

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
April 7, 2019
11:00 A.M.

Together in Christ, Reaching Beyond Our Doors.

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Thought for entering worship—Christ feeds the Church, and fills us with a vision, Through praise & preaching, wine & broken bread, Of sharing people, doing what they've said, Who win the world's respect, or opposition. (Hymn No. 590 UM Hymnal)

PRELUDE "Prayer" César Franck

INTROIT "Old Rugged Cross" arr. Linda Lamb
Central Bells

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GETTING ACQUAINTED
Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance Card as it is passed.

*PASSING CHRIST'S PEACE WITHOUT PRICE

This is God's house – a place of peace where we befriend one another in the name of Christ. Greet those around you as a sign of God's peace and Christ's friendship.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come and worship, all you who are looking for God here - outsiders and insiders, old-timers and new-comers, young, old, optimistic, worn-out, and in-between. Come as you are, for this is God's house - a house of prayer for all people, and God welcomes each one who comes.

ALL: We come as a diverse crowd, but we know we are welcome in this church. May we find in this hour a taste of God's Reign among God's people.

*HYMN OF PRAISE "Maker, in Whom We Live" No. 88

A TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN

"Where Children Belong" (congregation sings)

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

CONNECTING WITH GOD IN PRAYER

CALL TO PRAYER "As a Fire is Meant for Burning" No. 2237 (vs. 2)

We are learners, we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way. We are seekers, we are givers; we are vessels made of clay. By our gentle, loving actions we would show that Christ is light. In a humble, listening Spirit we would live to God's delight.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Voice #1: Gracious God, You are a God of hospitality. You have invited all to your home, to your table, and to your arms. Lord, would that all might hear and receive this good news. Help

us to remember that no one is better than anyone else in your Kingdom. Help us to then treat each other the way you treat people.

Voice #2: Generous God, Because you treat us with your tender love,
We take time to pray for our friends, family, adversaries, political figures, the innocent and the guilty we read about in the news ... (*space for silence*) and all others who need you this day.

ALL: Gifting God, You give us the gifts of the Spirit – peace, patience, kindness and all the rest - to help further your Kingdom and be the Body of Christ in this wounded and beautiful world. O Spirit, enlarge our vision so that we will be a reminder of Christ in our family, our town, our world. For we are his Church, inspired to pray as he taught us...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

No. 895

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

"Arise, My Soul, Arise"

Dan Forrest

violin Steven Leonard

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off thy guilty fears: the bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears: before the throne my Surety stands, my name is written on his hands. Five bleeding wounds he bears, received on Calvary; they pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me. "Forgive him, O forgive," they cry, "nor let that ransomed sinner die!" My God is reconciled; his pard'ning voice I hear; he owns me for his child, I can no longer fear; with confidence I now draw nigh, and "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 55: 1-6

(OT p. 685)

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

MESSAGE

Walking The Way of Jesus
"The Free Way"

Walter Brueggemann

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(see below)

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.

BRINGING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

COMMUNION HYMN

"Here, O My Lord, I See Thee"

No. 623

*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN OF GRATITUDE	"I Come with Joy"	No. 617
*BLESSING		
*CHORAL BENEDICTION	"May God Keep You Forever"	Brenda Henegar
*POSTLUDE	"Thou Art the Rock"	Henri Mulet

*You are invited to remain seated for the postlude as part of your worship experience.
(If you choose to exit the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly. Thank you.)*

*All who are comfortable standing are invited to stand.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord is with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: Eternal God, you loved us long before we knew or loved you; and in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ you show us that nothing can destroy your love or separate us from it. You have empowered the Church at Pentecost with the unsettling gift of Holy Spirit, both comforting and convicting.

All: So, with all our hearts, we thank you, and we renew our covenant and our commitment to recognize your presence at every turn, and to grow in your love.

One: Now into our communion, and into your eternal loving kindness we offer the prayers we have named:

for ourselves,

for each other,

for our families,

for your Church where we serve and love others,

for every person with whom we will have contact this week,

for our beautiful and broken world of nations and peoples,

All: Thank you for hearing us. Thank you for speaking to us. Thank you for your abiding presence in every breath of all creation and beyond. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

On the night before he died, Jesus had a meal with his friends. While they were eating, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and said, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in memory of me."

After supper he took the cup and said, "This cup is God's new covenant, sealed with my blood. Whenever you drink it, do it in memory of me."

When Jesus took bread and wine, he gave new meaning to commonplace things. So come now, Holy Spirit, pour your goodness into these gifts of bread and cup, and into us your people, that these common elements, and we ordinary persons might become Christ's body, your gift for the healing of the world. Amen.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all is ready.