

# Order of Public Worship of God

The Nineteenth Day of March, Two Thousand Twenty-Three

*Fourth Sunday of Lent*

## PRELUDE

“... it is terrifically difficult to sustain the interest. Millions of people in our culture make decisions for Christ, but there is a dreadful attrition rate... There is a great market for religious experience in our world; there is little enthusiasm for the patient acquisition of virtue, little inclination to sign up for a long term apprenticeship in what earlier generations of Christians called holiness.”

- Eugene Peterson, *A Long Obedience*

“To worship the Lord is—in the world’s eyes—a waste of time. It is, indeed, a royal waste of time, but a waste, nonetheless. By engaging in it, we don’t accomplish anything useful in our society’s terms. Its purpose is not to gain numbers... it isn’t even useful for earning points with God, for what we do in worship won’t change one whit how God feels about us... Worship is a royal waste of time, but indeed it is royal, for it immerses us in the regal splendor of the King of the cosmos.”

- Marva Dawn, *A Royal Waste of Time*

“Without leaders, nothing ever gets started; without institutions, nothing lasts.”

- Jean Monnet, paraphrase



## OPENING PRAYER

**Merciful God,**  
**Who gathers his pilgrims for a Lenten feast day:**  
**an oasis in the wilderness of discipline**  
**Refresh us with your Spirit;**  
**Give us bread for the journey**  
**in Word, sacrament, and prayer**  
**Prepare our hearts to celebrate the Feast of the Resurrection**  
**with gladness and gratitude at Your perfect provision for us.**  
**In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**  
**Amen.**

## † HYMN OF WORSHIP | “Jesus I Come”

**Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,**  
**Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.**  
**Into thy freedom, gladness and light,**  
**Jesus, I come to thee.**  
**Out of my sickness into thy health,**  
**Out of my wanting and into thy wealth,**  
**Out of my sin and into thyself,**  
**Jesus, I come to thee.**  
  
**Out of my shameful failure and loss,**  
**Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.**  
**Into the glorious gain of thy cross,**  
**Jesus, I come to thee.**  
**Out of earth’s sorrows into thy balm,**  
**Out of life’s storms and into thy calm,**  
**Out of distress into jubilant psalm,**  
**Jesus, I come to thee.**  
  
**Out of unrest and arrogant pride,**  
**Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.**  
**Into thy blessed will to abide,**  
**Jesus, I come to thee.**

**Out of myself to dwell in thy love,**  
**Out of despair into raptures above,**  
**Upward forever on wings like a dove,**  
**Jesus, I come to thee.**

**Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,**  
**Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.**  
**Into the joy and light of thy home,**  
**Jesus, I come to thee.**  
**Out of the depths of ruin untold,**  
**Into the peace of thy sheltering fold,**  
**Ever thy glorious face to behold,**  
**Jesus, I come to thee.**

## † CALL TO WORSHIP | Psalm 32:1-5, 10-11

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away**  
**through my groaning all day long.**  
**For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;**  
**my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,”  
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**Many are the sorrows of the wicked,**  
**but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord.**

## † HYMNS OF THANKSGIVING | “By Thy Mercy”

**Jesus, Lord of life and glory,**  
**bend from heav’n thy gracious ear;**  
**While our waiting souls adore thee,**  
**friend of helpless sinners, hear:**

*Refrain:*

**By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.**  
**By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.**

**From the depth of nature’s blindness,**  
**from the hardening power of sin,**  
**From all malice and unkindness,**  
**from the pride that lurks within: *(refrain)***

**When the world around is smiling,**  
**in the time of wealth and ease,**  
**Earthly joys our hearts beguiling,**  
**in the day of health and peace: *(refrain)***

**In the solemn hour of dying,**  
**in the awful judgment day,**  
**May our souls, on thee relying,**  
**find thee still our Rock and Stay: *(refrain)***

“For All the Saints”

**For all the saints who from this labor’s rest,**  
**To thee by faith before the world confess,**  
**Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blessed: Alleluia! Allelu!**

**Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might,**  
**Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight,**  
**Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light: Alleluia! Allelu!**

**O may thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,**  
**Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,**  
**And win with them the victor’s crown of gold: Alleluia, Allelu!**

**The golden evening brightens in the west,**  
**Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest,**  
**Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest: Alleluia! Allelu!**

**But lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day,**  
**The saints triumphant rise in bright array,**  
**The King of glory passes on his way: Alleluia! Allelu!**

**From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast,**  
**Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,**  
**Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## INVOCATION AND 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

## MUSICAL OFFERING

## † CORPORATE PROFESSION 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 is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**  
**From there He will 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 life everlasting.**  
**Amen.**

## † DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**  
**Praise Him, all creatures here below;**  
**Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host:**  
**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

† GREETING

*Junior Worship begins for children age four through first grade. Please escort children to the following classrooms. Preschool - Room 10; Kindergarten and First Grade - Room 9. Children will return to sit with their families before communion.*

READING OF GOD’S WORD | Acts 20

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON | Series: Heaven Is Local

Sermon: “Between Beginning and Becoming: A Long Obedience”

- Rev. James M. Holland

PRAYER FOR GRACE AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SILENT CONFESSION

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN | *from the Book of Common Worship*

**Eternal God,**

**in whom we live and move and have our being,  
whose face is hidden from us by our sins,  
and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts:**

**Cleanse us from all our offenses,**

**and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires,  
that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you,  
confessing our faults, confiding in your grace,  
and finding in you our refuge and strength;**

**Through Jesus Christ your Son,**

**Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON | 2 Corinthians 5:21

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin,  
so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND SHARING OF THE CUP

***How do we take communion here at St. Patrick?***

*As the ushers come past your row, please come to the front, take one piece of bread and one cup of wine or juice. Consume these immediately and dispose of your cups in the receptacle on the side as you return to your seat. Each table serves both wine and grape juice, and all of our bread is gluten-free.*

***Who comes to the Table?***

*Communion is open to all baptized believers who have made a profession of faith in Jesus. If you have children who have not made a profession of faith, they are not ready to partake of the elements, but please bring them forward to be blessed by one of our elders. If you are not a believer but want to know more about Jesus, you are invited to come forward and simply bypass the table, letting one of the leaders know that you would like to learn more about what it means to know and belong to Jesus.*

† HYMN OF ASSURANCE | “Holy, Holy, Holy!”

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,**

**Perfect in pow’r, in love, and purity.  
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky, and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

† BENEDICTION | Isaiah 58:11-12

And the Lord will guide you continually  
and satisfy your desire in scorched places  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water  
whose waters do not fail.

**And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to dwell in.**

**Amen.**

*Scripture tells us to make our needs known to God, and to call others to pray with and for us.  
If you would like prayer, elders will be standing in the front of the sanctuary (pulpit side)  
immediately following the service to pray with you.*



For Upcoming Events and Registrations:



**Fiscal Fitness**

The budget for our fiscal year that began on July 1, 2022 and ends on June 30, 2023 is based on unrestricted giving of \$1.63 million. The unrestricted operating cash reserve fund balance began the current fiscal year with approximately \$835 thousand. Below is the latest financial update for the month ended February 28, 2023:

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year-to-date</u>
Actual unrestricted tithes and offerings	\$ 100,865	\$1,109,675
Budgeted unrestricted tithes and offerings	108,787	1,150,531
Favorable (unfavorable)	(\$ 7,922)	(\$ 40,856)

As of February 28, 2023, we have approximately \$2.3 million in total debt and approximately \$145 thousand in cash restricted for facilities. This restricted cash balance will be used to fund minimum principle payments and cover any unexpected, unplanned maintenance needs for our facility.

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**Phone:** 901-861-3803 **Website:** www.StPatrickPres.com  
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# ST. PATRICK

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## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH EPC

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**LOVING GOD. LOVING PEOPLE. LOVING LIFE.**