

We are imperfect believers, passionate about sharing the love of Christ: by Connecting, Growing, and Serving.



# A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day Second Sunday in Lent February 25, 2024

### We Gather to Worship God

Welcome! If you are visiting, please use the QR code on the visitor card found in the pew rack to share your info online or fill out the back of the card and drop it in the offering plate. Prayer cards are also available in the pew rack, and we invite you to list your concerns and place them in the offering plate as well.

\*Congregation stands as noted

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship (based on Mark 8)

Leader: Let us not be ashamed of our Savior.

People: Let us sing and praise our God out loud.

Leader: In the midst of the crowd, we will praise you.

People: In our community, we will bear witness to our faith.

Leader: Let us set our minds on divine things.

People: Let us take up our cross and follow Christ.

All: Let us worship our Lord!

#### Invocation and 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.

\*Opening Hymn #687

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

### We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek Reconciliation with God

Preparing Our Hearts for Confession - "Confession" Words/Music by Kenneth Jones (front cover of hymnal)

Lord, I come before you, asking your forgiveness. I am broken, I have faltered. I have turned from you. Create in me a new heart. Fill me with your love. Grant that I receive your grace, I pray. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

### Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Merciful God, you call us to bear witness to your love and grace. We, however, hesitate and hedge when opportunities arise to speak of you. We are shy in sharing our faith and not bold in living it out. We know you save, yet we keep it to ourselves. Forgive our hesitance in sharing our faith. Forgive the ways we fail as your witnesses. Help us be your light, held high to set the world aglow. Amen.

### Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say, **People: Amen.** 

#### \*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God does not forsake us. Our God is a gracious God, abounding in steadfast love. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

#### People: Thanks be to God!

#### \*Thanks for God's Forgiveness (#647; no repeats)

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" Give Thanks! Give Thanks!

#### \*Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace to you, and peace from God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

#### People: And also with you.

\*Transition Hymn #831

#### "I Depend Upon Your Faithfulness"

## We Respond to God's Faithfulness in Our Life

#### Offering Our Lives to Jesus through Our Time, Gifts, and Resources

(see the 'Giving' card in the pew rack for information about options for digital giving)

#### \*Doxology (#606)

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.

Time for Young Disciples (Children that have not yet finished 1st Grade are dismissed following this time for Children's Church.)

## God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed

Special Music

"Come to Calv'ry's Holy Mountain" Tom Fettke **Chancel Choir** 

**Rev. Preston Shealy** 

#### Scripture Reading

Romans 4:13-25; Genesis 17:1-7,15-16

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of God's Word

"Names"

Time of Meditation, Reflection

## **Responding to God's Word**

\*Affirmation of Our Faith (Nicene Creed – Unison)

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 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.

\*Responsive Hymn #49

Preparing Our Hearts for Prayer (#471)

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.

**Prayers for the People** 

## Sending Out Into the World

\*Sending Hymn #618

"O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High"

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Congregational Benediction "Love Will Be Our Lenten Calling" sung to the PICARDY tune ("Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"), words by Elizabeth Smith

> Love will be our Lenten calling, love to shake and shatter sin, waking every closed, cold spirit, stirring new life deep within, till the quickened heart remembers what our Easter birth can mean.

### \*Postlude

Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We hope you were blessed so you can go and be a witness to Christ's love in the world. May your spirits be renewed for the days ahead.





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Preston Shealy, Interim Pastor Kenneth Jones, Director of Music Millie Shiflett, Accompanist Karlee Tate, Director of Communications Joyce Johnson, CDC Director Richard Balentine, Elder of Administration Dana Tate, Elder of Christian Formation Russell Truluck, Elder of Facilities Management

Sandee Cribbs, Lay Leader

"The God of Abraham Praise"

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

Dana Tate