



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Third Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Adagio from Sonata IV in D major
Alice Culin-Ellison, violin; Paula Roberts, organ

George Frideric Handel

WELCOME

INTROIT

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

*HYMN 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

AZMON

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home;
Beneath the shadow of thy throne, thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.
Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
From everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.
Our God, our help in ages past, our help for years to come,
Be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Congregation invited to respond with bold words)*

"Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**"

(Time for silent prayer.)

***KYRIE** (*Soloist sings through once, invites congregation*)
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy on us.

SINGAPURA

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***GLORIA PATRI**

GREATOREX

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.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:6-11

SECOND READING

Romans 8:18-27

SERMON

Rev. Steve Jester

THE RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The 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.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM*How Can I Keep from Singing?*

Eric Nelson

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentations.
I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing;
It finds an echo in my soul, how can I keep from singing?
What though my joys and comforts die? My Savior still is living.
What though the shadows gather 'round? A new song Christ is giving.
No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Love commands both heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain every springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?

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HAMBURG

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine demands my soul, my life, my all.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING*THE SENDING*****HYMN 463***How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.
"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

BENEDICTION*POSTLUDE***Tocatta in E minor*

Johann Pachelbel

IN WORSHIP TODAY

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS for today are from the wedding of Sarah Hare and Second Lieutenant P. Blake Benefield, who were married in the Sanctuary last night. Sarah is the granddaughter of Carol and Art McCarty.

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

Our life is in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. The Bible is the written witness to Jesus Christ, therefore it is "The Word of Life." Our lives are claimed by God through our baptism. It is God's seal on who we are as the children of God, therefore it is "The Font of Identity." The Table is the center of our home in the Body of Christ, the place where we are welcomed, renewed, and strengthened for the life to which we are called, therefore it is "The Table of Sustenance."

OUR MUSIC

Octet of the Sanctuary Choir; Paula Roberts, organ; Alice Culin-Ellison, violin.

We welcome Alice Culin-Ellison, violinist, co-artistic director of Bourbon Baroque, and co-founder of Incantare, who is widely known as a versatile historical performer.

WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER

Charlie Farnsley on the death of his grandmother, Sissy Nash, 3/10/20

Joyce Reibling on the death of her sister, Marilyn Beverly Pierce, 3/6/20

Barbara Taylor on the death of her sister, Teresa Herlston, 3/6/20

Steve Jester on the death of his mother died, 3/3/20

The family of John C. Everett on his death, 2/27/20

Jon Reinstine and his family on the death of Jon's father, Franklin Reinstine, 2/12/20

Peggy Duane and family on the death of Don, 2/5/20

Marilyn Duke and her family on the death of Marilyn's mother, Helen Hornback Berry, 2/4/20

THE MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Steven P. Jester, Pastor

Rev. Nathan Sautter, Associate Pastor for Community Life

Jordan Akin, Associate Pastor for Youth

Jim Rittenhouse, Director of Music Ministries

Lorie Williamson, Director of Children's Ministries

Hayley Abell, Director of Weekday School

Paula Roberts, Organist

Christina Bouras Recktenwald, Children's Choirs Coordinator

Ricky Case, Children's Choirs Coordinator

Elizabeth Clay, Parish Associate

Teresa Larson, Seminary Intern

The church office will remain open Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Our staff stand ready to provide ministry during this anxious time, either in person or through telephone or email. Our deacons will be checking in with their respective “flocks” and providing information for those who don't rely on a computer. And, of course, your pastoral staff will be with you in the event of any crisis or emergency.

We are the Body of Christ, a people called to live not in fear, but in hope, and to witness to that hope in our daily lives. We will continue to do so now and in the days to come.