand the heavy price of suffering and loss?
Will you trust in Christ? Will you bear the cross? Will you bear the cross while climbing mountains steep, through the burning sands, across
the oceans deep? Can you still be sure regardless of the cost, will your faith endure? When you bear the cross? Must Jesus bear the cross
alone, and all the world go free? No, there’s across for everyone, and there’s across for me. Can you lift the load and wear the yoke of Christ,
down the rocky road that leads to paradise? Can you brave the storm though shaken, torn, and tossed? Will you trust our Lord? Will you bear
the cross?

HEARING OF THE GOSPEL Matthew 4: 1-11 (NT p. 3)
Leader: The Word of God. **All: For the People of God.** Leader: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE “Outward Bound for the Soul”

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (see insert)

All are welcome at the Lord’s Table. Come forward as directed, where you will be given a piece of bread and which you may dip in the cup (gluten-free bread is also available). Please let an usher know if you cannot come forward so the elements can be brought to you.
During this time you are invited to bring your offering forward to the plates available on the chancel. Those in the balcony may remain seated, servers will come to you. Our Stephen Ministers will be in the back of the sanctuary to offer a blessing prayer. You may stop there before or after receiving communion.

*Doxology No. 94
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Unison Prayer
**God of all, you fill the souls of the hungry with good things.
Thank you for Christ who has met us here at this meal.
Make us hunger now for his coming
In the hearts and the homes of all.
Fill us with his Spirit of service and self-forgetting love,
That through us, he may become near to people.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, whose journey we follow this Lent. Amen.**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN TO GO SERVING “As a Fire is Meant for Burning” No. 2237
*BLESSING
*CHORAL BENEDICTION “May the Heavenly Father”
 Roger Wilson
*POSTLUDE “Dedication” Schumann/Liszt