

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 4, 2018

11:00 A.M.

*Together in Christ, Reaching Beyond Our Doors.*

**GATHERING TO PRAISE**

PRELUDE "Andante Sostenuto" Charles-Marie Widor  
Emily Amos, organ

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GETTING ACQUAINTED

\*GREET YOUR NEIGHBOR

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom.

**All: Disclose to us your foolishness, Lord, that we might become wise.**

One: The weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

**All: Reveal to us your weakness, Lord, that we might become stronger.**

One: Let us worship the Lord who, on Calvary, turned foolishness into wisdom, weakness into strength, and the cross into a victorious tree of life.

\*HYMN "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" No. 155 vs 1-3 & 6

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.***

***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**

HYMN "O Breath of Life" No. 543

UNISON PRAYER

**Great and Loving God, Forgive your church during these Lenten days; Forgive your church its wealth among the hungry, its silence amidst violence, its cowardice among the oppressed. Forgive us, your children, our lack of confidence, our lack of faith, our lack of hope, our lack of love, our lack of courage in you, Victorious One. Restore us to covenant with you that we may feast in the love of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Help us to renew our lives in your Great Spirit, and to live the new life given to us daily. In Christ our hope and forgiveness we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God's not finished with us. The One who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it. We are forgiven and freed for joyful obedience.

**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 AND RESPONSE**

## CHORAL ANTHEM

"Lest I Forget Thy Love"

Craig Courtney

Lest I forget thy love. King of my life, I crown thee now, thine shall the glory be; lest I forget thy thorn-crowned brow, lead me to Calvary. Show me the tomb where thou wast laid, tenderly mourned and wept; angels in robes of light arrayed guarded thee while thou slept. Lest I forget Gethsemane, lest I forget thine agony, lest I forget thy love for me, lead me to Calvary. Let me, like Mary through the gloom, come with a gift to thee; show to me now the empty tomb, leave me to Calvary. May I be willing, Lord to bear daily my cross for thee; even thy cup of grief to share, thou hast borne all for me. Lest I forget thy love.

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Revelation 5: 6-14

(NT p. 248)

Leader: The Word of God. **All: For the People of God.** Leader: Thanks be to God.

*Lenten Sermon Series—Why a Cross:*

## SERMON

"The Cross as Sign of Victory"

## CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

*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 are positioned in the back of the sanctuary to offer a blessing prayer. You may stop there before or after receiving communion.*

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing the Bread and Cup

\*Doxology for Lent

**Praise God through out these forty days. Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise. And praise the Spirit who imparts, God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

**GOING FORTH IN JOY**

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION "Lord, Who's Love Through Humble Service"  
No. 581 vs 1,2 & 4

\*PASTORAL BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION "May God Keep You Forever"

\*POSTLUDE

Toccata on Amor Satis Est

Paul Ayers

Emily Amos, organ