

Order of Public Worship of God

The Seventeenth Day of March, Two Thousand Twenty-Four

Fifth Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE

“Once more the night of Mordor closed over them, through all his thoughts there came the memory of water; and every brook or stream or fount that he had ever seen, under green willow-shades or twinkling in the sun, danced and rippled for his torment behind the blindness of his eyes.”

- JRR Tolkien, *The Return of the King*

“By refusing to drink the final Passover cup until his dying moments, Jesus gathers up everything that would happen to him between Holy Thursday and Good Friday—his betrayal, his supper, his agony, his passion, his death—and united it to the Passover that would be celebrated ‘in memory’ of him.”

- Brant Pitre, *The Jewish Roots of the Eucharist*

“Until you know deep inside that Jesus thirsts for you—you can’t begin to know who He wants to be for you. Or who He wants you to be for Him.”

- St. Theresa of Calcutta, “Letter to the Missionaries of Charity” (March 1993)



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 | “Thy Mercy, My God”

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue.
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affection and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy, I could not live here,
For sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But through thy free goodness my spirits revive,
And he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart.
Dissolved by thy goodness, I fall to the ground
And weep to the praise of the mercy I’ve found.

Great Father of mercies, thy goodness I own
And the covenant love of thy crucified Son.
All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!

† CALL TO WORSHIP | Philippians 2:4-11

Let each of you look not only to his own interests,
but also to the interests of others.
Have this mind among yourselves,
which is yours in Christ Jesus,

Who, though he was in the form of God,
did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,
being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form,
he humbled himself by becoming obedient
to the point of death, even death on a cross.
Therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

So that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

MEMBERSHIP VOWS

Jessica Patrick, Travis and Elizabeth Harville, David and Denise Stewart

Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God and without hope for your salvation except in His sovereign mercy?

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Savior of sinners, and do you receive and depend upon Him alone for your salvation as He is offered through the Gospel?

Do you now promise and resolve in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?

Do you promise to serve Christ in His Church by supporting and participating with this congregation in its service to God and its ministry to others to the best of your ability?

Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and to the spiritual oversight of this Church Session, and do you promise to promote the unity, purity, and peace of the Church?

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM | *Jessica Patrick*

WELCOME INTO THE COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

Christ be with you, Christ within you,
Christ behind you, Christ before you,
Christ beside you, Christ to win you,
Christ to comfort and restore you,
Christ beneath you, Christ above you,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in the hearts of those that love you,
Christ in the mouth of friend and stranger.

~ Adapted from the Prayer of St. Patrick

† HYMNS OF THANKSGIVING | “From the Depths of Woe”

From the depths of woe I raise to thee the voice of lamentation;
Lord, turn a gracious ear to me and hear my supplication.
If thou iniquities dost mark, our secret sins and misdeeds dark,
O who shall stand before thee? O who shall stand before thee?

To wash away the crimson stain, grace, grace alone availeth;
Our works, alas! are all in vain; in much the best life faileth.
No man can glory in thy sight, all must alike confess thy might,
And live alone by mercy, and live alone by mercy.

Therefore my trust is in the Lord, and not in mine own merit;
On him my soul shall rest, his Word upholds my fainting spirit.
His promised mercy is my fort, my comfort, and my sweet support;
I wait for it with patience, I wait for it with patience.

What though I wait the livelong night, and till the dawn appeareth,
My heart still trusteth in his might; it doubteth not nor feareth:
Do thus, O ye of Israel’s seed, ye of the Spirit born indeed;
And wait till God appeareth, and wait till God appeareth.

Though great our sins and sore our woes, his grace much more aboundeth;
His helping love no limit knows, our utmost need it soundeth.
Our Shepherd good and true is he, who will at last his Israel free.
From all their sin and sorrow, from all their sin and sorrow.

“The Breastplate of St. Patrick”

When my work takes me places I don’t want to go:
Christ before me.

When my heart aches with sorrow as I hit the road:
Christ, be with me.

When the care of my family takes all that I have:
Christ within me.

When I’m worn and exhausted, ashamed that I’m mad:
Christ, defend me.

Refrain:

I rise up today in a strength that is not my own
I’m held by the promise of God
That I’m never alone.

When I’m tossed to the side and I want to give up:
Christ beside me.

When I’m breaking my back, but it’s never enough:
Christ beside me.

When I work hard, but someone else gets the reward:
God’s eyes see me.

When I ask for promotion, but they shut the door:
God’s ears hear me. (*refrain*)

When I climb the first steps toward a long-held dream:
Christ above me.

When I leap out in faith and I hope to find wings:
Christ beneath me.

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 | John 19: 28-29

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Series: Famous Last Words

Sermon: "I Thirst"
- Rev. Joshua Smith

PRAYER FOR GRACE AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SILENT CONFESSION

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN | 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

† HYMN OF ASSURANCE | "What Wondrous Love Is This"

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb Who is the great I Am;
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on.

† BENEDICTION | Matthew 16: 24-25

"Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny
himself and take up his cross and follow me.
For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for
my sake will find it.'"

*If you are new to St. Patrick or have a prayer request, please fill out the portion below.
You may place your liturgy in the offering plate or in the designated basket in the Narthex as you leave.*

NEW HERE?

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

NEED PRAYER?

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